



Mr. Robert Darren Griggs

July 1, 1960 - June 8, 2024

It is with deep sorrow that Mrs. Jennifer “Jenni” Johnson Griggs and her family announce the untimely death of her beloved husband, Mr. Robert Darren Griggs, 63.

Mr. Griggs entered into rest on Saturday, June 8, 2024. The Directors of Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home & Crematory are caring for the family.

A family-led service to honor his life will be held at 2 o’clock on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, in Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, 1000 Pleasant Grove Drive, Lynchburg, SC, with The Rev. James Melton officiating. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service.

Mr. Griggs was born on July 1, 1960, in Hartsville, SC. He was the son of the late Rev. Robert L. Griggs and the late Myrna Gibbons Griggs.

For many years, Darren was the beloved Head Coach at Robert E. Lee Academy. Though he led his teams to countless victories, one of his greatest legacies was the mentorship he provided to the many students he taught and coached. In recent years, Darren worked as the County Supervisor of Transportation at the State Department of Education and often spoke fondly of his fellow coworkers.

Darren was a devoted husband to the love of his life, Jenni Griggs. Throughout their almost 40 years together, they made many beautiful memories, including annual family beach trips and, most recently, a trip across the country to South Dakota for the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally. When Darren fell in love with Jenni, he also became “Dad” and mentor to Jenni’s two sons, Mike and Shad Dixon.

Darren was strong-willed and stoic, but he also had an enormous heart that grew even larger when he spoke about his grandchildren. He was generous, loyal, and brave. Darren had a talent for making friends easily and making all of his friends feel like his best friends.

He is survived by his wife, Jennifer “Jenni” Johnson Griggs of Hartsville, SC; stepson, Michael “Mike” Dixon (Brandi) of Columbia, SC; grandchildren, Charley and Riley Dixon; brother Derrick Griggs; sister, Sherri Griggs Morgan.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his stepson, Christopher Shad Dixon.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 12. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church
1000 Pleasant Grove Drive
Lynchburg, SC 29080

Family Conducted Service

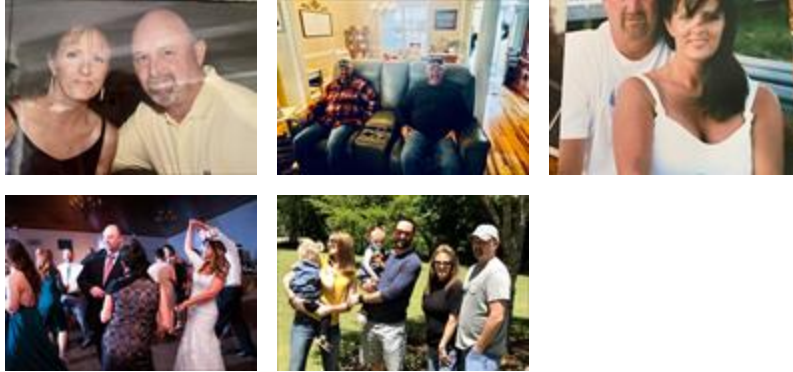
JUN 12. 2:00 PM (ET)

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church
1000 Pleasant Grove Drive
Lynchburg, SC 29080

Tribute Wall

JH

“ 14 files added to the album Darren



Jacqueline Hagler - July 28, 2025 at 12:13 PM

DG

“ I hated to see that Darren had passed. Darren coached me at Roy Hudgens. He was an excellent coach and leader of men. Tough, but fair. And he loved his players. A real man.

David Goodman

David Goodman - June 12, 2024 at 08:39 PM

MC

“ My condolences to the family. I knew Darren from Hudgens and always was very fond of him. Although it has been years since I've seen him, I've often recalled working on Student Council together and with various sports. Just know he will be truly missed throughout the Hudgens family of friends.

Martha White Coats - June 12, 2024 at 08:22 PM

KH

“ Rest in peace my sweet friend - I will truly miss you. Heaven has gained another angel. Take care my sweet husband - I know heaven is rejoicing having you and Greg. Jenni I am so sorry for your loss of Darren - he was one of the good ones!



