



## Mr. Bernard Wallace "B.W." Hill

March 28, 1924 - October 10, 2015

Mr. Bernard Wallace "B.W." Hill was born March 28, 1924, in Vardaman and spent his childhood in Bruce as the son of the late Avery Alexander and Naomi Brown Hill. He moved with his family to West Point in 1941 where he graduated from West Point High School. He attended The University of Mississippi, where he found his first love - the Rebels - and faithfully attended his beloved Ole Miss football games for over 60 years. Mr. B.W. operated his family chain of Hill's Department Stores in several locations across both Mississippi and Alabama. At the Eupora location, Mr. Hill met his future wife in 1952. Miss Ruth Gary, a schoolteacher, walked into the store to purchase a particular pair of sandals. Mr. B.W. assured that while he did not have them in stock, he would be more than happy to order the sandals for her and asked for her to check back the next week hoping to keep her returning to the store. This same process happened the next week, and the next-by the fourth time Miss Ruth returned to the store, she agreed to a date with the handsome Mr. Hill. He had never once placed the order for the sandals. He loved her from that first moment she walked into the store and loved her every day after. The couple soon married and owned and operated both Hill's Department Store and Hill's Landing in West Point until their retirements in 2002. The business had been run by the Hill family for over 98 years. Known to many as "Papaw," including his grandchildren and their friends, Mr. Hill had an ever-present grin and timeless sense of style. As a great family friend noted, "Heaven just upgraded their dress code!" Though he took pride in his attire, he was most

proud of his greatest accomplishments: his family. Mr. Hill never missed a single one of his grandchildren's basketball games, piano recitals, Bible drills, plays, church programs, or graduations. If you spoke to Papaw for more than a minute, the conversation would soon turn to his grandchildren and a smile would spread across his face. He instilled in each of us his wisdom, his love, and-most importantly-his ever-present Christian faith. Papaw was a wonderful man, a great husband, a loving father, and the best grandfather. With his outgoing personality, he never met a stranger and made friends everywhere he went. He lived life as we all hope to live. We will cherish the times we spent with him, the vacations we took together, the games of Rook we played late into the night, and the privilege of driving his cart as he played a round of golf. But most of all, we will cherish the opportunities he took to tell us that he loved us, which were abundant. Mr. Hill was a member of First Baptist Church, where he was a Deacon, member of the Adult 6 Sunday School Class, and Usher. He was a Past Member of the West Point Lions Club and Exchange Club. He was a member of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi. He was a member of the West Point Masonic Lodge #40 F.&A.M. He was a member of the West Point Chapter #95 of the York Rite. He was a member of the West Point Council #20 of the York Rite. He was a member of the West Point Commandry #16 of the York Rite. He was a 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason of the Corinth Constiry. He was a Hamasa Shriner and member of the Starkville Shrine Club. He was also a member of the Tombigbee Shrine Club, having served the club both as a former Secretary and President. He was a member of the American Legion. He was an United States Army Veteran of World War II. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his Sister Kathryn (Kay) Hill Steele; His Brother: William Avery Hill; and his Nephew: Richard Avery Hill.

Funeral services will be Tuesday, October 13, 2015, at 2:00 P.M. from First Baptist Church with the Reverend Dale Funderburg officiating and assisted by Dr. James Towery. Burial will follow in Greenwood Cemetery in West Point.

Calvert Funeral Home of West Point is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include His Beloved Wife of 62 years Ruth Gary Hill; His Two Daughters, Debbie Hill Billington (Dr. William) and Donna Hill Ross (Scott) all of West Point; Six Grandchildren: Morgan Billington and Gary Billington both of Charlotte, N.C., Ross Billington, Lauren Billington, Katherine Ross, and Stephen Ross all being of West Point; One Brother, Hal Eugene Hill of Orange Beach, AL.

Pallbearers will be Gregg Kaiser, Keith Holton, William Downer, Scott Reed, Edgar Harris, and Wes Williamson.

Honorary Pallbearers will be Chuck and Bee Brister, Dr. Jimmy Johnson, Stanley Spradling, Charles Magers, Robert Smith, Charlie and Mary Lou Smith, Michael Mosimann, Robert Ed Gary, Harold Ray Gary, Mary Reese, Caradine Young, Jeff Foster, Mike Dotson, Stephen Moore, Tim Fowler, Grady Davis, Ed Lyon, Jim Crum, Glen Brown, Nurses & Staff North Mississippi Home Health Care, Members of Tombigbee Shrine Club, and the Adult 6 Sunday School Class at First Baptist Church.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church, C/O Piano Renovation Fund, P.O. Box 794, West Point, MS 39773 or to Mississippi Children's Home, P.O. Box 1078, Jackson, MS 39215.

Visitation will be Monday 5:00-8:00 P.M. at Calvert Funeral Home and Tuesday from 1:00-2:00 P.M. at First Baptist Church.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **12.** 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Calvert Funeral Home  
P.O. Box 77  
27600 East Main Street  
West Point, MS 39773  
(662) 494-2833  
info@calvertfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.calvertfuneralhome.com/>

## Visitation

OCT **13.** 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church  
134 E Broad St  
West Point,, MS 39773  
(662) 494-4213

# Tribute Wall

DH

“ My condolences to the Hill Family.  
I have fond memories of Mr. Hill and his family, and his parents before him. My father and mother always thought highly of them, and shopped at their store often. His smiling face will be missed by all who knew him.

