



Mr. Monte Lee Saxton

August 20, 1946 - July 3, 2022

Monte Lee Saxton, age 75, of Hartsville, SC passed away, peacefully in his home on Sunday, July 3, 2022.

He is survived by his wife, Mica Watkins Saxton, daughter, Monica Lee Saxton, son, Monte Lee Saxton, Jr., son, Leland Marion Saxton, daughter, Angela Saxton Wissel (Tim), daughter, Janell Saxton Billings (Kevin), and son, Steven Lee Saxton (Julia). He was blessed with nine grandchildren, Matthew Lee Fabbi, Michael Andrew Fabbi, Emerson Jeanne Billings, Preslee Pearl Billings, Bailey Ryan Saxton, Steven Alexander Saxton, Maygen Allison, and John and Melanie Wissel. He also had two great-granddaughters, Sedona and Jade Fabbi. He was preceded in death by his mother, Ellen Burgener Saxton, and his father, Nyal Leland Saxton.

Monte was born on August 20, 1946, and grew up on a dairy farm in Meridian, Idaho where he was one of 9 kids. He graduated from Highland High School in Pocatello, Idaho. At 18, Monte married his first wife, Janice Strong (Westenhaver) and they had three kids, Angela, Janell, and Steven. At a young age, he discovered his passion for music, participating in the school band and playing many instruments including saxophone, flute, drums, guitar, and keyboards. During high school, he was a member of The Fabulous Chancellors and toured with the Dick Clark Caravan of Stars. He loved to entertain but also enjoyed writing music that would tell the story of his life.

Other bands that loved making music with were The Playboys, The Monte Lee Saxton Band, Pride & Possession, Lock Stock & Barrel, and Bill Haley's Comets. They rocked the Mardi Gras Ballroom, The Tiki Room, and The Miramar Ballroom, to name a few. He also served the Boise Fire Department and in 1974 was named Fireman of the Year after he rescued a man from a burning plane. In 1989, Monte relocated to Tennessee and during his time there, was most proud of his musical partnership with Richard Chisum. Eventually, he met Mica and landed in South Carolina. While Monte would hate the word "famous", he was proud of his musical accomplishments. In 1988, he won a songwriting contest and was invited to be a guest on The Country Today Show and Charlie Daniels Talent Search. Monte was able to perform at several of the Miss South Carolina scholarship pageants, he provided entertainment during the Miss America pageant weeks, as well as one open mic night at the House of Blues (where he brought down the house). Through these opportunities, Monte was able to share his talent with the world.

Monte had a passion for music, both in playing it and in writing it. Some of his favorite songs to cover were Stand by Me, Wind Beneath My Wings, Unchained Melody, and When A Man Loves A Woman. He also wrote many original songs including Dreams Can Come True which he wrote for Mica for their wedding day, as well as sharing it with many other couples on their special day.

Monte would tell you he was most proud of his family. His greatest contribution, beyond his music, was indeed his children, grandkids, and great-grandsons, who have, in one way or another, carried on his musical legacy. He did his best to provide guidance, musical instruments, sage advice, and most of all inspiration.

While over the last several years, he suffered from kidney failure, he endured

to the end with a strong faith in our Heavenly Father's plan of salvation, his faith never wavering. Monte wanted the opportunity to express his love and gratitude to his family, friends, and community, prior to his passing and did not want a funeral service. He was adamant about ensuring that everyone knew how much he appreciated all of the kindness, support, and acts of service that have been expressed to him and his family over the years.

At this time, in lieu of flowers, please consider sending a contribution to a Go Fund Me campaign that was established to support his family as they cover the cost of his end-of-life care: www.gofund.me/e3683dba

The Directors of Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home & Crematory are caring for the family.

Tribute Wall

DB

“ *May God give you and your family strength and comfort during this sad time.*

Donna Brown - July 10, 2022 at 04:52 PM

DS

“ *MAY GOD SEND HIS PEACE TO YOU , THAT PASSES OUR UNDERSTANDING.. PRAYERS FOR YOU ALL.*



DEBBIE AND DANNY SINGLETARY - July 08, 2022 at 12:53 PM

AR

“ *Mica you are in my prayers! Angie Kelley Raines*



angie raines - July 07, 2022 at 10:40 PM

AK

“ *Ann King lit a candle in memory of Mr. Monte Lee Saxton*



Ann King - July 07, 2022 at 08:37 PM

GG

“ Prayers for his family so sorry for your loss!