Kim Hasselbring - June 12, 2024 at 02:51 PM

BC

“ Sending a warm embrace and my love during this sad time. You are all in my thoughts and prayers!



Bunny Critcher - June 12, 2024 at 01:46 PM

PB

“ Pals

PByrd - June 12, 2024 at 01:25 PM

HB

“ Howard Barfield lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs



Howard Barfield - June 12, 2024 at 09:14 AM

PW

“ Pamela Wessinger lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs



Pamela Wessinger - June 12, 2024 at 09:10 AM

CG

“ Darren and myself became friends through the brotherhood of Coaching in Bishopville, even though we were at different schools. After I left Baseball at Bishopville, he asked me to help him with his '95 JV baseball team and we immediately became friends for life. He just did some work on my boat and had some time to visit with him after many years. Prayers to the family, he was such a great guy and will be missed by many!!

Collins Gardner - June 12, 2024 at 06:29 AM

KJ

“ I have no words to express the sadness we feel at this time at the tragic loss of Darren. He coached Tyler in football and baseball all through high school and was a wonderful mentor and friend to him as he played through college and then became a coach himself. Jenni and Darren became wonderful friends to us and we will never forget all the good times we had together. He was also one of my coworkers at Lee Academy and I saw first hand the impact he had on so many students lives that will never be forgotten. Jenni we are here for you now and in the future whenever you need us. We will all cling to our many memories. May the Lord cover you with his love and give you peace in the coming days. RIP Darren.



Kathy Jackson - June 12, 2024 at 01:35 AM



“ *Darren is a great person the two years I knew him in high school and as a teammate classmate, I feel we were good friends, and his father was like a father to me. Rest in peace my good friend and I'll see in heaven someday!!!*

Franklin Bennett Jr. - June 12, 2024 at 12:15 AM



“ *I met Darren in August of 1979 when we were both freshman at USC. Being from New Jersey and not at all familiar with USC and South Carolina, Darren and I lived on the same floor at the now demolished LaBorde dormitory at the “Six Pack.” He invited me to his home in Sumter. His loving mother picked us up in Columbia and drove us and our friend Mike to Sumter where we met his dad, sister and brother. Darren was a great guy! We lost touch as we both grew into young adults. Hearing this news has hurt my heart. Rest in peace Darren.*



Jim Weiner - June 11, 2024 at 11:24 PM



“ *Great memories of Darren during our years of working together at REL. He was always such a nice person, and he impacted so many lives. Prayers for his family and many friends. Donna Hickson*

Donna Hickson - June 11, 2024 at 07:23 PM

CC

“ Darren,
You were a sweet man. DCSD will surely miss you. Prayers for your family!
Brandon and Cindy H-24



Cindy Cullen - June 11, 2024 at 06:56 PM

KJ

“ Kathi G. Johnson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs



Kathi G. Johnson - June 11, 2024 at 06:06 PM

JL

“ Coach Griggs will be missed by many. He wasn't just a football coach, but also a molder of men. I will be forever grateful to Coach Griggs for providing an example of leadership, and how to coach young men.

Justin Logan - June 11, 2024 at 05:34 PM

WS

“ Wendy Sharp lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs



Wendy Sharp - June 11, 2024 at 04:31 PM

WS

Having Darren as a Friend ,Schoolmate also like a Brother has given me many fond memories throughout my life.

Wendy Sharp - June 11, 2024 at 04:35 PM

NH

“ *Norman And Iris Hayes lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs*



Norman and Iris Hayes - June 11, 2024 at 01:58 PM

MB

“ *Melissa Byrd lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs*



Melissa Byrd - June 11, 2024 at 01:49 PM

TT

“ *Jenni and Family, I'm so sorry that Darren left us so soon. I have many fond memories as a child growing up and spending time with him and his siblings, my cousins. I can only imagine as much as he will be missed here, that there is a lot of rejoicing going on as he reunites with family members who have gone on before him. Praying for all of you, now and in the days ahead!*

Terry Edwards Thompson - June 11, 2024 at 10:25 AM

Betsy
Hidlay

“ *Betsy Hidlay lit a candle in memory of Mr.
Robert Darren Griggs*



Betsy Hidlay - June 11, 2024 at 09:51 AM

Betsy
Hidlay

*I have fond memories of Darren from RHA. May he rest in peace.
Prayers for his family.*

Betsy Hidlay - June 11, 2024 at 09:52 AM

LB

“ *Linda Boseman lit a candle in memory of Mr.
Robert Darren Griggs*



Linda Boseman - June 11, 2024 at 08:44 AM

RN

“ *Rhonda M. Nalley lit a candle in memory of
Mr. Robert Darren Griggs*



Rhonda M. Nalley - June 11, 2024 at 07:20 AM

TR

“ Tina Roberts lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs



tina roberts - June 11, 2024 at 07:18 AM

BW

“ BRIAN WEST lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs



BRIAN WEST - June 11, 2024 at 07:13 AM

KG

“ Darren spent a lot of time with our family throughout the years. He was always so nice. I only have fond memories of him. I will be praying for his family and friends. “Only the good die young.” Heaven gained a new angel. Until we meet again, RIP, Darren.

Kim Gruber - June 11, 2024 at 06:49 AM



“ *The world lost a great man on 8 June 2024. Darren Griggs was a second father and mentor to many during his years as football coach at both Hudgens and Lee Academy. I know he was the same to many even until his untimely death.*

I experienced his support and influence first hand from 1989 to 1993 during the years I worked as a manager for his football teams. He was wise in his counsel, a fierce competitor, consistent and straight forward in his leadership example. He was unapologetically himself. Like all the great men that Jesus called, I knew him to be both profane and holy. A rare breed today and yet a timeless sage. I draw a straight line between his influence and my most valuable life lessons. Certainly, many former students will say the same in these days of reflection upon his life and legacy.

I spoke with him by phone last January, shortly after the death of a mentor for whom we once both worked. It was a wonderful conversation in which I was reminded of Darren's grit and resilience despite difficulties and challenges. I left our conversation inspired.

He leaves this earth much too early and yet he is now with Jesus. This is good news despite our tragedy. Death took Darren from us but Jesus has taken him from death. Bless you Coach Griggs. May you enjoy your greatest trophy. You have fought the good fight. You have finished your course. You have kept the faith.

Rhett Brown - June 11, 2024 at 03:01 AM



Rhett....What a Beautiful Tribute to Darren. So Beautifully written.

Connie Sells Wallace - June 14, 2024 at 10:53 AM

KH

“ Living so far away from home is hardest at times like this! My heart is breaking knowing that I'll never get to share another laugh with this sweet, selfish soul 🥺 Rest easy... 💔👤💔

Karen Hardy - June 10, 2024 at 10:21 PM

TB

“ Timmy Baird lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs



Timmy Baird - June 10, 2024 at 09:53 PM

KW

“ Darren was more of a friend to me than he was a boss, we shared a love of hunting, fishing, and motorcycles, so we always had to share our stories of the biggest fish or the biggest deer, or highlights from a recent ride, he will be greatly missed by all of his coworkers at the SCDE Darlington bus shop. Praying hard for you Jenny and we are only a call away if you need us.

Keith warren - June 10, 2024 at 09:15 PM

K4

So sorry. Darren had so many friends at Lee Academy. He influenced so many young lives.

Kathryn 4 - June 10, 2024 at 10:47 PM

LW

“ Darren started as coworker Coach Griggs and became friend Darren. He touched many lives, made a lasting impression on students of all ages, and was an avid supporter of Lee County Relay for Life. We could go great lengths of time without talking but pick up like no time had passed the next time we saw him. We will forever be grateful for the lessons and the memories! Alan and Laurie Watkins, Luci, and MeMe

Laurie Watkins - June 10, 2024 at 08:50 PM

JA

“ June Woods Allen lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs



June Woods Allen - June 10, 2024 at 08:44 PM

CW

“ Sherri and Families,
I am so sorry to hear of the passing of Your Brother. My Thoughts and Prayers are with Each of You. May God give each of You... Comfort, Peace, Strength and Understanding in the days and months to come. May God wrap His Loving Arms around each You. Cherish All the Wonderful Memories deep in Your Heart and they will live on forever. Matthew 5:4. Love and Prayers .

Connie Sells Wallace - June 10, 2024 at 08:03 PM

JM

“ Jennifer Mcvicker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs



Jennifer Mcvicker - June 10, 2024 at 07:54 PM

JL

“ I had the privilege of coaching with Darren at REL in the mid 90's. What a great couple of years. Always kind and willing to help you. Had a lot of laughs with Darren. Praying for the family. Jeff Lowder

Jeff Lowder - June 10, 2024 at 07:52 PM

RW

Those were some of the best years. So many great memories.

Renee Ward - June 11, 2024 at 07:08 AM

DK

“ Della Kiser-Clark lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs



Della Kiser-Clark - June 10, 2024 at 07:35 PM

JM

“ John Mims lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs



john mims - June 10, 2024 at 07:28 PM

MF

“ Love and prayers to Darren's family. Hudgens Academy classmate.
Martha Floyd



Martha Floyd - June 10, 2024 at 07:17 PM



“ Wayne Southard lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs



Wayne Southard - June 10, 2024 at 07:03 PM

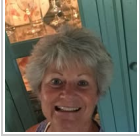
DW

“ Jenni, Sherry, Derrick and family,
Such fond memories of the many times I had to spend time with the Griggs family including baby sitting Darren, Sherry, and Derrick when they served our church at First Baptist Church of Pine Ridge. Our worship and Sunday School, VBS, youth group and family gatherings will forever in my mind and heart. So grateful for how so many lives were touched during those years and all the years thereafter. I was so blessed to remain in touch with your family to see Darren, Sherry, and Derrick grow and become very special loving adults which made their parents so proud. May God comfort and sustain you now and the days ahead! Love you all! 🙏🕊️❤️



Debbie Luther Watson

Debbie Luther Watson - June 10, 2024 at 07:02 PM



“ Lydia Mims lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs



Lydia Mims - June 10, 2024 at 06:22 PM



“ Darren was an exceptional coworker, friend, and mentor to everyone at SCDE. His passing deeply saddens us, and we will cherish the memories we shared with him. A true advocate for the children of South Carolina, he will be tremendously missed by all.

Mike Bullman - June 10, 2024 at 03:40 PM



“ Such a good man that had an impact on my life. Always supportive both as an AD and coach. Praying for comfort and peace.

Brian Adams - June 10, 2024 at 03:31 PM



“ Oh, the fun times we shared with Darren. So thankful he and Buddy always stayed in touch. We will forever love him. He touched so many lives. Sending hugs and prayers to Jenny and the family.

Renee Ward - June 10, 2024 at 02:14 PM

TJ

“ Prayers for comfort to this special family. Our connection goes back years. May your faith, memories , family and friends sustain you today and in the days ahead.



Teri Reaves Johnson - June 10, 2024 at 02:11 PM

TD

“ Growing up we had so many good times. Lake days and Vacations. Our families were like one. You will be missed my friend.

Tammy Douglas - June 10, 2024 at 12:31 PM

NP

“ *NORTHSIDE AUTO PARTS* lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs



NORTHSIDE AUTO PARTS - June 10, 2024 at 12:22 PM

SK

“ *Susan Amd Lacy King* lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs



Susan amd Lacy King - June 10, 2024 at 12:14 PM

BM

“ As we cry for your loss, we celebrate your life and the fact that you made better lives for all that crossed your path. memories from Coaching football to beach trips to just hanging out in the pool, I will always remember the smiles we had and the laughs we shared. Till we see each other again, RIP my friend you definitely made an impact on my families life.