<http://storage.lifetributes.com/Candles/new/candle-1.png>



Dot Hannah - October 15, 2015 at 07:49 PM

LG

“ On behalf of Curtis Smith and family I would like to give our deepest condolences. .Mr Hill was a good giving man and long time friends with the Smith family. .he will be missed and we have good memories to last



Latonya Gibson - October 13, 2015 at 04:31 PM

LG

“ Mr. Hill will be truly. .he was a good friend with my grandfather Tom Smith and our Smith family. He was welcoming to me and gave me my first job at Hills as a sales associate. I learned good customer service skills from. He was a good giving man. His family and friends are in my thoughts and prayers.



Latonya Gibson - October 13, 2015 at 11:49 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Bernard Wallace "B.W." Hill.



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October 13, 2015 at 10:16 AM



“ One time when I was in the store, I admired the neat old cash register there. Mr. Hill told me how he had resisted getting rid of it for something newer. I had a neat old cash register in my store at the time too. We had a great conversation about how we were right about them and everybody else was wrong. It was a meeting of the minds! He was a lovely, kind, generous man. With, clearly, a real feel for the beauty and usefulness of old things. I haven't talked to him in years, but I will miss him all the same.

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**Karen Copeland** - October 13, 2015 at 09:17 AM



“ My sincere condolences to the Hill family  
Donna and Debbie I am so sorry I could not attend. You all will be in my prayers  
Sandy Henley

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**sandy Henley** - October 13, 2015 at 09:10 AM

DF

“ Mr. Hill was the nicest man I ever knew, I saw him up set when the bank started closing on Saturday. He said it just would not work for him, but before long he adjusted to getting his change late on Friday. He always drank a cup of coffee while we worked his deposit up. I remember the first time Morgan was old enough to come banking with him, he couldn't walk yet but Mr Hill was so proud to show him off, sat him on the counter smiling like the proud grandfather he was. One Sunday his family read the scriptures and said the prayer on maybe Mother's Day dedication, each one of you had a part. In the parking lot he said I am so proud I think my buttons on my vest are going to pop off. I then told him he had enough to be proud of, his wonderful loving family.  
He will be miss by every one who ever knew him , almost every time I saw him out ,Mrs Hill was with him, I know you will miss him most of all  
Butch and I are praying for your loss, and want you to know if we can ever help you in any way we want to.  
Darrellene and Butch Fulgham

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**Darrellene and Butch fulgham** - October 12, 2015 at 07:55 PM

DT

“ My sincere condolences to the Hill family. May warm family shared memories comfort and add peace to your family during such a difficult time. And most importantly God's word the bible made us a guarantee through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ @ Acts17:31.

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**D. Tyler** - October 12, 2015 at 04:34 PM

JS

“ To the Hill family, I am so sorry for your loss, my prayers are with you.  
"Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day, unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed and very dear."

Jeffrey Simmons - October 12, 2015 at 03:38 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Bernard Wallace "B.W." Hill.



October 12, 2015 at 02:50 PM



“ To all of the family, we are so sorry to hear of Mr. B.W.'s passing. Please know that all of you have been in our thoughts and prayers. Our town of West Point has lost such a kind and gracious man. All of you will continue to be in our prayers. God Bless.

Melody and Larry W. Stafford

Melody Stafford - October 12, 2015 at 02:39 PM

MA

“ My prayers are with all of you during this trying time. Mr. Hill was a wonderful, kind man and I know your hearts are broken. I am praying for God's comfort and peace to surround you and all your friends love to uplift you. He will forever be missed. Love to all of you!!

mary Ann Arnold - October 12, 2015 at 01:58 PM

JA

“ We are praying for your family in this time of sorrow  
*Jerald and Margie Andrews*

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**jerald and margie andrews** - October 12, 2015 at 01:54 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Bernard Wallace "B.W." Hill.*



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October 12, 2015 at 09:14 AM

PH

“ *Bob joins me in sympathy and prayer that you will feel God's love and comfort as you face this time of great loss. Christ's Peace.*  
*Priscilla Allen Harper*

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**Priscilla Harper** - October 12, 2015 at 07:14 AM

DL

“ *Mr. Hill was a kind, sweet man. I know he will be missed so much. May God be with all of you during this time of sadness. God bless you all.*

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**Dot and Bob Lee** - October 12, 2015 at 05:38 AM

LS

“ *Mr. Hill was like a father to me. His smile and kindness will live with me forever. I am so blessed to have known him all my life. Heaven has gained an angel. I love you and will miss you, Mr. Hill. Lisa*

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**Lisa Shurden** - October 12, 2015 at 04:34 AM

LM

“ *BW was indeed a wonderful and happy man that made and impact on all who knew him. He always had a smile and kind word for all. Brenda and I are so sorry for your loss and your entire family is in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Brenda and Larry Moore*

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**Larry Moore** - October 11, 2015 at 08:59 PM

ST

“ *With sympathy and friendship,*

*Susanne Allen Thomas*

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**Susanne Allen Thomas** - October 11, 2015 at 08:21 PM

LS

“ *We are so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. May the Lord comfort and give you peace today and in the days to come. Larry and Teresa Steadman*

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**Larry & Teresa Steadman** - October 11, 2015 at 07:49 PM

SM

“ *Mr. B.W. Was such a kindhearted Gentleman that was loved by all that knew him. His smile and devotion to his family and church was and has been a great influence on many lives in West Point. His Memories will live long in the hearts and minds of us that knew and appreciated him. May God Bless you, Ruth, Debbie and Donna and your Families.*

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**Shirley Miller** - October 11, 2015 at 04:01 PM