



## Mr. Bobby Ray Boswell

August 30, 1935 - November 10, 2020

Bobby Ray Boswell, born in Elberton GA, son of the late E.J. and Willine Boswell, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, November 10, 2020, at the Piedmont Regional Medical Center in Athens, GA, after suffering from long-term illnesses.

Bobby is survived by his wife of 65 years and life-long love, Betty Jo Mayo Boswell, as well as a brother and sister, Peggy Cartledge and Charles Boswell, both of Elberton. Bob and Betty have three adult children, all married, ten grandchildren with their five spouses, and nine great-grandchildren: Bob Boswell, Jr. and wife, Karen, of Lilburn, GA, John Boswell and wife, Susan, of Jefferson, GA, and Renee Boswell Brown and husband, Larry, of Franklin, TN. Grandchildren include Josh Boswell and wife, Sara, of Blue Springs, MO, Jason Boswell of Atlanta, Jonathan Boswell and Joseph Boswell both of Jefferson, Emma Boswell of Athens, Jordan Boswell and wife, Hannah, of Dahlonega, Tom "Buck" Brown and wife, Faith, of Washington, DC, Carrie (Brown) Murphy and husband, Myles, of Nashville TN, Bobby Boswell Brown and wife, Brianna, of Taichung, Taiwan, and Gracie Brown of Franklin, TN. Great-grandchildren are Cameron Boswell of Clayton, NC, Bella and Parker Ray Boswell of Blue Springs, MO, Killian, Titus, Leo, and Layla Jo Brown, all of Taichung, Taiwan, and Harper and Berdie Boswell, both of Dahlonega.

While the dates of Bobby's life, and the family he and Betty raised and led, are

detailed above, no brief biography can capture the depth and breadth of Bobby's deep influence on his family, his church, and the hundreds of friends and coworkers that he knew and impacted during a lifetime dedicated to service. Bobby's broad-ranging service included his faith, his family, his nation, and his community: Bobby was a retired U.S. Army veteran of extensive and varied military service throughout the Cold War, a decades-long church leader at Peniel Pentecostal Holiness Church, and retired most recently as a leader within Franklin County's Tax Assessor's office. While those familiar with Bobby may be unaware due to his modest, unassuming nature, his service includes sensitive classified positions during the Cold War within the National Security community, and service in support of NASA's earliest missions and astronauts (including personal relationships with John Glenn, Alan Shepard, and Buzz Aldrin, among others); an accomplished recent NASA astronaut in the Space Shuttle era contacted him with personal appreciation for his key accomplishments to NASA and its early missions.

While these examples are notable, a complete listing of Bobby's experiences, service locations, and agencies is not possible within the limited space and format of an obituary. The family is creating a website, [bobbyrayboswell.family](http://bobbyrayboswell.family), to memorialize and provide more details on the extensive career, family, and life of this extraordinary man. Your submissions of photos, memories, and stories to this website are both invited and encouraged; the email to supply comments or input to the family for this website is [bobbyrayboswell@gmail.com](mailto:bobbyrayboswell@gmail.com).

With heartfelt consideration of the health and well being of loved ones during these uncertain times, a private family graveside service for Bobby will be held in the Peniel Pentecostal Holiness Church Cemetery in Royston.

Bobby will lie in state at Pruitt Funeral Home on Thursday, November 12, 2020, from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. for anyone who would like to pay their

respects or sign the register book.

Flowers are optional; memorials may be made to the Peniel Pentecostal Holiness Church Cemetery Fund at P. O. Box 317 Franklin Springs, GA 30639.

Pruitt Funeral Home in Royston, GA is in charge of arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Peniel Pentecostal Holiness Church Cemetery

2975 Sandy Cross Road  
Royston, GA 30662

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 12. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Pruitt Funeral Home  
47 Franklin Springs Street  
P.O. Box 465  
Royston, GA 30662  
(706) 245-7234  
pruittfh@bellsouth.net  
<https://www.pruittfhroyston.com/>

# Tribute Wall

LB

“ Four months later, being at Bird Hill in Sandy Cross, sitting in his house with his wife and daughter, his death still impacts me deeply. At the time of Pop's death, I said he was one of the most important people in my life. That wasn't an exaggeration or cliché. It's very true, and I'm very glad of it -- Pop, there are a lot of people who miss you; I'm one of the first on that list.

So many people -- across many years and many states -- are better people because of your impact. Our Jewish brethren say "May his memory be a blessing." Pop, know that your memory, as you, are a blessing. With love and pride - Larry

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**Larry Brown** - March 14, 2021 at 09:20 PM

RB

“ Sorry to hear about Mr. Boswell's passing. I thought the world of Mr. and Mrs. Boswell growing up in Royston. I was good friends with Bob Jr. and John and was in both of their weddings. My prayers are with the family. Reeder Burch

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**Reeder Burch** - November 15, 2020 at 08:48 PM

JB

“ Betty and Family, We were so sad to hear of Bob's passing. He was a gentle soft spoken man that everyone that knew him, loved him. Bob will be missed by his church family and the community. He had a compassion and concern for others and was always interested in what was going on with your life. God bless each of you during this difficult time.

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**Janie & Bobby Brooks** - November 13, 2020 at 08:51 AM

BB

“ I love how he would just sit back and watch his great-grandchildren play. It was a beautiful reminder that being present during the little moments of life are some of the most treasured memories. Granddaddy deeply loved his family and that was evident to all.

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**Brianna Brown** - November 13, 2020 at 01:35 AM

SP

“ Prayers for your family today and in the days ahead.



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**Susan Whitlow Peeples** - November 12, 2020 at 09:39 PM

CH

“ Bobby was someone even as a child I always looked up too and remember thinking that he was the smartest man I knew . His smile is one that will not be forgotten .

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**Cheryal Hammock** - November 12, 2020 at 06:57 PM

TS

“ Tony And Carol Stone lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bobby Ray Boswell



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**Tony and Carol Stone** - November 12, 2020 at 06:36 PM

JE

“ Jeff Elrod lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bobby Ray Boswell



Jeff Elrod - November 12, 2020 at 01:38 PM

CM

“ Chad And Amy Marcengill lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bobby Ray Boswell



Chad and Amy Marcengill - November 12, 2020 at 11:00 AM

DS

“ Praying for your family's comfort.



Danita Segars - November 12, 2020 at 10:41 AM

DJ

“ My thoughts and prayers are with his family.



Diana Johnson - November 12, 2020 at 10:32 AM

 Bobby  
Brown

“ One of the greats...

*Things I'll never forget and will always treasure:*

- Watching him catch every snake He found and claim they weren't poisonous*
- Him patting dogs' sides instead of petting them*
- his belly laugh*
- cutting grass with him*
- his face when he saw how bad I was at using tools and doing manly things*
- the way he folded towels perfectly*
- his stories*
- watching him sit quietly at family gatherings and just take in being around his clan*
- watching him hold a rifle with one hand at 80 years old and nail a target I had just missed*
- him telling me how nice my first "grownup" car purchase was and he was proud of me... when it was just a used Yaris.*
- taking water breaks with him in the plastic chairs (you know the ones) and listening to him talk*
- running to town in his truck*
- talking about the Bible with him*
- being outworked by him*
- watching him drive a nail in with one swing*
- sometimes working for hours while we said barely anything at all just simply enjoyed being together*
- watching a Jeff Gordon prank video and laughing uncontrollably*
- seeing the joy on his face when he held my kids*
- him doing the dishes for Gran Gran*
- any time he would get silly and dance*
- watching Westerns that were playing way too loud*
- him showing me his latest hat someone gave him*
- not being able to go anywhere in Franklin or Elbert county without having to stop and talking to everyone he knew*
- the fact that his dogs all ate whatever he and GG ate that day*

*Love you, Granddaddy.*

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**Bobby Brown** - November 12, 2020 at 01:37 AM

SP

*Beautiful tribute.*

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**Susan Whitlow Peeples** - November 12, 2020 at 09:38 PM

FP

“ *Prayers for the family, Bobby was a wonderful neighbor.*

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**Freddy and Theresa Pulliam** - November 11, 2020 at 09:07 PM

CH

“ *Cathy Hilley lit a candle in memory of Mr.  
Bobby Ray Boswell*



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**Cathy Hilley** - November 11, 2020 at 06:49 PM