



## Clay Lee Bettes

July 6, 1973 - June 22, 2013

Clayton Lee Bettes was born July 6, 1973 to Lee Bettes, Jr. and Wilma Bettes, now Jones, in Pauls Valley, OK and died at the home of his parents on June 22, 2013, at 39 years of age. In 1989, in a unique family wedding ceremony where each adult vowed to establish a parental bond with the other's child and the children exchanged vows between themselves, Clay and his mother married David M. Jones and his daughter Catherine who is two months younger than Clay. From that moment forward David Jones was his Dad and Catherine was his sister.

Clay attended schools at Pauls Valley, East Central University, Rose State University and various Computer Technology Institutes. He studied as a paralegal before switching to computer science. As an adult, Clay lived in Norman for some 15 years, a few years of which he and his nephew Brandon Bettes, who is just some two years younger, shared a home while they both worked and furthered their education. He also lived in Oklahoma City before moving back to Pauls Valley last fall.

He worked at the Dell Computer Call Center in Oklahoma City as a Technical Senior Enterprise Analyst, a job he truly enjoyed performing. In his time off, he also enjoyed playing on-line computer games with family and friends all across the nation, reading, playing Frisbee golf, riding motorcycles, fishing, gourmet cooking, playing different musical instruments and just visiting with his many friends and family.

Clayton was predeceased by his father, Lee W. Bettes, Jr.; maternal

grandfather, Trudet T. Tomlinson; paternal grandparents, Lee W. Bettes, Sr. and Etta Bettes; aunts, Bonnie Tomlinson Burk Garvin and Helen Bettes Copeland; uncle, Melvin Eugene Bettes, cousin, Lloyd Burk, Jr., and twin infant nieces, Lisa and Jerri Bettes.

His good nature and kind actions sorely will be missed by his friends, co-workers and the family members he left surviving, including his parents, David M. and Wilma Jones of Pauls Valley; his maternal grandmother, Pearl O. Tomlinson, of Oklahoma City but formerly of Elmore City; his sister Catherine Hayden and her husband Tim, Lexington, KY; his half-sister, Letha Anderson, Norman; his half-brothers, Wayne Bettes, Oklahoma City, and Larry Bettes and wife Denise, Ontario, California; his nephew and friend, Brandon Bettes and wife Stacy of Stillwater; his aunts and and uncles including Lucile Bettes Oxner of Saillisaw; Linda Yarbrough and husband Don of Oklahoma City; Ruby Smith of Hennessey; Patty McKee and husband Tommy of Norman, and Bob Jones and wife Ann of Edmond, Oklahoma, nieces: Holly Pitman of Norman; and Jennifer Brandt and husband David of Indianapolis, Ind.; together with cousins, Melinda Riggs of Sallisaw; Nancy Williford and husband Gary of Atoka; Tina Gilliland and husband Ronnie of Hennessey; Kathy Hixson and husband Richard, of Oklahoma City; Corbin Yarbrough and wife Shantel, of Oklahoma City; Allen Dale Smith and wife Jamie, of Hennessey; Chad Yarbrough and wife Carol of Oklahoma City; Kristen M. Claydon and husband Tommy of Norman; John McKee and wife Amy of Norman; Johnny McKee and wife Terri of Noble; Jeffrey Allen Tomlinson and wife Chrissy of Kingfisher; Jacki Lynn Farris and husband Sean of Kingfisher, Gregory M. Jones and wife Karen of Oklahoma City; Kristin Shea and husband Marc of Oklahoma City; Benjamin Jacks and wife Crystal of Lindsay; Jacquie Wood and Louisa Romanos both of Elmore City; and last, but not least his 12 year-old twin nephews, Ben and Sam Hayden of Lexington, Kentucky, as well as many other relatives not named.

Clayton suffered with a lung disease all of his life. In the short amount of time he lived, he noticed the advancements made by medical research which lead

to the making of more effective medicines and better treatments for persons with lung disease. It is with this knowledge that the family suggests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to The Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation 825 N.E. 13th St Oklahoma City, OK 73104, The American Lung Association 11212 N. May Ave, Suite 405 Oklahoma City, OK 73104 or to any charitable cause of your personal preference.

