



Mr. Bobby Joe Bates, Sr.

June 19, 1934 - September 9, 2025

Bobby Joe Bates Sr., of Pheba, MS, completed his journey through this life and went on to be with the Lord on September 9, 2025, at the age of 91.

Bob was born on June 19, 1934, to Taylor and Mollie Lessie Bates in Fulton, Mississippi. As a young boy they moved to Columbus. He loved to reminisce about growing up in Columbus and his days riding his Harley that he purchased with money earned from running a paper route. He joined the Navy Submariner Service in 1955. While on leave in Columbus, he met the love of his life, Ann Neal, from Pheba. They were married in 1958 and moved to Duncanville, Texas where he served in the Air Force at Duncanville Air Station and the Shephard Air Force Base, where he worked on the Atlas Missile Project.

In 1965, after leaving the military, they returned to Pheba. Bob worked for the USDA Poultry Lab until retiring in 1992. Bob and Ann lived a life deeply devoted to the Lord, one another, the church, their community, friends, and most importantly all their children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

Bob believed in a life of service. He was dedicated to serving in his church in many capacities as well as helping people in the community.

Bob loved his Pheba Farm and took great pride in maintaining and taking care

of it as well as working alongside Ann in the yard and garden. The fourth of July tradition of cooking the hog and having family and friends come brought them so much joy and pleasure.

He leaves behind a legacy that inspires us all and we are grateful to him for the life he led.

He is preceded in death by his wife of 65 years, Ann. He is survived by two sons, Joe (Susan), Tim (Ann), and one daughter, Catherine (Jody). As well as seven grandchildren Jennifer (Braxton), Shannon (Clayton), Ellen (Chase), Molly (Chad), Joel (Rachel), Mary Catherine, and Taylor and 18 great grandchildren.

Visitation will be held Saturday, September 13, 2025, from 9:00-10:00 A.M. at Pheba Baptist Church in Pheba, Mississippi. The funeral service will follow at 10:00 A.M. at Pheba Baptist Church. Calvert Funeral Home of West Point is honored to be entrusted with the arrangements.

Pallbearers will be Jody Ray, Joel Ray, Taylor Ray, Eddie Strickland, Chad Kirchoff, and Tommy Millsaps.

Memorials may be made to: The Baptist Children's Village, P.O. Box 27, Clinton, MS 39060.

Friends may leave an online condolence at www.calvertfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Pheba Cemetery

Hwy 50 West
Pheba, MS 39755

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 13. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Pheba Baptist Church
1251 S Beasley Rd
Pheba, MS 39755

Funeral Service

SEP 13. 10:00 AM (CT)

Pheba Baptist Church

Tribute Wall

BH

“ Dear Bates family,
I am so sorry for the loss of your father. I have such fond memories of Mr Bob and Ms Ann from Mathiston Baptist Church growing up and even after when I would see Them at Walmart or the grocery store so sweet to always talk with them. Prayers for Your family now and in the days ahead.
Beth Stewart Hendrix

Beth Stewart Hendrix - September 14, 2025 at 08:27 AM

SC

“ The many years of attending the 4th of July family gathering were so special to me and Roy. He and I loved Bob and Ann so much. Roy shared great memories of growing up in Mississippi and having his Uncle Bob to look up to. Thank you to the family for accepting me as part of that lovely family!

Sue Cannon - September 13, 2025 at 05:39 PM

LS

“ Laurie, Scott, Kat, Daniel/Lauryn Sharp purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Bobby Joe Bates, Sr..



Laurie, Scott, Kat, Daniel/Lauryn Sharp - September 12, 2025 at 01:17 PM

KK

“ *Mr. Bob and Ms. Ann were such a sweet couple. I'm sure they're rejoicing to be together again. I loved visiting with them . They had a way of making you feel at home! I loved them both. May they RIP.*

Kathy Knight - September 12, 2025 at 07:30 AM

DW

“ *Mr Bob and Ms Ann always looked me up when they came to Walmart while I was working there to ask me where stuff was. Always enjoyed their visits , I loved them both .*

Denbie White - September 11, 2025 at 05:33 PM