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In Memory of John “John John” William Atkinson IV

NOVEMBER 13TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of John “John John” William Atkinson IV

John “John John” William Atkinson IV was the first baby born in the new year in Cape Girardeau, Missouri on January 1, 2004. He passed away at his residence in Bernie, Missouri on November 10, 2021, at the age of 17.

John was a senior at Bernie Senior High School and spent his entire school career there. He was an honor roll student and a member of SR Beta. He recently spent the summer working his first job at the Bernie School.

John formerly ran his own YouTube Channel “Comedian Bacon” and he always made his family laugh. He was an avid Star Wars fan, and loved Marvel movies, having recently watched the newly released “Eternals” on November 9th, with a group of friends. He loved Cobra Kai, Stranger Things, and the original show The Wonder Years.

John attended Liberty Hill Church since 2013 and volunteered with running the cameras. He committed his life to Jesus Christ and was baptized on October 4, 2015. He was preparing to do the Missouri Special Olympics Polar Plunge, in February. He was a long-time supporter of the Special Olympics, and this would have been his 10th plunge.

He is survived by his parents, John William Atkinson III and Courtney of Bernie; by his little brother, Rylan of the home in Bernie; by his big sister, Olivia of Dexter; and by his big brother, Caleb of Oklahoma. He is also survived by his maternal grandparents, many aunts and uncles, cousins, friends, and by the family dog, Gemma. John was a light in a dark world, and the world was a better place with him being in it.

In honor of John, donations may be made to the Missouri Special Olympics Polar Plunge, c/o the Belly Whoppers and John John Atkinson, 1625 N Kingshighway, Cape Girardeau, Missouri, 63701.

Visitation will be held at Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter on Monday, November 15, 2021, beginning at 3:30 p.m.

Funeral services will then be conducted on in the Mathis Funeral Home Chapel in Dexter on Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. Interment will follow in the Bernie Cemetery.

Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter is assisting with arrangements.

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In Memory of Sandra Kaye Thresher

NOVEMBER 12TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of Sandra Kaye Thresher

Sandra Kaye Thresher, daughter of the late Albert “Doc” Morgan and Thelma White Morgan, was born in East Prairie, Missouri, on March 14, 1945, and departed this life at her home in East Prairie, Missouri on November 9, 2021, at the age of 74 years.

Mrs. Thresher owned Etc. Shoppe consignment store in East Prairie for many years and was a member of the First Baptist Church in East Prairie.

She is survived by one son, Duke (Donna) Thresher of East Prairie; one daughter, Shelia Thresher of East Prairie; four grandchildren, Travis and Shane Irby, Chassey Harper and Devin Thresher; ten great-grandchildren; four sisters, Frances Watson of Delaware, Ohio, Mary Hurt Rowe of Wichita, Kansas, Danielle Cummins of Slymar, California and Pamela (Leo) Goolsby of Advance.

Sandra was preceded in death by two brothers, William Randolph and Charles Albert “Buck” Morgan and one sister, Alberta Bishop.

Visitation will be held Saturday, November 13, 2021, at the First Baptist Church in East Prairie from 10:00 a.m. until time of service at 1:00 p.m. with Bro. George White and Pastor Dawn Walters officiating. Interment will follow in the Dogwood Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Duke Thresher, Travis Irby, Shane Irby, Devin Thresher, Wyatt Irby and T.J. Abernathy.

Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter is assisting with arrangements.

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In Memory of Chester Abbott Jr

NOVEMBER 12TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of Chester Abbott Jr

Chester Abbott Jr., son of the late Chester Leroy Abbott Sr. and Betty Lorene Myers Abbott, was born on December 6, 1941, and departed this life on November 11, 2021, at his residence in Davisville, Missouri, at the age of 79 years.

Mr. Abbott was a Veteran of the United States Army and a farmer. He was a member of the Center Ridge Pentecostal Church in Davisville, Missouri.

He was united in marriage to Esther McIntyer on May 22, 1988. Mrs. Abbott survives of their home in Davisville.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by five children, Sheila Edwards of Dexter, Missouri, Sherry Grimm of Walkersville, Maryland, Michael Abbott and wife Shelly of Davisville, Missouri, Ronda Young and husband Kenny of Dexter, Missouri, and Paula McCoy and husband Danny of Stanley, North Dakota; by his sister, Elizabeth Southard and husband Charles of Bernie, Missouri; by sixteen grandchildren and thirty great-grandchildren; and by his dear friends, John and Nancy Hagey and Walter and Shirley Westrup.

Other than by his parents, he was preceded in death by three siblings, Alfred Abbott, Claudia Abbott Abernathy, and Mary Abbott.

Visitation will be held at Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter on Saturday, November 13, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Funeral services will then be conducted in the Mathis Funeral Home Chapel on Saturday, November 13, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. with Rev. Michael Abbott, Rev. Dudley Hamilton, and

Rev. Harrison Brown officiating.

Interment will follow in the Oak Ridge Cemetery, in rural Bloomfield.

Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter is assisting with arrangements.

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In Memory of Virginia Settles Lemar

NOVEMBER 11TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of Virginia Settles Lemar

Virginia Settles Lemar was born on September 7, 1937 in Coleman, Georgia, and departed this life on November 8, 2021, at the Bloomfield Living Center, at the age of 84.

The oldest of three daughters, Virginia was born to Alfred Loraine Settles and Christine Elizabeth Gilmer (Bennett). Virginia was predeceased by her two sisters, Eleanor Adams

and Anna “Ruth” Johnson.

