



## Melvin Dale "Cherokee" Purvis

May 16, 1959 - March 24, 2022

Melvin Dale "Cherokee" Purvis, 62, of 646 River Bend Road, Milton, NC went home to be with the Lord on March 24, 2022 at his residence after being in declining health for the past two years.

Cherokee was born in Virginia Beach, Virginia on May 16, 1959 a son of the late Otis Larry Purvis, Sr. and Frankie Bradley Purvis. He moved to Caswell County in 1984. Cherokee was owner and operator of Cherokee Excavating Company for twenty-five years. He was of the Baptist faith.

Cherokee loved having large cookouts for his family and friends; he also loved to fish and go on boat rides. He was known to kid around with people where he would tease and fret them all in good fun.

On August 1, 1986 he married Debra Rowland Purvis who survives of the residence.

Cherokee is survived by one brother, Otis L. Purvis, Jr. and wife Jaynel of Florida and one sister, Wanda Purvis Smith also of Florida.

The family will receive friends at the residence, 646 River Bend Road, Milton, NC 27305 on Sunday, March 27, 2022 from 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. and then they will also receive friends on Monday evening at the residence at 214 Sley

Hollow Road, Whittier, N.C. 28789.

Cherokee will be carried to his final resting place by his family and friends for a graveside service on Tuesday, March 29, 2022 at 3:00 PM at the Wilmont Community Cemetery, 214 Sley Hollow Road, Whittier, N.C. 28789. Anyone who would like to speak at the service is invited to do so.

Wrenn-Yeatts Yanceyville is respectfully serving the Purvis family.

# Previous Events

## Graveside

MAR 29. 3:00 PM (ET)

Wilmont Community Cemetery  
214 Sley Hollow Road  
Whittier, NC 28789

# Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Melvin Dale "Cherokee" Purvis.*



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March 28, 2022 at 10:17 AM

DB

“ *Dale was someone I always looked up to. His heart was as big as the equipment that he operated, daily. He was always quick to tell me how fat I was getting, but it was just Dale being honest. I loved that he was honest and told you like it is!*

*I have many stories of Dale but the one my family enjoys the most goes as such -*

*Dale and Debbie were at our house just before Christmas, my family had gathered for dinner and they joined us. My sister in law, Isa had made tamales like she does for us every Christmas. As we all started diving into the tamales and commenting on how good they were - Dale stated that his were too hard and he could not chew them?*

*Dale was eating the tamales without removing the corn husk that they were wrapped in! After removing the corn husk, I think he enjoyed them quite well! We laughed for days about that, and not a Christmas goes by that someone doesn't bring that evening back to life.*

*I am so very grateful for the hospitality and friendship that both Dale and Debbie has shown to me and my family. Dale will be missed greatly! Debbie, you are in our hearts and prayers, we love you much!*

*Dallas*

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**Dallas Bradley** - March 28, 2022 at 10:06 AM

JD

“ *Debbie, I'm so sorry to hear about Cherokee's passing. I'll be keeping you & the family in my prayers.*

Janice Durham - March 26, 2022 at 01:35 PM

B(

“ *I'm so very sorry! Prayers for you all, Debbie! Lots of love and hugs!*  
❤️✝️🙏

Barbara Walker (Eanes) - March 26, 2022 at 10:12 AM

SA

“ *Cherokee was such a great guy and was so fun to be around and would help anyone if he could. I remember he use to have this old red bug car and I asked ro drive it to the store and or was a straight gear. Anyway he said if you can get it in reverse you can drive it and laughed needless say his face was priceless as I drove away in his car!*



Susan Aherron - March 26, 2022 at 12:59 AM

AF

*So sorry to hear of your husbands passing Debbie.*

Annette and Bobby Ford - March 26, 2022 at 02:09 PM

JW

*Debbie I am so saddened by your loss. Prayers for you as you navigate through this loss. Love you! Jean and Danny Williams*

Jean Williams - March 26, 2022 at 10:35 PM