



## KEN "BEAR" BAXLEY

August 11, 1956 - September 21, 2021

\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE \*\*\*

PERRY –

William Kenneth “Bear” Baxley, 65, passed away peacefully after being hospitalized in Louisiana and courageously battling Covid. Services will be held on Wednesday, September 29, 2021. Visitation will begin at 2:00 p.m. at Watson-Hunt Funeral Home. As Bear requested, a procession will leave the funeral home at 3:30 p.m. with motorcycles leading the way to Perry Memorial Gardens where Bear will be laid to rest with his parents. The Graveside Service will begin at 4:00 p.m. in Perry Memorial Gardens. Friends planning to attend are encouraged to wear their favorite Harley-Davidson outfit or an Allman Brothers t-shirt. Also, friends will be able to put Harley-Davidson or Allman Brothers stickers on the casket or write a special message to Bear on the outside of the casket. Markers will be provided. There will be ample room to spread out at the cemetery, so friends may bring a lawn chair if desired.

Ken was born in Macon to the late Joel H. Baxley, Sr. and the late Jean Burnette Baxley. He grew up working hard, playing hard, and loving music. He learned to play acoustic and electric guitars at an early age and played in Whiskey River Band for several years during the 1970's and early 80's. They played at various locations in Middle Georgia and always had a hundred or more of “their closest friends” join them. Bear worked on motorcycles and was a mechanic at S & E Cycles for years. He went to school and earned his Commercial Driver's License (CDL) and drove a car hauler cross-country for a while. Ken always loved the beach, and he moved to Lakeland, Florida, and opened a small Harley-Davidson Repair and Custom build shop that he owned and operated for about ten years before moving back to Perry. Through the years, Bear loved a challenge and was thrilled to meet his goals. He furthered his education in several areas and became certified to be a Taxidermist, a Gunsmith, and even graduated from Central Georgia Tech with a diploma in Construction Management. He continued to enjoy singing, especially Karaoke, and gathering with his friends. He renewed his CDL and had been driving a long-haul truck for the past three years with Epes. Sadly, he was on a trip for work when he became ill and stopped for help in Louisiana. Bear had always said he wanted a motorcycle parade at his

funeral, and that is what he will have.

Ken was preceded in death by his parents; his daughter, Tandy Burdette; and his brothers, Bobby Baxley and Joe Baxley.

Left to cherish the memories they made with Bear are his five grandchildren; his sister, Vickie Altman of Perry; his special "family members," Tommy Anderson of West Palm Beach, FL, Ricky Powers, Mark Zammitt, and Ramal Lancaster, all of Perry; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews.

Please leave special memories and words of comfort in the online guestbook at <http://www.watsonhunt.com>. Watson-Hunt Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements.

# Cemetery

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**Perry Memorial Gardens**  
2106 Highway 41 North  
Perry, GA, 31069

# Events

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**SEP 29 Visitation** 02:00PM - 03:30PM  

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**Watson - Hunt Funeral Home**  
1208 Main Street P.O. Box 52, Perry, GA, US, 31069

**SEP 29 Graveside Service** 04:00PM  

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**Perry Memorial Gardens**  
2106 Highway 41 North, Perry, GA, US, 31069

# Comments

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“ Ken / Bear / ZZ Top , we knew him by many names, and he answered to all, ZZ just stuck with us because that's what my mom and dad called him, funny story there I'll share later.

What can you say about ZKenBear! He would give the shirt off his back, with a smile, love to ride, music, shoot, fish or just hang out and talk of days gone by. I last spoke to him on his birthday last month, he was heading out on the road. Little did we know it would be our last conversation, we had always left each other laughing in regards to something funny or dumb we done and forgotten all about, until we reminded each other just for the laugh!! Thank you Z for being a friend to all of us.

God speed

Zammit family



**Mark Zammit** - September 29 at 06:06 PM



“ THANKS MARK...HE LOVED YOU

**RAMAL L. LANCASTER** - October 01 at 03:11 AM

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“ Ken was a very special person, he and I had the same interest in the Allman Bros and shared a lot of stories about them. He will truly be missed by so many people. My heart goes out to the family. I will miss you, Ken Bear Baxley, ride on home now, my friend

**Diane Tidwell Couch** - September 28 at 08:37 AM



“ HELLO DIANE THIS IS RAMAL...I MET YOU ONCE AT AP'S...BEAR INTRODUCED US THAT AFTERNOON...THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND WORDS...I WANTED YOU TO KNOW THAT HE WORE THAT SILVER TURQUOISE RING YOU GAVE HIM THIS WHOLE 20 YEARS I'VE KNOWN HIM EVERYTIME HE WENT OUT...YOU WERE SPECIAL TO HIM ALSO & HE TOLD ME SEVERAL MONTHS AGO HE ACTUALLY GOT TO SEE & TALK WITH YOU A COUPLE TIMES...PLEASE COME SAY GDBYE IF YOU CAN...I KNOW HE'D LOVE THAT

**RAMAL L. LANCASTER** - September 28 at 09:23 AM



“ HE WUZ A GUD MAN , CLOSE FREIND , I RID WID HIM , I GOT NO COMPLAINTS . COWBOY

**COWBOY** - September 29 at 04:31 PM

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“ I'll miss you my ole rock and roll friend



**Doug Stewart** - September 28 at 08:35 AM

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“ Debra Grim lit a candle in memory of KEN "BEAR" BAXLEY



**Debra Grim** - September 27 at 11:47 PM

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“ You were awesome



**shelia** - September 27 at 06:28 PM

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“ Shades of Purple was purchased for the family of KEN "BEAR" BAXLEY.



September 27 at 04:54 PM

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“ I never got the opportunity to meet Ken but from what I hear from his nephew Christopher McHenry he was an amazing man and lived a blessed life. His family was lucky to have him in their lives

**Nikki Fisher** - September 27 at 03:42 PM



“ Bear brother I joy when I think about you working on my Bikes I would break it up and you would fix it up THANKS YOU BEAR

**Roy Braswell** - September 27 at 09:00 PM

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“ Ken was a very good friend. He was a awesome person. Someone you could talk to very easy. I will miss Ken a whole lot.



**Cheryl Horne** - September 27 at 03:00 PM