Southern born and bred, Virginia’s formative years were spent in Georgia where she met her first husband, Ivan O’Daniell, Jr., then the editor of the Cuthbert Times. On June 21, 1956 in Cuthbert, Georgia, Virginia and Ivan “JR” were united in marriage. Five children were born of this union, June Lawrence (Bud) of Dexter, Missouri, Sherry O’Daniell-Moore (Rob) of Wilmington, North Carolina, Kelly Flowers of Dexter, Missouri, Butch O’Daniell (Linda) of Bloomfield, Missouri, and Kristina Twaddell (Clint) also of Bloomfield, Missouri. Virginia was blessed with a number of grandchildren: Bridgett Kielhofner (Brandon), Kelso, Missouri, Aleshia Eftink (Nathan) of Kelso, Missouri, Delaney Flowers, Dexter, Missouri, Elizabeth Twaddell, Steele, Missouri, Erin Allenczy (Brandon), Hagerstown, Maryland, Kasity Twaddell (Dillon and Family) Dexter, Missouri, and Hunter Lawrence, Fort Riley, Kansas. Virginia is also survived by her step-grandchildren: Joe Burch, Dexter, Missouri, Clint Burch (Kathy), Dexter, Missouri, Elisha Thomason, Paragould, Arkansas, and Michael Schaefer (Amber) of Wappapello, Missouri.

Virginia is also survived by numerous great-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren including but not limited to: Bryson Kielhofner, Braydon Kielhofner, and Nyah Kielhofner of Kelso, Missouri, and John Robert Eftink and Henry Eftink, also of Kelso, Missouri.

Virginia’s second marriage was to Jerry Don Lemar on September 23, 1978 in Bloomfield, Missouri. Sharing a strong and loving bond, Virginia and Jerry were inseparable for forty-one years until Jerry’s death. Through this marriage, Virginia gained two step-children, Rick Lemar (Donna), St. Louis, Missouri and Deb Gant (Patrick) of Festus, Missouri as well as numerous step-grandchildren.

Virginia Lemar was an extremely talented and hard-working woman. During her first marriage, Virginia was a co-owner of various newspapers, both weekly and daily from 1957 to 1977, including the Cuthbert Times, Cuthbert, Georgia, the Cabool Enterprise in Cabool, Missouri, the Fairbury Times, Fairbury, Nebraska, and lastly the Bloomfield Vindicator in Bloomfield, Missouri.

A licensed Emergency Medical Technician, Virginia also worked with the Stoddard County Ambulance District upon its inception as well as at the Bloomfield Convalescent Home. Her career in the medical field later evolved to that as a unit secretary and registration and admission clerk at various Humana Hospitals in Illinois, Tennessee, and Louisiana.

Virginia Lemar, also known as Jenny and Granny, was a talented seamstress and cook. She was an avid reader and loved collecting Snow Babies, Willow Trees, and especially Lighthouses. She was also civic minded and volunteered as a PTA leader, FHA Chapter Mother, a Girl Scout Leader, and as a Hospital Auxiliary Member at the Dexter Memorial Hospital.

In honor of Virginia Settles Lemar, a visitation will be hosted at the Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 11, 2021, followed by a brief service at 2:00 p.m. An interment will be held in December 2021 at the Missouri State Veterans Cemetery for both Virginia and her late husband, Jerry Don Lemar.

In recognition of her love of reading, donations may be pledged to the Dexter Public Library, 402 West Grant, Dexter, MO 63841.

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In Memory of Linda J. Lovins

In Memory of Linda J. Lovins

Linda J. Lovins, daughter of the late William Thomas Cooper and Mary Corazalla Lambert Cooper, was born in Purvis, Mississippi, on February 25, 1950, and departed this life at Poplar Bluff Regional Medical Center in Poplar Bluff, Missouri, on November 6, 2021, at the age of 71 years.

Mrs. Lovins was a Social Worker for DAEOC. She was a member of the Bernie General Baptist Church and a resident of Rural Bernie, Missouri.

She was united in marriage to James C. Lovins in Malden, Missouri, on June 29, 1968. Mr. Lovins survives in their home in Bernie.

Other survivors include three daughters, Mindy Allen and husband Lyle of O'Fallon, Missouri, Melissa Lovins-Bewley and husband Don of Bernie, Missouri, and Myra McGowan and husband Jeremy of Bernie, Missouri; by three brothers, Wilmer Cooper of Purvis, Mississippi, Billy Cooper of Chesapeake, Virginia, and Kenneth Cooper of Purvis, Mississippi; by three sisters, Connie Petit of Alma, Arkansas, Diane Pittman of Van Buren, Arkansas, and June Strahan of Long Beach, Mississippi; by five grandchildren, Sarah Allen, Cole Allen, Owen Lovins-Bewley, Mallory Rodgers, and Jaden McGowan; also by other relatives and many friends.

She was preceded in death other than by her parents, by one son, James Charles Lovins Jr.; by two brothers, Jimmy Cooper, and Joe Cooper; by four sisters, Carolyn Anderson, Alice Davis, Paulette Bounds, and Barbara Bauer.

Visitation will be held at Mathis Funeral Home in Bernie on Friday, November 12, 2021, from 12:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Funeral services will then be conducted in the Mathis Funeral Home Chapel at 2:00 p.m. with Rev. Steve Fitzpatrick officiating. Interment will follow in the Chalk Bluff Cemetery in Rural Dexter, Missouri.

Mathis Funeral Home in Bernie is assisting with arrangements.

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