



Tony Zirkle Whalen

November 26, 1941 - March 26, 2020

Tony Zirkle Whalen age 78, of Harriman, passed away Thursday, March 26, 2020 at his home. Tony was a 1959 graduate of South Harriman High School and a member of South Harriman Baptist Church where he served as a Sunday school teacher to college and career young adults and senior women's class. He retired from the Tennessee Department of Transportation after 45 years of employment. He enjoyed showing his antique John Deere tractors with the Three Rivers Antique Tractor and Engine Club and was also a member of East Tennessee Two Cylinders Club.

Preceded in death by parents, Warren and Hazel Davis Whalen, sisters, June Whalen Pyle and husband Lucion, Mary Sue Whalen, brothers, William "Bill" Whalen and wife Ginny, Don Whalen and wife Mary Ann, Infant Gerald Whalen, and Max Whalen

Survived by wife, Oneda Barger Whalen, daughter and son in law, Eleda Whalen and Doug Burgess, Granddaughter, Rachel Burgess (the one that made him "Golly"). Sister in law, Vontella Whalen, and a host of nieces nephews and extended family members.

A private graveside service and interment will be conducted at Roane Memorial Gardens. A celebration of Tony's life will be conducted when the

mandates due to COVID-19 are lifted. In Lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made to South Harriman Baptist Church dedicated to the Whalen property. Condolences to the family can be left on Tony's Tribute at www.kykerfuneralhomes.com Kyker Funeral Home of Harriman serving the Whalen Family.

Cemetery Details

Roane Memorial Gardens

1400 N Gateway Ave
Rockwood, TN 37854

Tribute Wall

CC

“ My heart goes out to you, Oneda and Eleda, in this difficult time. Tony, like Daddy, was one of a kind...had a heart of gold and never met a stranger. When you used to vist Mama and Daddy's, oh what fun...the laughter never ended. What I remember most about Tony was his smile and laugh. After Mama and Daddy passed in '93 and '94, I moved away in 2001 and lost track of everyone. May God surround you with love and give you peace.

*Poss and Ruby's youngest daughter,
Carolyn McCormick Chi Im ds*

Carolyn Childs - March 30, 2020 at 04:15 PM

CC

Childs

Carolyn Childs - March 30, 2020 at 04:15 PM

SS

“ When I saw this picture of Tony, it made me smile. He sure was a fine fella. I can remember when daddy was having a surgery At Parkwest and he came and hung out the whole afternoon with me and Tami sharing story after story. He was with us when our mom passed always making sure we were okay at the receiving of friends supplying us with water. Hugs and prayers to the whole family. I know you will truly miss him. Take comfort in knowing he is with Jesus now..❤️

susie selvidge - March 29, 2020 at 09:23 PM

JC

Tony was a dear friend. We attended school together, I was a little ahead of him. We worked together @ TDOT, for many years. Any time I could assist him I was always ready. As he was to me. He will be missed. Another South Harriman friend gone, but will never be forgotten. RIP my dear friend, and school mate and by all means a true SOUTH HARRIMAN PIRATE.

Johnny Cole - April 01, 2020 at 03:26 PM

TH

“ I loved Tony! He was a good man and always showed he cared by stopping in to see us, or sitting at the hospital with us when Mom or Daddy was there. He was always cheerful and always brought a smile to my face. We love you and will see you again friend.

Tami Hamby-Ladd - March 29, 2020 at 08:55 PM

MD

“ Tony was one of the most precious people I have ever known. He will truly be missed in this world and happily welcomed in heaven.

Mary Duff - March 29, 2020 at 03:15 PM



“ Memories of Tony will forever bring a smile and a sense of happiness to me. His joy of life will be an inspiration for years to come. He was a mentor, a friend, and a welcomed relief to my troubles as well as a guiding force. Tony will be missed. My most sincerest condolences to Oneda, Eleda, and Rachel. Golly was one of a kind and we are all better for our limited time with him.

Jimmy Lowe - March 29, 2020 at 01:19 PM

BH

“ Will miss seeing his smile & hearing his laugh. Everyone loved Tony. I am happy I got to talk with him a few weeks ago. May the LORD JESUS CHRIST bless & give his family healing. I love you all. Brenda.

Brenda Hendrickson - March 29, 2020 at 10:39 AM

MY

“ The picture here of Tony says it all. How we will all miss that smile he had on his face all the time!
I'm so sorry for your loss. I know you will miss him terribly. We will, too! He was a blessing to his church and to the whole community.
Malinda & Ken Yager

Malinda Yager - March 28, 2020 at 11:40 PM

KK

“ One of the best. Always a smile or a hug if needed. My heart breaks for Oneda and Eleda..

Kim Henley Kennedy - March 28, 2020 at 10:31 PM

SM

“ We are very sorry for your loss and you are in our prayers
Jacqueline Scarbrough Langley and family

Sharon McBay - March 28, 2020 at 07:20 PM

JB

“ John And Kay Bryson lit a candle in memory of Tony Zirkle Whalen



John and Kay Bryson - March 28, 2020 at 03:20 PM

BE

“ So sorry to hear about Tony. He was a great guy and always willing to help. Had most recently seen him at TCS as we were both patients there. My sympathy to Oneida and family, prayers to you all.