Memorial services are being held at The First United Methodist Church, Pauls Valley, on Friday, June 28th, at 2:00 P.M. conducted by Wooster Funeral Home with cremation following. His ashes will be buried in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Pauls Valley, OK at a later date. There will be visitation with the family after the memorial until 5:00 PM in the Fellowship hall of the church for visitation. All are welcome to attend. Services are under the direction of Wooster Funeral Home. You may send a condolence to the family at [www.woosterfuneralhomes.com](http://www.woosterfuneralhomes.com)

# Previous Events

## Service

JUN **28**. 2:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church- Pauls Valley  
407 N. Willow Street  
Pauls Valley, OK

# Tribute Wall



“ *Wooster Funeral Home & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Clay Lee Bettes*



---

**Wooster Funeral Home & Cremation Services** - June 22, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *I am really missing you tonight  
Sending hugs and kisses to you. Mom*

---

**Wilma Bettes Jones** - October 14, 2023 at 02:02 AM



“ *Clay Lee Bettes*

---

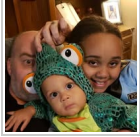
November 12, 2022 at 02:44 AM



“ *I met with Wilma recently and had to hug her neck a long time. Clay came into my life when I need him the most. It is just so moving how many people's lives that Clay touched and made them better. He did not let his medical issues hold him back at all. Having medical issues myself I reached out to him shortly before his passing to ask how he stayed positive through all of it. He was an Angel among men.*

---

**Jack Neal** - July 08, 2019 at 11:30 AM



“ Thinking of you and missing you today buddy...



-----  
**Jim Smith** - November 14, 2016 at 04:21 PM



“ I only read these today. Thank each and every one of you for your kind words and sympathy extended to us. He is now with his Daddy (Lee); and his Dad (David) and I will miss him so much. Our hearts are just broken. Clay was a wonderful gift from the moment he was born and it was a pleasure being his mother.

-----  
**Wilma B. Jones** - July 18, 2013 at 12:17 AM



“ I'm so sorry it takes times like these to reconnect with those we hold dear to our hearts. I'm definitely a better person for having known you, Clay. I just found out today. God bless you Wilma and family.  
Christie Gibson

-----  
**Christie Gibson** - June 29, 2013 at 10:33 PM



“ Becca Hylback lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes



-----  
**Becca Hylback** - June 28, 2013 at 07:18 PM

ML

“ *Melinda & Lisa lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes*



---

**Melinda & Lisa** - June 28, 2013 at 11:16 AM

MN

“ *Rest in peace Clay /hug*



---

**Megan Hamel, Nathaniel & Makayla Nipper** - June 28, 2013 at 09:56 AM

JJ

“ *Jim And Janis Jarman lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes*



---

**Jim and Janis Jarman** - June 27, 2013 at 11:11 PM

JJ

*So very sorry for your loss. Just know you are in our thoughts and prayers.*

---

**Jim and Janis Jarman** - June 27, 2013 at 11:14 PM

AS

“ Wilma, Clay would come by the bank every so often to chat and tell me what he was doing at the time. He always made me smile. Thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Ann Swanson

Ann Swanson - June 27, 2013 at 09:49 AM

MN

“ Mark And Racheal Nipper lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes



Mark and Racheal Nipper - June 27, 2013 at 03:22 AM

MN

Clay will be missed so very much. Rest in peace our dear friend.....Mark and Racheal Nipper

Mark and Racheal Nipper - June 27, 2013 at 03:24 AM



“ What I remember most about Clay is his constant smile. His passing saddens me. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. May he rest in peace.

Debbie Moore - June 26, 2013 at 09:55 PM

MB

“ Mr. & Mrs. Jim Baird lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes



Mr. & Mrs. Jim Baird - June 26, 2013 at 12:44 PM

MB

*We were so sorry to hear of your son's death. We pray that God will bring you a peace that passes all understanding through Jesus our Lord.*

**Mr. & Mrs. Jim Baird** - June 26, 2013 at 12:47 PM

KR

*“ Clay was always a funny guy in school and he always without fail wore that leather necklace with the big crystal hanging from it.. I asked him just recently if he still had that thing and he to me he sure did it was put up for safe keeping.. He ways had a smile on his face..*

**Katie Stewart Rankin** - June 26, 2013 at 12:14 AM

MT

*“ Martin Turney lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes*



**Martin Turney** - June 25, 2013 at 11:44 PM



*“ Wilma, David and family,*

*I am so very sorry for your loss. You are in my prayers and the prayers of New Hope Holiness Church in Lindsay. May the Lord bless you.*

**Carl Pelfrey** - June 25, 2013 at 10:16 PM

CG

*I am a better person for having known you as well, Carl. It has been a long time since we talked. But, know that no matter if it is 10 years or twenty. You , your wife and child or children are always welcome . My door is open to yall always. Have an awesome life. May the lord bless you. Christie Gibson*

