



Mr. Bobby W. Hamilton Jr.

February 4, 1954 - April 24, 2026

Mr. Bobby W. Hamilton, Jr., 72, of Widener, Arkansas, peacefully transitioned from this earthly life on April 24, 2026, at the Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Born on February 4, 1954, in Marianna, Arkansas, Bobby was the beloved son of the late Bobby Lee Hamilton, Sr., and Virlee Holland Hamilton.

Bobby was educated in the Palestine School District, where he developed a strong foundation of discipline and perseverance. He later continued his personal and professional growth during his time in the United States Army, gaining valuable training and life experiences that helped shape the man he became.

At an early age, Bobby accepted Christ and was baptized at El Cannon Missionary Baptist Church in Palestine, Arkansas. He later united with Whole Bible Church of Jesus Christ under the leadership of the late Apostle D.A. Wirt and, following Apostle Wirt's passing, eventually returned to El Cannon Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor Charles Tate. Bobby loved the Lord and found great joy in worship, fellowship, and music. He was a dedicated choir member and sang with Heaven Bound II and Majestic Wonders, sharing his love for music with all who heard him.

Bobby truly enjoyed life. He loved riding his motorcycle and spending time with his motorcycle family. He and his beloved wife traveled together, creating lasting memories across many places. During his military service, he was stationed in Germany, an experience he often spoke about with pride and reflection throughout his life. Bobby cherished family gatherings, valued time with loved ones, and was known for his warm and welcoming spirit. He especially loved to cook and was well known for his delicious barbecue and his signature potato salad. Above all, he was a humble, kind, and giving man who found joy in bringing happiness to others.

Bobby answered the call to serve his country by enlisting in the United States Army. He served honorably in the Signal Corps as a Wireman (36K20) and achieved the rank of Specialist Fourth Class (SP4/E-4). His service included training at Fort Polk, Louisiana, and he was awarded the National Defense Service Medal. Due to a service-related disability, he was honorably discharged on April 23, 1973.

Following his military service, Bobby continued a life of discipline and hard work. He was employed with Suttles Trucking and Leasing in Houston, Texas, before returning to Arkansas, where he worked at K-Tops Plastic Manufacturing in Colt, Arkansas, for many years. He later began his career with the East Arkansas Regional Unit of the Arkansas Department of Corrections in Brickeys, Arkansas, where he faithfully served as a correctional officer.

Among his motorcycle family and friends, Bobby was proudly known as “The Southern Hawk,” a name that reflected his strength, presence, and free spirit. He carried himself with quiet confidence and earned the respect of those around him.

On February 12, 2005, Bobby united in holy matrimony with the love of his life,

Anita A. Lay, in Forrest City, Arkansas. Their union was built on love, loyalty, and unwavering devotion. His wife often described him as a loving, humble, and soft-spoken man who was deeply giving and caring to everyone he encountered.

Bobby was a man of strength and perseverance. Even in the face of life's challenges, he remained steadfast, leaving a lasting impression on all who knew and loved him.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Virlee Holland Hamilton; his father, Bobby Lee Hamilton, Sr.; his brothers, James Holland, Lloyd Lee Hamilton, Percy Hamilton, John Graham, and Dwight Hamilton, Sr.; and his sisters, Barbara Joyce Holland Thomas, Teresa Hamilton, and Christine Marie Hamilton.

He leaves to cherish his memory his loving and devoted wife, Anita Lay Hamilton of Widener, Arkansas.

His legacy continues through his loving children: Dexter (Doris) Hamilton of Elkhart, Indiana; Terrence (Kenyatha) Hamilton of Raleigh, North Carolina; Corey (Sharecee) Hamilton of Raleigh, North Carolina; Torando (Yolanda) Lay of Forrest City, Arkansas; Princess (Jerry) Walker of Jonesboro, Arkansas; TaShanna Woods of Widener, Arkansas; and JoyLee Hancock, III of Tupelo, Mississippi.

He also leaves to cherish his memory his caring and loving stepmother, Rosie Hamilton of Forrest City, Arkansas.

