



Joe F. Williams

AUG 6, 2013



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Joe F. Williams

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Joe F. Williams, Jr., 57, unexpectedly passed away August 6 while on business in Minneapolis. A graduate of McKenzie (TN) High School, he received a BA in Communications/Journalism from the University of Mississippi/ Oxford. A respected broadcaster, television and corporate communications executive, he worked as Editorial Commentator, Producer, and Program Host for WHBQ-TV for many years. Previously he served as Communications Officer for Time Warner Cable and most recently as Spokesperson and Director of Communications for Pinnacle Airlines. He lived life with great enthusiasm, spirit and always as a true professional — an expert communicator and trusted leader. Joe was the “go-to” guy, known for getting the job done and leaving those in the room with not only a kind word or joke, but feeling glad that Joe was a part of their team. A willing mentor, he loved sharing his knowledge and experience and provided encouragement to many with advice that was valued and cherished by all. A top-notch writer, Joe had a great way with words and was always cool under pressure, performing with professionalism and grace. He had the right approach to handling the media and had the unique ability to see forward, stay calm and focus. As a confidante and counselor to many colleagues and friends, Joe’s contributions will only be realized in the fullness of time. Joe is remembered by his friends as teacher, comedian, mentor and “a true Southern gentleman” who loved Ole Miss and golf. Joe’s biggest and brightest smile beamed across his face when talking about his wife, Kathy and daughter, DeeAnn. Time with family was precious and valuable to him and he was always concerned with balancing his professional and personal life. Known for his willingness to go the extra mile, he was loved for his kind heart, extreme integrity, sweet spirit and positive attitude. His presence in a crowd made everyone around him feel better, for no reason other than just being himself. Joe was preceded in death by his father Joe F. Williams, Sr. He is survived by his loving wife, Kathy Kelley, of



Obituary

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Memphis; daughter, DeeAnn Williams, Oxford, MS; his mother, Elaine Seale Williams, McKenzie, TN; sisters, Mary Elaine Brown of McKenzie and Laura Lei Williams of Ocala, FL; four sisters-in-law, Janet Bolton of Millington, Mary Nahmias (David) of Memphis, Suzanne Slone of Collierville, and Carol Ellis (Bill) of Hendersonville, TN; as well as 25 nieces and nephews. A private graveside service will be held at Memorial Park Funeral Home. A memorial service will be held Monday, August 12 at 1:00 pm at Second Presbyterian Church Sanctuary, 4055 Poplar Avenue, Memphis. Visitation will follow the service. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be sent in Joe's memory to: Fire Museum of Memphis, 118 Adams Avenue, Memphis, TN 38103 or charity of the donor's choice. Arrangements have been entrusted to Memorial Park Funeral Home and Cemetery, 5668 Poplar Ave., Memphis, TN 38119, (901)767-8930, "Behind the Stone Wall". To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family, please visit our Sympathy Store



Tribute Wall

Joe F. Williams

DW

D W posted:

Kathy, I am so very sorry for your loss. I know from experience that the suddenness of Joe's passing will be very hard. Please feel free to call me if you want to talk. Donna Wade

August 12 at 7:24 AM

LW

Lisa Williams posted:

I too would like to offer my condolences to Joe's family. He was a great man and wonderful friend. It was a pleasure having him as part of the Pinnacle family for the past 6 years. "Uncle Joe" will be missed. Sincerely, Lisa A. Williams

August 12 at 6:02 AM

Jl

Julie Thrasher Isaacs posted:

I am so very sorry for your loss. Joe was very special to my mother, Marge. As busy as he was, he found time to visit her in the hospice facility just before she passed away last year. That really meant alot to her. It was very touching to see them together. The entire Thrasher family sends our sincere condolences. Julie Thrasher Isaacs

August 9 at 4:56 AM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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