



Mr. William Prentiss Russell

September 14, 1942 - November 1, 2023

William “Prentiss” Russell, 81, of Salem, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, November 1, 2023, at his home.

He was born September 14, 1942 in Brookhaven, Mississippi, the son of Henry Hobb Russell and Eunice (Beason) Russell. Prentiss married Wanda Ward in July of 1962 and she survives.

In addition to his wife of 61 years, Wanda Russell of Salem, he is also survived by his children: Pamela Beam of Mt. Vernon, Steve Russell (Jeff) of Pensacola, Florida, and Laura Campbell (Tommy) of Centralia; seven grandchildren: Jessica Steele (Chad) of Salem, Chelsie Green (Daniel) of Salem, Chris Maciejowski (Alicia) of Salem, Matt Maciejowski of Mt. Vernon, Doug Dearing of Mt. Vernon, Nick Wickman (Courtney) of St. Louis, Missouri, and Josh Russell (Cat) of Salem; several great-grandchildren; sister: Carolyn Justis of Brookhaven, Mississippi; several sisters-in-law; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Prentiss was preceded in death by his parents: Henry Hobb and Eunice Russell, seven brothers: TL, Joe, Vernon, Jerald, Jerry, Junior, and Wayne, and three sisters: Geneva, Ednamae, and Evanell.

Prentiss grew up in Brookhaven, Mississippi until 1958, lived in Chicago from 1958-1972, and spent the remainder of his life here in Salem. He was a Truck Driver for several years until his retirement in the 1990’s.

Prentiss was known around Salem as the “Produce Man.” He always enjoyed tending to his large garden at home and selling his produce to the community.

He had a stand at the Farmers Market in Salem until 2012 and later on had his own stand by Casey's here in Salem.

Prentiss had a big passion for music. He played the acoustic guitar and also the keyboard.

Family played a big role in Prentiss's life. He loved his family and the time he spent making memories and sharing old stories to his grandchildren about his younger years. He was a very devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother and uncle.

A Visitation will be held Sunday, November 5, 2023 from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM at the Sutherland-Rankin Funeral Home in Salem. A Celebration of Life Service will follow at 2:00 PM at the Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the family and will be accepted at the Sutherland-Rankin Funeral Home 310 North Broadway/ P.O. Box 97 Salem, Illinois 62881, (618)548-1234, who is honored to be of service to Prentiss's Family. Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com and the Sutherland Funeral Homes Facebook Page.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 5. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Sutherland - Rankin Funeral Home
310 N Broadway Ave
Salem, IL 62881
(618) 548-1234
srfh2019@gmail.com
<http://www.rankinfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

NOV 5. 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM.

Sutherland - Rankin Funeral Home

Tribute Wall



“ *Sutherland Funeral Homes, Cemetery and Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. William Prentiss Russell*



Sutherland Funeral Homes, Cemetery and Cremation Services - November 03, 2023 at 04:43 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. William Prentiss Russell.*



November 03, 2023 at 08:30 PM



“ *Will, Athena & Daniel planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. William Prentiss Russell.*

Will, Athena & Daniel - November 03, 2023 at 03:57 PM

WD

“ Will, Athena & Daniel purchased the Sentimental Dreams for the family of Mr. William Prentiss Russell.



Will, Athena & Daniel - November 03, 2023 at 03:57 PM

MR

“ I remember meeting Prentiss back in the 80's. I just thought he was such a nice man with a larger than life personality. RIP Prentiss, now you are in the arms of Jesus with your siblings.

Maryann Russell - November 03, 2023 at 01:19 PM

BM

“ uncle Prentiss as we called him was a hoot! Always joking and always had a sarcastic remark. He was fun to be around. I remember a visit to their place many years ago with my Sister Roberta and my Parents, my dad, Bill was his brother. I last saw him in 2009 at my Father's funeral. RIP Uncle Prentiss and know you were much loved❤️

Brenda Russell Morajka - November 03, 2023 at 12:33 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. William Prentiss Russell.



November 03, 2023 at 11:12 AM

JR

“ My heart is so broken now, you were one of my favorite uncles, you always was at our house growing up and would always say,; Come over here and give your uncle a hug, and squeezed me tight, I felt your love, you will forever be missed and I know all your siblings are rejoicing in Heaven, I love you Uncle Prentiss, forever in my heart, love Janet



Janet Russell - November 02, 2023 at 10:42 PM

RO

“ Uncle Prentiss, I probably spent as much time at you're house when I was a kid as I did my own You and Aunt Wanda just kind of took me in as a extra. You always had Steve, Laura, and I laughing about something. You will be truly missed. What a reception in Heaven. RIP Unk!

Ronnie - November 02, 2023 at 10:13 PM

RR

“ Uncle Prentis, If it wasn't for a corny joke, a goofy smile, a crazy pair of "daisy dukes" or just a great big hug, and song that is taught from generation to generation...I L.O.V.E. Love you FOREVER! You definitely took a piece of my heart, and you will be missed. All the rest of the family, including my Dad..Bill a.k.a Junior, are now rejoicing with you as you R.I.P as you entered into the Kindom of Heaven. God Bless, Amen 🙏

Robbi Russell - November 02, 2023 at 08:33 PM