



Samuel Blake

February 12, 1935 - October 21, 2011

Obituary of Samuel Blake

Samuel Ray Blake, 76, went peacefully home to be with his Lord on Friday, October 21, 2011 after a long illness. He was born on February 12, 1935 to Harrison and Inez Blake in Summerlee, WV and moved to The Villages from Chicago in 1995.

Sam retired from Canadian Pacific Railroad after 40 years. His favorite position was with a program with the railroad and Chicago Metro Transportation called "Operation Lifesaver," presenting safety programs to schools in the Chicago area. He was known as "Railroad Sam" to the children in Chicago area schools.

Sam was a self taught musician, starting at the age of four picking out songs on the piano and later the guitar. He was the original keyboard player for a local group known as The Gospel Notes started by former villager, Jim Stroup. He was a Baptist, an avid reader of the Bible, and also enjoyed golfing, bowling, and playing cards.

He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Charlotte, sons, Larry (Connie) Blake of Lady Lake and Gary Blake of Bolingbrook, IL, daughters, Charlotte Ann (Mike) Eaves of Glendale Heights, IL and Beverly Kennedy of West Chicago, IL, 17 grandchildren, and 21 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother, Jim, sister, Jean Dominguez, daughter, Cheryl Vanderlei, and sons, Timothy and Terry.

He was greatly loved and will be missed by a large family and many friends.

A Memorial Service for Mr. Blake will be held on Sunday, October 30, 2011 at 3pm in the chapel at Beyers Funeral Home on U.S. 27/441 in Lady Lake.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to The Villagers for Hospice, 601 Casa Bella, The Villages, FL 32162.

Services

A Memorial Service for Mr. Blake will be held on Sunday, October 30, 2011 at 3pm in the chapel at Beyers Funeral Home on U.S. 27/441 in Lady Lake.

Tribute Wall

KK

“ Aunt Char, We are so sorry to hear about Uncle Sam. He was a wonderful man and will be missed greatly. I wish he was able to meet Kaden, I know he always asked my grandma about him. We were planning a trip to Florida the beginning of this year and ended up canceling it, and that was my plan to come see him. Now I wish we never cancelled it. But I know he is watching over all of us. Words can't express how deeply sorry we are. Take care! We love you! Love, Kristin, Bruce & Kaden

Kristin Bruce & Kaden - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ Aunt Charlotte, So sorry for your loss, you're in our prayers. Take care of yourself. Love, Patty & Jim

Patty & Jim Gennett - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Bob's big brother did so many nice things for family and friends. We had a great time whenever we saw him. We were fortunate to live very close to him in Illinois and then when we moved to Florida we were also near him. At first, we took vacations to Florida. and always stopped by to visit. He was never to tired to see us. When we retired, we moved to Florida and was able to visit with him. We will remember the fun times. While in Chicago, we were on a bowling league with him and Char. Every Sunday morning we would meet at the bowling lanes and then go to lunch. Sam always invited us over to play cards afterwards. When visiting him on vacation, he would plan a full day of activities from morning til night. He loved to play jokes on everyone, we sure had a lot of laughs. Sam was in a hurry, we hope he got on the Express Train. He will always be in our thoughts and prayers. All our love.

Bob and Connie Blake - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ Our prayers are with you Aunt Charlotte and family. He lived such a full life with you and the kids. Look at the legacy he lives behind. His time on earth has been a blessing to all who knew him. When I think about all the memories growing up and visiting you all in IL. It was such a treat. Now that he is with the Lord he will be reunited with the rest of the family members, I am sure they were there greeting him at his arrival. May the Lord grant you strength as you face each new day and may his love soothe your sorrow. You are in our thoughts and prayers. God Bless You! Love, Pam and Lance

Pam Dominguez Bush and Lance Bush - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

NT

“ His legacy will definitely live on. What an amazing family he started, one that I am proud to be a part of. I am sure that we will see bits and pieces of Grandpa shine through whether it be in his children, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren. I personally already see it in the love of music that my children have and the occasional "Blake family one eye brow raise" that they give me. I will cherish the memories that I have with Grandpa, playing the piano, making our personalized rail road ties, spending time with you both over Summers, cousins days and visiting Disney World...the list could go on and on. I truly feel blessed to have had almost 30 years with such an amazing Grandpa. Six grunt hugs sent to all of our family during this difficult time. Love you so much Grandma!

Nick, Kelley, Cade, and the triplets - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ There are no other words to describe Grandpa other than an amazing man. I am deeply saddened to have heard of his loss with his illness, he will be truly missed by all of us who knew him. God will hold him dearly in the heavens. My thoughts and prayers are with you Grandma in this time of turmoil and grieving. Stay strong in your faith and let God prevail. He is now walking the golden golf courses of heaven with the ones who have gone to meet our maker before him. And hopefully my uncles will teach their father how to ride those beautiful Harleys down the streets of Gold.

John Kennedy - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BD

“ Aunt Charlotte and Family : May knowing you're in the hearts and thoughts of others help you and yours through this time of sorrow. We will all continue to cherish the memories of love, laughter and loss through the years and such special times of togetherness and the strong bond of family that Uncle Sam created with Cousin's Day. May we all remember the true smiles of the heart. You're in our prayers and may God's peace and comfort be with you always.
Love, Billy and Dee

Bill Dominguez & Delores Dominguez - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ Charlotte, There are no words at a time like this. Hold your memories and your kids tight. and God tighter. He will guide you through the turmoil, like He has for Bev and me. It is sad that I never got to meet your Sam. He was only 4 months older than my Sam. We are connected in so many ways. Keep the Faith and I'm here if you need an ear or a sounding board on the computer. Love to all of the Blake family. God Bless you .

Jan - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ Aunt Charcie, I don't even know what to say...we will never forget Uncle Sam. Sending prayers to you & the family that "GOD give you strength to get through this hard time" WE LOVE YOU!!!! The Miracles

Traci, Jon, JC, & Makenna - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ Grandpa was an amazing man and I am very proud to call him my Grandpa. We all know that he is upstairs watching down on every single one of us along with the other family that we have lost too soon. Maybe his sons will teach him how to ride a Harley up there. RIP Grandpa and I look forward to seeing you again some day. I love you!

Deanna - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ We were so sorry to hear about Sam's passing, he was such a great family man, and the Blake Family is very special to both of us, we consider them our family too, you have all been through so many tragedies, but you have remained strong and together through it all, and we know you all will get through this one too! Love to all of you, Bob and Jeanie

Bob and Jean Herbert - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

VK

“ To Aunt Charlotte & family: Please know that you are in our thoughts & prayers. Although there's now an empty chair at the table, I am happy that Uncle Sam is now in his heavenly home that he longed to go to. I will treasure the memories. Wishing you peace & the Lord's blessings. Love you!!!

Vickie & Cecil Kappes - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ *His legacy lives on in the hearts and minds of the family he created...in the musical talent that has passed along to his children and grandchildren...in the integrity and work ethic in his children...in the sense of humor, as well as the stubbornness. I am so proud to be a part of the Blake family and feel sad for those left behind, but know that he no longer suffers any pain or illness and is with his Lord and family that passed before him. His life will continue to be celebrated as the branches of the family tree expand and the gifts he shared with us all are evident in the children yet to come... Much love and prayers to My mother-in-law Charlotte in this difficult time...I hope that the legacy of Sam Blake gives you some peace and comfort.*

Terrilynn Blake - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *Samuel Blake*

October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM