



## Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.

July 20, 1964 - December 25, 2023

Mr. Van Wayne Hodge, Jr. 59, of Sylvester, died on Monday, December 25, 2023, at his residence.

The memorial service will be held at 2:00 PM on Friday, December 29, 2023, at Banks Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Charlie Brown and Rev. Matt Greene will officiate.

Mr. Hodge was born on July 20, 1964 in Albany, Georgia, to Van Wayne Hodge, Sr. and Patricia Moody Hodge. He had lived in Worth County most of his life and was employed with HVAC Control Services in Sylvester, where he worked as a technician. Mr. Hodge enjoyed fishing, golfing, reading his Bible, studying history, playing sports, and was also an avid Georgia Bulldogs and Atlanta Braves Fan. He loved spending time with his family and friends. Mr. Hodge attended both, First Baptist Church of Sylvester, and Unity Baptist Church.

Survivors include his children, Savannah Hodge of Leesburg, and Jacob Hodge of Tennessee; grandchildren, Parker Brookerd and Ava Brookerd; parents, Van & Pat Hodge of Sylvester; sister, Tammy Lawhorn (Jeff) of Lake Blackshear, and a canine companion, Abby; significant other, Jeanie Carter of Sylvester, and a host of aunts, uncles and cousins.

The family will receive friends on Friday from 1:00 PM until the service hour at Banks Funeral Home.

Please sign our online guest registry at [www.banksfh.com](http://www.banksfh.com).

Banks Funeral Home in Sylvester is in charge of arrangements.



# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC **29**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Banks Funeral Home  
PO Box 550  
210 N. Main Street  
Sylvester, GA 31791  
(229) 776-2055  
banksfh@yahoo.com  
<http://banks.funeralplan2.com/>

## Memorial Service

DEC **29**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Banks Funeral Home  
PO Box 550  
210 N. Main Street  
Sylvester, GA 31791  
(229) 776-2055  
banksfh@yahoo.com  
<http://banks.funeralplan2.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Tammy Lawhorn - January 16, 2024 at 09:00 PM

TE



teresa - January 20, 2024 at 11:43 PM

TE

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Teresa - January 13, 2024 at 01:21 AM



Great picture!! ❤️😭

Tammy Lawhorn - January 16, 2024 at 08:32 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Tammy Lawhorn** - January 02, 2024 at 10:47 AM

DR

“ Tammy and family, I am so sorry for your loss! Praying for peace and comfort in the days ahead! 🙏❤️  
Debbie Barnard Ross

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**Debbie Ross** - December 31, 2023 at 08:58 PM



*Thank you for the prayers Debbie. We greatly appreciate them.*

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**Tammy Lawhorn** - January 02, 2024 at 10:25 AM

DC

“ So sorry for your loss. My prayers are with the family.

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**Derrick Cox** - December 30, 2023 at 01:14 PM



*Thank you Derrick for the prayers.*

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**Tammy Lawhorn** - January 02, 2024 at 10:26 AM

RW

“ So sorry for the loss of Van. Praying for the family.



Ralph Willis - December 29, 2023 at 07:36 PM



Thank you for the prayers Ralph.

Tammy Lawhorn - January 02, 2024 at 10:27 AM

CG

“ Cheryl Gibbs lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.



Cheryl Gibbs - December 29, 2023 at 12:20 PM



Thank you Cheryl ❤️

Tammy Lawhorn - January 16, 2024 at 08:33 PM

BH

“ Becky And Glenn Hatcher lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.



Becky and Glenn Hatcher - December 29, 2023 at 12:09 PM



*Thank yall so much.*

**Tammy Lawhorn** - January 16, 2024 at 08:34 PM

GP

“ *My Prayers are with Van, Mrs Pat, and Tammy. May God Bless you all with some comfort during this very bad time*



**George Paul** - December 29, 2023 at 11:22 AM



*Thank you so much George for thinking of us.*

**Tammy Lawhorn** - January 16, 2024 at 08:39 PM

JO

“ *Tammy and family, I'm so sorry to hear about your loss. Praying for peace and comfort.*  
*June Cross Odom*

**June Odom** - December 29, 2023 at 11:10 AM

NH

“ I loved Van Jr. He was brilliant, with a mind for statistics that would impress the best baseball writers. He read about history, and he loved our country. He was competitive -- we both loved playing basketball; I was good, but he was better. He loved to rib me about beating me, and we'd laugh about it because I hate to lose, and I just wasn't good enough to beat him often. On the rare occasion I did, I of course ribbed him mercilessly. The thing that's most poignant when I think of him is his fierce love and loyalty for his family -- he so deeply loved his parents and sister and his daughter. He taught me a few things, but I suppose the thing he taught me most is I should have told him how much I cared for and admired him. He deserved that.



Nick Hodge - December 29, 2023 at 10:26 AM



Thank you Nick for saying that. Van loved you too. God bless you.

Tammy Lawhorn - January 16, 2024 at 08:42 PM

AE

“ Alan Eubanks lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.



Alan Eubanks - December 29, 2023 at 02:55 AM

FL

“ We are so very sorry for your loss. Van and Jay were good buddies and we always enjoyed him when he was with Jay. I wonder if they have “met” in Heaven. Maybe Jay was there to meet him. We pray for God’s peace and comfort for you in the days ahead. 🙏

Freida Cranford Thames & Angela C Lovell - December 28, 2023 at 02:30 PM

TL

*I am sure they have reunited Freida! They were the best of friends. Van sure loved Jay very much!!*

**Tammy Lawhorn** - December 22, 2024 at 03:43 PM

NF

“ *Nell Ford lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.*



**Nell Ford** - December 28, 2023 at 01:38 PM

MB

“ *So sorry for your loss. May God bless you and all the family!!!*

**Marcia Baker Benford** - December 28, 2023 at 12:50 PM

CS

“ *So for your loss 🙏🙏🙏*

**Carol Singleton** - December 28, 2023 at 10:11 AM

PL

“ *Penny And Robert Lowe lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.*



**Penny and Robert Lowe** - December 27, 2023 at 09:26 PM

TM

“ *Tammy Thompson Mccrary lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.*



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**Tammy Thompson Mccrary** - December 27, 2023 at 09:26 PM

EC

“ *Prayers for your family. God bless you all!*



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**Evelyn Fletcher Castleberry** - December 27, 2023 at 09:14 PM

DE

“ *Van, Pat & Tammy thinking of you all at this time & praying for peace & comfort. I am so sorry for your loss.*

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**Debra Eason** - December 27, 2023 at 03:13 PM

DM

“ *Deanna Merritt lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.*



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**Deanna Merritt** - December 27, 2023 at 03:04 PM

SS

“ *Mr. & Mrs. Hodge, and sweet Tammy,  
I am so very sorry. I will be praying for you all and keeping you in  
my heart.  
Sending love and hugs your way.  
Sharon Singletary  
(Angie Hoover's daughter)*

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**Sharon Singletary** - December 27, 2023 at 01:33 PM

IG

“ *My heart felt sympathy and love to Van, Pat, Tammy and Jeff.  
Losing a child is a really horribly painful loss. My prayers are with all  
of you as you navigate the painful path of grief. May God bless and  
comfort you.*

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**Imogene Gilliam** - December 27, 2023 at 12:10 PM

DM

“ *We're so sorry for your loss. Vernon and I are praying for all of you.*

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**Diane McDonald** - December 27, 2023 at 09:29 AM

CP

“ *My heart is breaking for your family. I was blessed to have been  
friends with Van since high school. He had a very unique  
personality that would brighten up the day. May God heal your  
hearts.*

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**Connie Sizemore Patterson** - December 27, 2023 at 09:28 AM

JM

“ I’ve known van for a very long time throughout school he was always a sweet guy then we reconnected again when he came back to sylvester n started back to work w his dad who has been our hvac man for many years james n I both think slot of big van n ms pat so van Jr was the man to call when our zone system ac acted up we both hated this system but james and me van thought it was the best he fussed the whole time but he always showed up n got it back working numerous times over the past few years he n I spent a lot of hours talking n I learned a lot of how much he valued his job and wanted acceptance from others he always felt n said negative things about himself but we would talk n I would try to convince him of what a nice n considerate person he was n he deserved to be happy n thank goodness he got w Melba CARTER truly first time I’d seen him happy in several years he deserved to finally be happy n be loved and feel good about himself she def did that for him he loved his family n his children n fur baby n Melba n loved his job no matter how much he fussed about it sometimes so sorry for his passing so young in life w so much more to give god be w his family n loved ones during this difficult time

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**jerri merritt** - December 27, 2023 at 09:26 AM

BR

“ I am so sorry to hear about Van, I did not realize that he had been sick, its been a long time since I have been in touch. Van was a kind soul and we shared some good times. I am praying for your family!

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**Barbara Rogers** - December 27, 2023 at 09:23 AM

EF

“ Pat and Vann Hodge, It has been a great honor for me, to have shared our lives with yours, we suffered the same things, for the same reasons, and now death has taken away our most precious part of our lives, and we now join both of you, to share with you, the same things I shared with Jr. If he only retained a portion of my teachings, he has been able to make it to the very end; I hope the Scriptures God gave me this morning for Jr, will also become your consolation and peace; I myself will be joining those gone before us, and celebrate eternal live with the one who made it possible for us, The Great King of the Universe. please contact me at anytime,if you need my prayers, which are with you at this very moment. Thanks for all the benefits we received from all of you, in the past years, and the years to come. I love all of You God bless

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**Elio M Fernandez** - December 27, 2023 at 07:19 AM



Thank you Elio. Van loved you and always enjoyed his talks with you. The loss is so excruciating right now. I feel like incant breath at times, but I have been praying fervently to God for comfort for myself, my parents and family and friends. What an honor for my brother Van to celebrate his rebirth on the day our Savior was born. To know he is celebrating in heaven on Jesus' birthday has got to be amazing. Please continue to pray for my parents and myself as we begin to navigate life without him. God bless you and thank you for always being such a great teacher to my brother of the Holy Scriptures and for loving him.

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**Tammy Lawhorn** - December 27, 2023 at 07:41 AM

RL

“ I’m so very sorry for your loss. You all are in my thoughts and prayers.



Rita Leggett - December 27, 2023 at 04:40 AM

FM

“ Mrs. Pat, Mr Van, Tammy and Jeff our prayers are with your during the difficult days ahead. Hold onto the memories and keep the hope of the reunion in Heaven. We love y'all.

Freddie & Marsha McCrary - December 27, 2023 at 12:42 AM

BG

“ I am so very sorry to hear about Van. Prayers for all of you. 🙏

Bobbie Gay - December 26, 2023 at 10:53 PM

SE

“ Pat, our prayer is for comfort from the Comforter for you and your family.

Sarah and Carl Erwin - December 26, 2023 at 08:25 PM

SB

“ Junior as most of us called him was a great person. He had his struggles early in life but mostly overcame the demons some of our families struggle with. Considerate polite enjoyable to be around. Upstanding and great human being he loved his mother and father and would do anything to help you out if he could. Miss Pat Mr van I am so sorry for your loss my heart breaks for you I know how much you loved him. Just remember this he's waiting on you on the other side and you will see him again I'll see you Friday I love you and if you need anything please let me know

Sherry Bowman - December 26, 2023 at 07:10 PM

BL

“ So sorry to hear about Van Jr. You and the family are in my prayers.

Bambi T Lawson - December 26, 2023 at 06:38 PM

FD

“ Frank Davis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.



Frank Davis - December 26, 2023 at 06:23 PM

KJ

“ Kip, Peggy, Jeff lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.



Kip, Peggy, Jeff - December 26, 2023 at 06:14 PM

KJ

*Our love to you all. So many memories we recall.*

**Kip, Peggy, Jeff** - December 26, 2023 at 06:15 PM

MJ

“ *Margie And Dennis James lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.*



**Margie and Dennis James** - December 26, 2023 at 05:57 PM

MB

“ *Mr Van, Mrs Pat, Tammy and family I am so sorry for your loss, I have lots of memories of Van Jr growing up. I love you all so much!*



**Mary Brown** - December 26, 2023 at 05:33 PM

BP

“ *Brenna Barber Patnaude lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.*



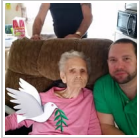
**Brenna Barber Patnaude** - December 26, 2023 at 05:29 PM

RA

“ Randy Adams lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.



Randy Adams - December 26, 2023 at 04:52 PM



“ Ruby Jones lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.



Ruby Jones - December 26, 2023 at 04:38 PM

DB

“ Debbie Banks lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.



Debbie Banks - December 26, 2023 at 04:32 PM

BY

“ Brenda Yoder lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.



Brenda Yoder - December 26, 2023 at 03:56 PM

BE

“ Sorry to hear about Van he was a good guy may God bless the family

Bennie Evans - December 26, 2023 at 03:51 PM

EA

“ Eric Adams lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.



Eric Adams - December 26, 2023 at 11:52 AM



“ Pat and family, I am so very sorry for your loss. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Much love, comfort and peace to All. ❤️🙏❤️

Janice Carter - December 26, 2023 at 11:34 AM

JO

“ Jeanette Osteen lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.



Jeanette Osteen - December 26, 2023 at 11:19 AM

CY

“ Pat, Van, Tammy, Jeff and Family, I am praying for you during this difficult time. Van Jr. was a sweet and friendly young man who loved his family and fur baby. May God now hold you extra close. Love you.



Carol York - December 26, 2023 at 10:33 AM

MH

“ So sorry. Praying for you all. Let us know if we can do anything.

Marsha Hickox - December 26, 2023 at 10:26 AM

EC

“ Pat, Van, and Tammy, My heart is broken for you. You are all in my prayers.  
Elizabeth Cowles



Elizabeth and Charlie Cowles - December 26, 2023 at 10:01 AM

SC

“ Oh how this hurts my heart. Mrs. Pat my heart breaks for you and your family. Van was a good person and I considered him a friend. You all will be in my thoughts and prayers.



Sharon Canup (Blalock)

Sharon Canup - December 26, 2023 at 09:54 AM



Thank you so much for your kind words and prayers Sharon. We appreciate them very much.

Tammy Lawhorn - December 31, 2023 at 09:20 AM

SB

“ So sorry for yalls loss love *Stacey Blake*

**stacey blake** - December 26, 2023 at 09:46 AM



*Thank you so much Stacey for being her for our family. We love you!*

**Tammy Lawhorn** - December 31, 2023 at 09:20 AM



*Sorry here!*

**Tammy Lawhorn** - December 31, 2023 at 09:21 AM

BW

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with Van Jr's family  
Bobby and Karen Watson*

**Bobby and Karen Watson** - December 26, 2023 at 09:43 AM



*Thank yall for the prayers. We love yall*

**Tammy Lawhorn** - December 31, 2023 at 09:21 AM

SW

“ *Sandra Watson lit a candle in memory of Mr.  
Van Wayne Hodge Jr.*



**Sandra Watson** - December 26, 2023 at 09:24 AM

BA

“ Beth Adams lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.



Beth Adams - December 26, 2023 at 08:39 AM

PN

“ Pat Narred lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.



Pat Narred - December 26, 2023 at 07:41 AM

PN

“ Van was always very nice yo me. I appreciated him very much.

Pat Narred - December 26, 2023 at 07:41 AM



He always enjoyed going to your house. Thank you for being a friend to Van

Tammy Lawhorn - December 31, 2023 at 09:22 AM

MF

“ Mary Jane Fraley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.



Mary Jane Fraley - December 25, 2023 at 10:45 PM

KP

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you all right now. I love y'all very much!

Kesha Parish - December 25, 2023 at 09:46 PM



Thank you sister for everything you have done for our family. We love you and appreciate the prayers very much!! 🙏🙏

Tammy Lawhorn - December 31, 2023 at 09:23 AM

SJ

“ Sandra A Jones lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.



Sandra A Jones - December 25, 2023 at 09:10 PM

JC

“ June Coker sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Van Wayne Hodge Jr.



June Coker - December 25, 2023 at 07:56 PM

DR

“ Van Jr taught me how to skate backwards at the Sylvester Skating Rink, had a crush for years. Absolutely adore his sister, Tammy and Mr and Mrs Hodge!!! Prayers for the family in the days ahead

Dee Reynolds - December 25, 2023 at 07:54 PM



*Thank you Dee!! He had a crush too!! He always thought you were so pretty and he was right! We love you & your family and appreciate the prayers.*

**Tammy Lawhorn** - January 16, 2024 at 08:47 PM

AY

“ *Prayers to Mrs. Pat, Tammy and all the family.*



**Anita York** - December 25, 2023 at 06:45 PM

JY

*Pat and Van, so sorry to hear of your son's death. Love and prayers for the family.*

**Jo Ann and Marion Youngblood** - December 25, 2023 at 09:22 PM

JS

*Pat , Van and family, we are so sorry to hear of loss of your son. Love and prayers for all. May God wrap his arms around this family.*

**Judy & Mack Sutton** - December 26, 2023 at 02:03 PM

MH

*So sorry to hear of Vans passing. My prayers are with you.*

**Marie Hudson** - December 26, 2023 at 05:52 PM

EF

*Hope for the living and the dead. Isaiah chapter 61.  
The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me;  
Because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings (good news) unto the meek (poor) he hath sent me to bind up (heal) the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; to appoint (console) unto them that mourn in Zion to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified. This is an eternal promise, let us claim it, if we are willing to obey it. Amen*

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**Elio M fernandez** - December 27, 2023 at 07:53 AM

DB

*Thinking of you all. Prayers lifted!*

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**Denise Binns** - December 29, 2023 at 09:01 AM

FW

*On behalf of our family, we are so sad to hear of your loss. Nothing hurts the heart like losing a child, and only God can understand and comfort during the time of great grief and distress. We are praying for your family in the coming days.*

*The Fred White Family*

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**Fred White** - December 29, 2023 at 11:47 AM



*Thank you all for your prayers and kind words. We are in need of much understanding right now. God is the great healer and I know Van is healed in his holy name!!*

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**Tammy Lawhorn** - January 16, 2024 at 08:50 PM