Brock Miller - June 10, 2024 at 11:51 AM

TW

“ Sending heartfelt condolences to all. Terri

Terri Northcutt Woodham - June 10, 2024 at 11:30 AM

GM

“ Gene Mixon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs



Gene Mixon - June 10, 2024 at 11:09 AM

AM

“ Loss of a friend through death is a cruel and cold companion. You find comfort through memories. The memories of Darren will last forever. Brock and I are definitely better for knowing Darren, better for loving you, better for having met you. The memories we shared through coaching at Hudgens, going on trips together and all those crazy prank phone calls we will always cherish and laugh about. May you be as blessed in the next life, Darren, as we were blessed in this one by knowing you. Jenny and the family you are all in our thoughts and prayers; today, tomorrow and the days to come! RIP Darren, you were one of the good ones 🙏🕊️🕊️



Allison Miller - June 10, 2024 at 10:28 AM

JA

“ Jenny and family I grew up with Darren’s father and family and I know he came from a Christian family,Darren was also my grandson baseball coach at Robert E Lee,he was a great coach to Christopher and the team.He will surely be missed to all who knew him.Prayer’s for his special family .Jewel

Jewel walters aGibson - June 10, 2024 at 09:47 AM

AM

“ Annette Moore lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs



Annette Moore - June 10, 2024 at 09:44 AM

JA

“ *Jewel Walters AGibson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs*



Jewel walters aGibson - June 10, 2024 at 09:35 AM

CM

“ *This one hurts. I'll miss my friend stopping by the office from time to time. He was a good man whom I had the honor to know. Rest easy and prayers to Ms. Jenny and his family.*

Cody Mitchell - June 10, 2024 at 08:59 AM

SJ

“ *Jenny and family, we are so saddened to hear of your loss. Darren was a great man! He was a friend to all, always willing to help others and he made an impact on everyone he met. He is going to be missed by everyone that had the pleasure of knowing him. Darlington Bus Shop will not be the same without him. Our thoughts and prayers are and will continue to be with you in the days ahead.*



Richard (Darlington Bus Shop Foreman) & Stacy Jenkins

Stacy Jenkins - June 10, 2024 at 07:36 AM

MG

“ *Jenny and family,
We are shocked and saddened to learn of Darren’s passing. He has
been a special friend since we were roommates at Carolina. Please
know that all of you are in our prayers during this difficult time.
Mike & Sandi Genau*

Mike Genau - June 09, 2024 at 07:57 PM

JD

“ *Prayers lifted for this dear family !*



Jennie DeWitt - June 09, 2024 at 07:14 PM

JC

“ *Jason And Ann Crowley lit a candle in
memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs*



Jason and Ann Crowley - June 09, 2024 at 06:25 PM

LL

“ Our deepest condolences to all the family of Coach Griggs Our boys Lance and Tyler Lowe went to Robert E Lee Academy and played football for him
We all loved and respected Coach Griggs
Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of you
Praying you will feel Gods loving arms wrapped around all of you as well



Lawrence & Cindy Lowe - June 09, 2024 at 05:05 PM

AR

“ Jenny, I'm so sorry for your loss! You are in my prayers! He was a great guy! I'm so glad I got to see y'all the other week! Charlie also thought a lot of him and enjoyed coaching with him at REL. May god give you strength during this difficult time. Love, Angie Kelley Raines

Angie Raines - June 09, 2024 at 04:46 PM

DG

“ My heart felt prayers for your family.



Dawn Grantham - June 09, 2024 at 04:40 PM

KJ

“ *Kathi G. Johnson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs*



Kathi G. Johnson - June 09, 2024 at 04:38 PM

BA

“ *So sorry for your tragic loss. Darren was a great guy and we thought the world of him. Carol and I will keep you and your family in ours prayers!!!*

Butch and Carol Anderson - June 09, 2024 at 04:31 PM

CC

“ *Charlene Craven lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs*



Charlene Craven - June 09, 2024 at 04:25 PM

IF

“ *We are so sorry for your loss. Sending Prayers for the Family. Manuel and Ivy Flowers*



Ivy Flowers - June 09, 2024 at 04:15 PM

LS

“ I’m so sorry Jenny and family sending prayers for you all ,Darren was a great friend to Tony .
Miranda and I send our Condolences. Puggie & Miranda Smith



Louretta Smith - June 09, 2024 at 04:05 PM

MB

“ Matt And Betsy Bramlett lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Darren Griggs



Matt and Betsy Bramlett - June 09, 2024 at 04:00 PM