Bob Ellis - March 28, 2020 at 12:12 PM

RC

“ Dear Girls, I am so sorry for your loss. I've known Tony all my life and can truly say that I've never known a more generous and kind Christian man. Everybody loved him and know that I will be praying for your family. God bless. Love, Ruthie Walker Bennett-Clabo

RUTH CLABO - March 28, 2020 at 09:53 AM

SC

Tony & I started 1st grade together, We thought a lot for each other.He was a very special person. I loved him & his Family. Onida & family I am so sorry for your loss.

Shelia Ckark - April 01, 2020 at 03:24 PM

TH

“ Family. Im so sorry for you loss. Heaven has gained another angel. Prayer for your family. Tammi Crowe Hensley

Tammi Crowe Hensley - March 28, 2020 at 09:06 AM

AJ

“ Oneda and family, we were so sorry to hear about Tony's passing. Thurmon really enjoyed working with Tony on South Harriman projects. It was always a pleasure just to visit and talk. You will continue to be in our thoughts and Tony will not be forgotten.

Thurmon and Audrey Johnston

Audrey Johnston - March 28, 2020 at 04:47 AM

CT

“ *Charlene K. TAYLOR lit a candle in memory of Tony Zirkle Whalen*



Charlene k. TAYLOR - March 27, 2020 at 10:02 PM

KD

“ *So sorry for your loss. We always enjoyed talking and visiting with Tony at area tractor shoes. I know he will be missed by his family. My prayer is that God will wrap his arms of comfort around you. Sincerely, Wayne Kerr, Kathy and Dale Day, Smoky Mtn. Antique Engine and Tractor Club*

Kathleen Day - March 27, 2020 at 09:35 PM

LM

“ *So sorry for your loss. Tony was a very special and unique person. Sure enjoyed our holidays and meals together with our special friends. Rest in peace for you and comfort for family.*

Larry Mays - March 27, 2020 at 09:03 PM

AL

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this sad loss. I always looked forward to Tony's hugs on Sunday mornings. He reminded me of my daddy with his sweet smile and kind words.*

Anita Lively - March 27, 2020 at 07:24 PM

AW

“ This is a hole that will go unfilled! I will miss hearing..... "If you knew how much I loved you, it'd scare you to death"! I know you are pain free and whole, but this world will not be quite the same without you in it! Praying for you Oneda, Eleda, and Rachel! Praise the Lord this is not the end!

Annette Woodward - March 27, 2020 at 05:09 PM

TL

“ We are very sorry for your loss, he will be missed. Prayers for your family.

James & Tina Ledbetter

Tina Ledbetter - March 27, 2020 at 05:05 PM

GD

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this sad time. Tony was always so happy and upbeat, and will be greatly missed by all who knew him. God Bless!!

Don & Gale Devaney

Gale Devaney - March 27, 2020 at 12:40 PM

SH

“ You all were so good to me when I moved here and treated me like your own. Heaven definitely gained an angel! My thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

Sally Huckleby

Sally Huckleby - March 27, 2020 at 12:05 PM



“ I got to know Tony when he his total knee replacement and I had him a patient in home health care. He was always smiling and willing to do whatever he had to to get better. He was the sweetest man with the sweetest smile on his face. I know Oneda will be lost without him. I'm praying for his family that God will give them comfort and peace that only he can give. I know Tony is resting in the arms of our Lord and savior now and he is all healed. In God we have hope in knowing that we will one day see our loved ones again. Rest in peace sweet Tony.



Phobee Kimbrough - March 27, 2020 at 11:59 AM



“ Joyce Broyles [Robinson] lit a candle in memory of Tony Zirkle Whalen



Joyce Broyles [Robinson] - March 27, 2020 at 10:30 AM



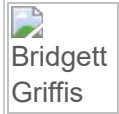
“ So sorry to hear of Brother Tony's passing. Heaven rejoiced at his arrival! I'll bet There is a South Harriman High group there as well. He will be missed by many. Prayers for the family. God Bless you all.

Richard & Lori Lowery - March 27, 2020 at 10:11 AM



“ GOD bless and comfort you, DeeDee.

Anita Oran - March 27, 2020 at 09:53 AM



Bridgett
Griffis

So sorry to hear Brother Tony passed. Prayers for the family. Sweet man.

Bridgett Griffis - March 27, 2020 at 10:31 AM

SL

so Sorry to hear this he was my sweet favorite buddy!Praying for this sweet beautiful family as they go through this tough time but no more suffering love to all. ❤️🥺

shirley lawson - March 27, 2020 at 10:40 AM

EY

Our sympathy and prayers during this most difficult time.

Don & Elizabeth Ann (May) Young

Elizabeth Young - March 27, 2020 at 11:06 AM

GK

Howell and are so sorry to hear of Tony's passing. Prayers for the family.

Gladys Kelly - March 27, 2020 at 11:16 AM

CT

Our prayers are with you during this time. Stan and Connie Tilley and Tom Feezell

Connie Tilley - March 27, 2020 at 11:34 AM

MW

*So very sorry to hear of your loss. Tony was loved and will be greatly missed. Your family is in our thoughts and prayers.
Jim and Marsha Whittenbarger*

Marsha Whittenbarger - March 27, 2020 at 01:49 PM

HL

My heart aches and am sending prayers to you all. Tony was so loved and respected by so many. Our whole community and church family will miss him. Heaven has gained a great man! I wouldn't be surprise if he hasn't already connected with my brother Kenny and they are talking about plans for their next South Harriman Alumni Reunion for the growing group of loved alumni that are now home with them.....this reunion not at Riverfront Park or Roane State but at a heavenly location. Social distancing hugs to all of the family. Love you guys!!

Haven Lingerfelt - March 27, 2020 at 03:55 PM