



# John Bramlett

JUL 7, 1941 - OCT 23, 2014



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**MEMORIAL PARK**  
Funeral Home & Cemetery

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## John Bramlett

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John “Bull” Bramlett went to be with the Lord on Thursday, October 23, 2014 at the age of 73. John is survived by his loving wife of 55 years, Nancy Andrews Bramlett, sons, Andy, (Stacy) and Don, (Cheryl), his four grandchildren, Rebecca Bramlett, Rachel Bramlett, Hunter Turner Bramlett, Jordan Bramlett, his brother, Bobby Bramlett, (Laurie) mother- in – law, Ad Andrews and sister- in-law, Janet Andrews Fortune (Mike). John was a two sport athlete at Humes High School. He was All City, All- State and All-American honors in football and All-City and All-State honors in baseball. After a brief career with the St. Louis Cardinals, John began a career in the NFL in 1965 as “the meanest man in football” that included Denver Broncos, Miami Dolphins, Boston Patriots, Atlanta Falcons and two Pro Bowl appearances( '66, '68). John was named runner- up AFL Rookie of the Year behind Joe Namath in 1965. While playing for the Patriots, John was named Most Valuable Player for the team in 1970. John was honored to be inducted into the Tennessee Football and Baseball Hall of Fame, University of Memphis Football and Baseball Hall of Fame, Denver Broncos Wall of Fame, All-Time Denver Broncos Team, All American Football Association Hall of Fame, And Fellowship of Christian Athletes Hall of Champions. In 1973, John’s life was changed forever when he committed his life to Christ and spent the rest of his life bringing others to Christ. God’s love and forgiveness was so amazing to John that he spent his life telling everyone he met what Jesus had done for him and that Jesus would do the same for them. From his true love for Christ, John Bramlett Ministries grew and flourished worldwide. John spoke at hundreds of churches, schools, prisons, conventions, NFL and MLB chapel services over the past 40 years. The family would like to express their true gratitude and appreciation to the Baptist Trinity Hospice House in Collierville for their kindness and loving care of Mr.Bramlett. Visitation with the family will be held Sunday evening at Collierville First Baptist Church from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Funeral



## Obituary

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Services will be held Monday at 11:00 a.m. at Collierville First Baptist Church with burial at Memorial Park Cemetery immediately following services. In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to Memphis Fellowship of Christian Athletes and The Baptist Reynolds Hospice House in Collierville, TN. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Memorial Park Funeral Home and Cemetery, 5668 Poplar Ave. Memphis, TN 38119, "Behind the Stone Wall."



## Tribute Wall

**John Bramlett**

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DR

**Doug Rykiel** posted:

Will always remember John visiting my church in Welch WV and his trip to Butte, MT Pastor Doug Rykiel

November 19 at 4:55 PM

MM

**Mark Mckimmy** posted:

I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Bramlett during the fall of 1965. I had just turned 9 years old. My family was living on South Teller in Denver Colorado, Mr. Bramlett and his wife were living in an apartment complex just down the street. A little girl, Valerie Bramstetter (sp?) who lived in the same complex as the Bramletts, knew how big a Bronco fan I was and introduced us. I remember he was a giant of a man, quiet and very gracious as I rambled on about the Broncos and how one day I was going to play for them, etc. He autographed a football for me just before I left. Years later during high school while I was involved with Campus Life I read an article about how he had turned his life around. In the Late 90's I found his website and called him. He actually remembered me and we had a very nice chat. During the really tough times in my life I would recall our first meeting and the encouragement he gave during our phone conversation. I will deeply miss Mr. Bramlett and always be thankful the Good Lord allowed us to met, even so briefly. My sadness and grief is lessened a little bit by knowing he is with God. I wish to send my condolences to his family and please know all of you are in my thoughts and prayers. In Christ, love and peace to all, Mark Mckimmy

November 19 at 10:11 AM

SR

**Sheila Rogers** posted:

My dad remembered when Bull Bramlett was playing football in Crump Stadium. Dad is 86 now. He never met John but I got to do a little sewing for his wife. While in their home I met the Bull. I had a birthday card I asked if he'd sign for my dad. He was happy to do so but also wrote words of faith to my dad. I remember how the name Bull didn't seem to fit him - at least then it didn't. I remember how sweet and so very attentive he was to Nancy. Whatever she asked of him, he was quick to follow through. I didn't realize at the time, though very brief, that I was making my own precious memory of the Bramlett family, especially John. Sheila Rogers Oakland, TN

November 3 at 1:28 PM



## Tribute Wall

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LS

**Laura Stephenson** posted:

Once when he was speaking at Bellevue Baptist Church, my oldest was 8, my twins were babies. He was acting his usual silly self. My don was laughing so hard people stopped listening to John and were watching him. Some years later, he was fussing at his brothers for their raucous laughter. I asked him, "shall I remind you of the Bull incident?" He replied, "no you shan't." I told Mr Bramlett sometime later. He seemed to enjoy the story. Of course, my earnest prayers are with your family through this awful time. If any of you feel a sense of relief, don't feel guilty. Though you lost someone you love dearly, you've had a long very hard time. That is over. You also know that your dear Bull is with The Lord. You will be with him again.