**Christie Gibson** - June 29, 2013 at 10:38 PM

SG

“ *Sharon Garland lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes*



**Sharon Garland** - June 25, 2013 at 07:32 PM

AH

“ *Amanda Harrison lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes*



**Amanda Harrison** - June 25, 2013 at 06:46 PM

MH

“ *Misty Harris lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes*



**Misty Harris** - June 25, 2013 at 06:17 PM

DS

“ David Stalcup lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes



David Stalcup - June 25, 2013 at 05:19 PM

SB

“ I have lots of good ol memories with Clay, i'll cherish for ever. Thoughts an prayers to all. Shanon(Young)Byrum

shanon byrum - June 25, 2013 at 05:10 PM

SB

“ I have lots of good ol memories with Clay, i'll cherish for ever. Thoughts an prayers to all. Shanon(Young)Byrum

shanon byrum - June 25, 2013 at 05:10 PM

JL

“ Clay will be truly missed and by so many, I remember the times we spent together and way too many memories to list. He impacted my life in so many ways. To family and friends we send our thoughts and prayers.

Jody (Coon) Lane - June 25, 2013 at 05:06 PM

VD

“ Vanessa Durham lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes



Vanessa Durham - June 25, 2013 at 05:00 PM

JT

“ Wilma, David and family i was so sorry to hear of your loss. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Joanie Barry Townsend



joanie townsend - June 25, 2013 at 04:54 PM

JC

“ J.B. Claxton lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes



J.B. Claxton - June 25, 2013 at 04:29 PM

JC

*I'm so sorry for your loss.*

J.B. Claxton - June 25, 2013 at 04:31 PM

RR

“ Richard Reeder lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes



Richard Reeder - June 25, 2013 at 03:52 PM

PE

“ Clay may you be at peace. Our condolences to the family. Paul & Peggy Nipper



Peggy - June 25, 2013 at 03:44 PM

PE

“ Peggy lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes



Peggy - June 25, 2013 at 03:41 PM

JR

“ Jennifer Reeder lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes



Jennifer Reeder - June 25, 2013 at 01:24 PM

DE

“ Wilma, David and Family, we are so sorry about Clay. Your family will be in our thoughts and prayers. Let us know if you need anything.

Dr. Clipperton, Sharon and Edna - June 25, 2013 at 01:20 PM



“ clay was an amazing friend who i loved very much , he always knew what to say to cheer me up even at my darkest points. He was a unique gift to everyone that he ever knew especially to me. you raised an amazing and loving man that always thought of the good in everyone even when they could not see it themselves. my prayers go out to you and david and the rest of the family. i take comfort in knowing that he is an awesome guardian angel looking out for everyone he knew and loved :)

Subrina Robbins Harrell - June 25, 2013 at 11:59 AM



“ Subrina Robbins Harrell lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes



Subrina Robbins Harrell - June 25, 2013 at 11:24 AM



“ David and Wilma: I am so sorry to hear of your son's passing. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.



Waymolene Abel - June 25, 2013 at 10:52 AM



“ *Kenoth Patton lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes*



---

**Kenoth Patton** - June 25, 2013 at 09:54 AM



“ *I was so sorry to read of the passing of Clayton, my sympathy, love and prayers are with you all at this time of grief. I have a connection with the family, your grandmother, Pearl and my family were neighbors living on the farms northwest of Elmore City and Clayton's half-brother, Wayne and my son Phillip played American Legion Baseball for Lindsey in 1966. There are many things in our life that will catch our eyes, but only a few will catch our heart, those are the one we need to pursue...Observe around you and be thankful for all tha we have in this transitory lifetime...*

---

**Harold Bradley** - June 25, 2013 at 09:54 AM



“ *Randy Pender lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes*



---

**Randy Pender** - June 25, 2013 at 09:24 AM

CP

“ Christine Potts sent a virtual gift in memory of Clay Lee Bettes



---

**christine potts** - June 24, 2013 at 10:23 PM

CP

“ Christine Potts lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes



---

**christine potts** - June 24, 2013 at 10:22 PM

WB

“ Wendy Blankenship lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes



---

**wendy blankenship** - June 24, 2013 at 08:56 PM

JW

“ Jamie Welch lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes



---

**jamie welch** - June 24, 2013 at 08:53 PM

KC

“ *Kathy Cline lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes*



kathy cline - June 24, 2013 at 07:48 PM

MM

“ *Melanie Martin lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes*



Melanie Martin - June 24, 2013 at 06:41 PM



“ *I am really blessed to have been your friend in this life and I will always appreciate how nice you were to everyone. You will be missed.*



*Tyra Parker Hobbs*

Tyra Parker Hobbs - June 24, 2013 at 05:32 PM

Kelly Smith

“ *Kelly Smith lit a candle in memory of Clay Lee Bettes*



Kelly Smith - June 24, 2013 at 04:43 PM