



# Curtis Wade Lyles

NOV 18, 1952 - JAN 25, 2024



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MEMORIAL PARK  
Funeral Home & Cemetery

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# Curtis Wade Lyles

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**C**urtis Wade Lyles, 71, of Nashville, TN was called to his eternal, heavenly home on January 25, 2024.

Born in Memphis, TN to James William Lyles and Ruth Elaine (Charlesworth) Lyles, Curt was the baby of three boys.

Growing up the son of a Gospel singer, music and faith were in his DNA. Curt graduated in 1970 from Oakhaven High School in Memphis, TN. He was then accepted to Boston's Berklee College of Music, one of his proudest accomplishments. He also attended Vanderbilt University's Peabody College.

In 1988, he married Melinda Lee Willard of Goodlettsville, TN and together they welcomed his biggest blessing, daughter Lucy Alyson Lyles, born in 1989, whom he raised with the loving help and support of many friends, family, and neighbors.

Curt was a courier by trade, but a musician at heart. He would always find a way to share his musical gifts and knowledge with anyone willing to listen and jot down lyrics and chords whenever they would come to his mind. He worked for Amy Grant and Gary Chapman in the 80s and 90s, and while music never became a career, it was certainly his passion.

Faith was an important part of Curt's life. He grew up attending First Assembly of God Church of Memphis and later held membership at Belmont Church of Nashville, TN and Cornerstone Church of Madison, TN. All of his church homes played a key role in his strong devotion to the Lord, and he instilled that into his daughter's life - his first priority.

Curt will be remembered by his loved ones for his quirky sense of humor, unique and positive outlook on life, outside-of-the-box intellect, quick wit, extraordinary musical gifts, and a life of devotion to his daughter, and strong faith in God.



## Obituary

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Curt was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Gary Wayne Lyles. He is survived by daughter, Lucy Longworth (William) of Fairview, TN, granddaughters Brynlee (6), Jenna Ruth (2), brother Bill Lyles (Nyla) of Suwannee, GA, many nieces/nephews, cousins, and friends.

A graveside burial service will take place at Memorial Park Cemetery in Memphis, TN on Friday, February 2, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. for family and close friends. Dr. Eddie Thompson of First Assembly of God of Memphis will officiate. Curt will be laid to rest next to his father.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in his honor to one of these Christian organizations, all of which were near and dear to Curt's heart:

- Nashville Rescue Mission
- Nashville Christian School
- Billy Graham Evangelistic Association
- Christian Broadcasting Network


While we will miss him as we go on living, we have the peace that transcends all understanding knowing he is home and using his musical gifts to rejoice with the Lord! "To live is Christ, and to die is gain." (Philippians 1:21)



# Events

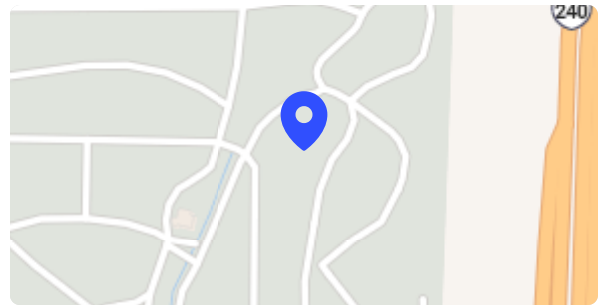
**Curtis Wade Lyles**  
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## Graveside

 **Friday**, February 2, 2024


 1:00 PM CT

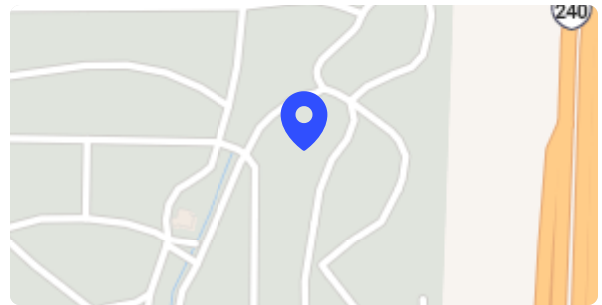
 **Memorial Park Cemetery**  
5668 Poplar Ave, Memphis TN 38119



## Cemetery Details

 **Memorial Park Cemetery**  
5668 Poplar Ave, Memphis TN 38119

 **(901) 445-8475**





## Tribute Wall

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KD

**Kimberly Davis** posted:

I have so many fond memories of Curt in our days growing up around gospel music—mainly in the early to mid-70s. He was so much fun and always just a hoot. So sorry to hear of his passing but so glad he is in Glory.

February 14 at 7:36 AM

MM

**Marci Murphree** posted:

I met Curt 51 years ago. We shared thousands of laughs and the thrill of excellent music throughout the years. But most importantly, he gave me the Joy of my God-daughter ~ his daughter Lucy. When things are difficult, I always remember him, with that knowing smile, saying "That's where Faith comes in!" Thank you Curt. You sure made a difference in my life. You are deeply missed 💙 Marci

February 2 at 10:07 AM

BB

**Billy Blackwood** posted:

Curt and I were literally lifelong friends. His dad sang with my dad in the Blackwood Brothers when we were both born; Curt five months before me. There too many memories to share but one of them was when, in the dead of winter, we drove his VW Beetle non-stop from Memphis to Boston, where he was enrolled in Berklee. The roads were not favorable and it took us 22 hours as I recall. What great memories I have of my best childhood friend!

January 30 at 9:21 AM

KH

**Kristi Hail** posted:

Curt instilled a wonderful faith in Lucy from a very young age we will always be thankful for him, one of my favorite memories - his nickname for Lucy is "Beauty". We love you Curt!

January 30 at 8:27 AM



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

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



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