



Bruce Randall Gilliam

March 9, 1948 - February 16, 2026

Bruce Randall Gilliam Sr., 77, of Big Stone Gap, passed away peacefully on February 16, 2026, at Holston Valley Medical Center.

Born on March 9, 1948, in Keokee, he was the son of Ottis and Ollie Gilliam. Bruce graduated from Powell Valley High School and went on to retire from Carter Machinery after 35 years of dedicated service as a welder and mechanic.

Bruce found joy in life's simple pleasures — hunting, fishing, birdwatching, fixing just about anything (especially cars), and watching classic westerns. Above all else, his greatest happiness was found in the love he shared with his wife and family.

He was preceded in death by his children, Linda Franklin and Jeffrey Gilliam.

Bruce is survived by his loving wife of 59 years, Judy Gilliam; his son, Bruce Randall Gilliam (Kim); his grandchildren, Brennan Lawson, Rachel Person (Will), Dustin Franklin, and Nicholas Gilliam; and his great-grandchild, Owen Franklin. He is also survived by his siblings: Carol Anderson (Ron), Jan Williams (Roger), John Gilliam, and Tracy Gilliam (Rhonda).

Bruce will be remembered for his playfulness, perfectionism, conviction,

strength, and unwavering support for those he loved.

A celebration of life will be held at Holding Funeral Home, located at (17 E. 3rd St. N.,) on Friday, February 20, 2026, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. A funeral service will follow in the funeral home's chapel, officiated by Dr. Charles Barrier, with special music provided by Shiela Gabbert.

A memorial tribute video will be available through Holding Funeral Home. An online guest registry will also be available for the family at www.holdingfuneralhome.com

Holding Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

FEB **20**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Holding Funeral Home, Inc.

17 E. 3rd St., N.

P. O. Drawer H

Big Stone Gap, VA 24219

1-276-523-1470

holdingfuneralhome@comcast.net

<http://www.holdingfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall

JB

“ Jackie And Tom Burgesd lit a candle in memory of Bruce Randall Gilliam



Jackie and Tom Burgesd - February 20 at 11:29 AM

FC

“ Frank and Lori Campbell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bruce Randall Gilliam.

Frank and Lori Campbell - February 20 at 09:53 AM

FC

“ Frank and Lori Campbell purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Bruce Randall Gilliam.



Frank and Lori Campbell - February 20 at 09:53 AM

CF

“ Cyndi, Gina and Crissy and family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Bruce Randall Gilliam.



Cyndi, Gina and Crissy and family - February 18 at 09:26 PM

JG

“ *Jai and John Gilliam. purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Bruce Randall Gilliam.*



Jai and John Gilliam. - February 18 at 07:09 PM

MD

“ *Minnie Dalton lit a candle in memory of Bruce Randall Gilliam*



Minnie Dalton - February 18 at 04:03 PM

MD

Judy, you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

Minnie Dalton - February 18 at 04:04 PM

JB

To our Gilliam family, we are heartbroken at the passing of Bruce. He was a wonderful person. We have lots of fond memories of Forth of July celebrations at Ken's and Kim's with the Gilliam family. May God comfort you now and continue in the upcoming months.

Jackie and Tom Burgess - February 20 at 11:33 AM

SF

“ *Janice and Carol and all the Gilliam family
Our thoughts and Prayers are with you at this
difficult time.*



Ralph (Tommy) and Shirley Morrison Fisher

Shirley Fisher - February 18 at 03:31 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Bruce Randall Gilliam.

February 18 at 03:25 PM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Bruce Randall Gilliam.



February 18 at 03:25 PM