Gail A. Gainey - July 07, 2022 at 02:46 PM

DS

“ David & Gloria Shoemake sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Monte Lee Saxton



David & Gloria Shoemake - July 06, 2022 at 08:40 PM



“ I remember the first time I met Monte years ago and was immediately impressed with his wonderful musical talent. But more than that his personality and kindness. Love you Monte. Frankie and Sandra Morrison

Frankie Morrison - July 05, 2022 at 05:00 PM

NE

“ Nay Nay (Rayna Edgeworth) lit a candle in memory of Mr. Monte Lee Saxton



Nay Nay (Rayna Edgeworth) - July 05, 2022 at 01:10 PM

TT

“ *The Staff Of Med One Medical Transport lit a candle in memory of Mr. Monte Lee Saxton*



The Staff of Med One Medical Transport - July 05, 2022 at 12:27 PM

WW

“ *Harry & I send our deepest sympathy to Mica and all the family. Monte was one of the most talented individuals I've ever known. I especially appreciate him entertaining at one of our 1961 HHS Reunions. Prayers, thoughts & love.*



Wayne Stratton Wallace

Wayne S. Wallace - July 05, 2022 at 11:07 AM

MS

“ *one of my favorite photos of me and dad. thank you to everyone for your support. ❤️*



monica saxton - July 04, 2022 at 10:02 AM

RP

Love this pic of you two.

Renee Peavy - July 04, 2022 at 07:42 PM

Steve Darrough

“ 1 file added to the album Bands



Steve Darrough - July 03, 2022 at 10:47 PM

MP

“ What a talented individual who will be greatly missed by so many. I'm so grateful I had the opportunity to have a few saxophone sessions with Monte when I prepared for the Miss South Carolina pageant. He helped pick out my first song, Midnight Blue; and he gave me the confidence I needed to actually do it! Thank you, Monte, for your talent and your kindness.

Morgan Dampier Poston - July 03, 2022 at 10:44 PM

PL

“ Paula Lawhon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Monte Lee Saxton



Paula Lawhon - July 03, 2022 at 08:22 PM

DJ

“ So sorry to hear of Monty passing. He will be truly missed. One of the Best DJ'S around. Thoughts and prayers up for the family. Your friend indeed Darlene.



Darlene Jackson - July 03, 2022 at 08:21 PM

PG

“ Pam Steen Griggs lit a candle in memory of Mr. Monte Lee Saxton



Pam Steen Griggs - July 03, 2022 at 03:35 PM

WK

“ Wanda H. Kent lit a candle in memory of Mr. Monte Lee Saxton



Wanda H. Kent - July 03, 2022 at 03:22 PM

RG

“ Monte was a very talented individual. Our prayers are with the family.

Russell & Angie Gainey - July 03, 2022 at 03:20 PM

LB

“ The Monte & Mica Show performed many nights on the Patio at BIZZELL's Food & Spirits in Downtown Hartsville! Oh how Hartsville loved those nights with singing and dancing! Thank you guys for sharing your talents with Hartsville❤️ Prayers for the weeks ahead as you adjust to your new normal. Keep those memories alive! Talk about Monte daily💕

Leigh Ann Bizzell - July 03, 2022 at 03:16 PM

AS

“ Monte was always our favorite entertainer, who so beautifully played and sang special songs that we, and many others, were privileged to dance to. His beautiful voice with his exceptional range of notes, along with his many instruments he played, were simply gifts from God. We still listen to his music, savor the memories, and feel so honored to have known him. Our deepest condolences and prayers to Mica, all of his family, and to all who loved him💕



Al & Melinda Sansbury - July 03, 2022 at 02:51 PM

SB

“ Sending thoughts and prayers.



Sharon Byram - July 03, 2022 at 02:24 PM

JG

“ Jimmy And Judy Gainey sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Monte Lee Saxton



Jimmy and Judy Gainey - July 03, 2022 at 02:17 PM

DE

“ *Diane H. Euten lit a candle in memory of Mr. Monte Lee Saxton*



Diane H. Euten - July 03, 2022 at 02:00 PM

ML

“ *Mellette Lyles lit a candle in memory of Mr. Monte Lee Saxton*



Mellette Lyles - July 03, 2022 at 01:25 PM

AM

“ *Our sincere condolences to all his family. Randy and Amy Mixon*



Amy Mixon - July 03, 2022 at 11:53 AM

SC

“ *Susan Clemmons lit a candle in memory of Mr. Monte Lee Saxton*



Susan Clemmons - July 03, 2022 at 11:11 AM



“ *Crystal Minnehan lit a candle in memory of Mr. Monte Lee Saxton*



Crystal Minnehan - July 03, 2022 at 11:04 AM

BA

“ *Hes a great man loved having him at my place with everyone singing and playing. Sending love to his family*

Barbara's - July 03, 2022 at 11:03 AM