October 27 at 10:28 AM

MP

**Memorial Park** posted:

Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of John Bramlett.

October 26 at 7:28 AM

SH

**Sarah June Bramlett Howard** posted:

In loving memory of John ( Bull ) Bramlett.Uncle Howard Bramletts DAUGHTERS.( Margaret Bramlett Jones ) ( Mary Ann Bramalett Gorden ) ( Anita Bramlett McFadde ) ( Patst Bramlett Walters ) ( Sarah June Bramlett Howard ) .

October 25 at 2:39 PM



## Tribute Wall

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DG

**Don & Margaret Guess** posted:

Nancy and family. Our love and prayers are with all of you. Don knew John in his early days and what a wonderful change when John gave his life to JESUS. He liked him in his early days as Don was kind of a rounder also but JESUS made a difference in his life too. I guess the last time we saw ya'll was at the Lakeland National Day of Prayer but Don saw John when he spoke at Cherry Rd. Baptist at a wild game dinner. Our grandson was there and John told some things about Don. Not long after that our grandson was a server at Grisantis and John came in to eat. He began to witness to Conner and he said "I know you Mr. Bramlett as I heard you speak and you know by Grandfather". Our 2 kids went to Evans with your sons. John worked some with the Baseball team and University of Memphis and our first son-in-law Kevin Dotson was playing there. He was from a small town in TN Ya'll took a personal interest in him. He married our daughter Carol but it did not work out unfortunately because of her. Kevin is doing well, happily married with 3 children and lives in Indiana. We still stay in touch with him. John did such wonderful work witnessing about our LORD AND SAVIOR and always gave GOD ALL THE GLORY. He will be missed by everyone. We know THE LORD will comfort you in these hard days and PRAISE THE LORD we will all be together in HEAVEN one day.

October 25 at 5:01 AM

MP

**Memorial Park** posted:

Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John Bramlett.

October 25 at 3:59 AM

WF

**Williams Family** posted:

Condolences to the Bramlett family. May Jehovah the "God of Comfort" bring you comfort and peace at this difficult time (2 Corinthians 1:3 & 4). Your family are in our prayers.

October 24 at 7:07 AM



Phillip posted:

The church had decided to use a large tent, set up in the church yard, to attract those that might not enter the church building. It was unorthodox, but seen as a tool for reaching the unchurched, and lost of the community. John "Bull" Bramlett was the scheduled speaker. "Bull" was unorthodox in the way he presented the Gospel message, but his message was very orthodox. We began to see the Lord at work in all of the preparation. The tent would hold the expected crowd on a hot August night. The chairs for the expected crowd were in place, and the people began to arrive. But, it wasn't a hot August night. Rather, the Lord had provided a cool August night, and the expected crowd soon began to grow to the point more chairs needed to be set up around the tent. As I prepared the sound system, Mrs. Vera, a little lady whose body was humped over, a faithful member of our church and one of those "shouting Baptists", made her way to a seat behind me and the sound board. She told me her grandson, Michael, was going to be there on this particular evening, and asked if I would I pray with her for his salvation. We had a sweet time of fellowship as we called upon the Lord to continue to work in our presence, as we sought revival, but most importantly, in drawing Michael to see his need for Christ. The music was that tool that was used of the Lord to prepare our hearts to receive the Word of God, and as "Bull" shared his testimony of God's transforming power, I sensed God's presence in an unorthodox way. As the evangelist began the "invitation time" he began to walk the aisles asking people if they had a relationship with Christ. When he asked me, I assured him I did. He then asked Mrs. Vera. Then he turned to Michael. I wondered what he would say. "What about you, young man? Doyou know for sure that you would go to Heaven?"Michael bowed his head and said, "No, Sir." "Bull" asked him if he would like to get that settled, and Michael replied, "Yes, Sir".I had my responsibilities of running the sound system, but that didn't stop God from leading "Bull" to ask me if I could lead this young man to Christ. So I left my other duties, and went with Michael to the assigned area. There Michael received, by faith, the Savior, as his Savior. When we lined up with the others who had made decisions, "Bull" went down the line asking each person, in another unorthodox method, to tell of their decision. Michael responded, "I got saved"Mrs. Vera, a feeble little lady in her body, began to shout, something seldom heard in our Baptist churches of today. She began to praise the Lord in very unorthodox ways. Revival had come to our church, in a very unorthodox way, yet the message was very orthodox, as delivered through a very unorthodox preacher, a former football hero to many, but a man who our Lord Jesus had saved."Bull" Bramlett was used of the Lord, not only in unorthodox venues, but always faithfully telling others of Jesus. "Bull Bramlett will be missed, but always remembered, by me, for how the Lord used him that cool summer evening.Phillip Senn Troy, TN

October 24 at 6:04 AM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring John by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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