Bobby is survived by his brothers, Terry (Tasha) Hamilton and Courtney Hamilton, both of Forrest City, Arkansas.

He also leaves to cherish his memory his sisters: Dianna Hamilton of Sherwood, Arkansas; Renea (Dewayne) Lockhart of Jacksonville, Arkansas; Deborah (John) Anderson and Chasity Hamilton, both of Forrest City, Arkansas; and Jackie Graham of West Memphis, Arkansas.

His legacy further lives on through his grandchildren, along with a host of brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, cousins, and many dear friends.

Cemetery Details

Arkansas State Veterans Cemetery - Birdeye

3600 AR-163
Cherry Valley, AR 72324

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 8. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Whole Bible Church of Jesus Christ #2
311 North 5th Street
Madison , AR 72359

Service

MAY 9. 1:00 PM (CT)

Forrest City Civic Center
1335 North Washington Street
Forrest City, AR 72335

The family will assemble at the residence, 106 Kimberly Cove, Widener, Arkansas 72394, at 12:15 PM. Motorcycle riders are respectfully asked to meet at the home to accompany him on his final ride. The designated color for the funeral service is gray. The family respectfully asks that attendees wear gray if possible; however, it is not required.

Repast

MAY 9. 3:00 PM (CT)

Forrest City Civic Center
1335 North Washington Street
Forrest City, AR 72335

The repast will be held immediately following the service. The family will process out at the conclusion of the service to allow the civic center staff time to prepare the facility for the repast.

Graveside

MAY 11. 1:00 PM (CT)

Arkansas State Veterans Cemetery - Birdeye
3600 AR-163
Cherry Valley, AR 72324

The family will depart from the funeral home at 12:00 PM.

Tribute Wall

PH

“ *Pecola Hooks lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bobby W. Hamilton Jr.*



Pecola Hooks - May 08 at 07:00 PM

LF

“ *Larry Holland and family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Bobby W. Hamilton Jr..*



Larry Holland and family - May 06 at 10:57 PM

LF

“ *Larry Holland and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Bobby W. Hamilton Jr..*

Larry Holland and family - May 06 at 10:57 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Bobby W. Hamilton Jr..*



May 06 at 03:40 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Bobby W. Hamilton Jr..

May 06 at 03:40 PM



“ Lee Williams Jr. sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Bobby W. Hamilton Jr.



Lee Williams Jr. - May 05 at 04:53 AM



“ Irene Moore sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Bobby W. Hamilton Jr.



Irene moore - May 01 at 11:07 AM



“ Rene' Ward lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bobby W. Hamilton Jr.



Rene' Ward - May 01 at 09:48 AM



“ Condolences from Pat Breathitt and family

Pat Breathitt - April 28 at 07:44 PM

ST

“ Shirley Williams Thorn sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Bobby W. Hamilton Jr.



Shirley Williams Thorn - April 28 at 04:48 PM

ST

“ Hamilton family and friends with Sincere Condolences to you all at this time of Bereavements. Praying that God will give you comfort strength and peace today and the days ahead 🙏

Shirley Williams Thorn - April 28 at 04:48 PM

MG

“ My deepest condolences to Ann and to the rest of my family. 🙏❤️

Mary Graham - April 27 at 10:26 PM

AB

“ Ann, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. I pray that you find comfort in knowing your loved one is at peace. 1 Peter 5:7 tell us to “Cast all your anxieties on Him because he cares for you.” Through prayer, you will find solace in knowing that the Lord Jesus Christ is attentive to our needs and is a constant source of support. God is always with you, even in the darkest of times, and that He is our rock and refuge. You have those fond memories that will get you through your toughest days.



Angela Barton - April 27 at 07:53 PM

PR

“ *Phelesia Russell purchased the Simply Elegant S pathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Bobby W. Hamilton Jr..*



Phelesia Russell - April 27 at 07:36 PM

CL

“ *My Deepest Condolences and Prayers to you Anita and your Family*



Claudette LaMar - April 27 at 07:12 PM



“ *Rest well Unk, we love you so much!!* ❤️🙏🥹

Shletha Hamilton - April 27 at 03:12 PM