



## Rev. William Rex Gholson

April 13, 1935 - October 12, 2018

Rev. William Rex Gholson, affectionately known as “Brother Bill,” age 83 years, a resident of Vienna, passed away Friday evening, October 12, 2018, at 7:08 PM at the Ray and Kay Eckstein Hospice Care Center in Paducah.

Bill was born April 13, 1935 in Broughton, Illinois. He was the son of Rex Gholson and Mary Ann (Turpin) Gholson.

On November 29, 1953, Bill was united in marriage to Pauline Partain in Broughton. She survives.

Other survivors include: 4 children – Christine Meade of Goreville, Carolyn (Don) Foster of Arizona City, Arizona, Roger Gholson of Phoenix, Arizona and Rodney (Kari Beth) Gholson of Vienna; 9 grandchildren; a great grandson; a brother – Ronnie Gholson of Charleston; a sister – Phyllis Cox of Eldorado; as well as a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and many dear friends. He is also survived by his faithful canine companion, “Sug.”

In addition to his parents, Bill was preceded in death by a brother, Fred Gholson.

Bill was a 1952 graduate of the Eldorado Township High School. As a young man, Bill helped his father in the operation of the family farm. In 1955, Bill and

Pauline moved to Dixon, Illinois where they were employed at the Dixon State Hospital. Bill was employed there as a fireman. In 1962, Bill began a 19 year career with Swift and Company Meat Packing, Inc. During much of that time, Bill served as a supervisor. The family moved to Rochelle in 1964. Bill was called into the gospel ministry in June 1971. Initially, he served at a mission church in Compton, Illinois. In 1981, Bill was called to pastor First Baptist Church in Ullin. From 1985-1990, Bill pastored at First Baptist Church in Vienna. He then served as pastor of the First Southern Baptist Church in Cairo. Following his pastorate in Cairo, Bill served as Senior Chaplain at the Vienna Correctional Center for 8 years prior to his retirement on December 31, 2002. In his retirement, Bill served as pastor of Saline Ridge Baptist Church in Harrisburg for 5 years. Beginning in 2011, Bill pastored New Salem Baptist Church near Tunnel Hill until declining health prevented him from continuing to serve. Bill was currently a member of First Baptist Church in Vienna.

Bill was a member of Horicon Masonic Lodge # 244 AF&AM in Rochelle until he affiliated with Vienna Masonic Lodge # 150 AF&AM.

Bill was an avid reader. He enjoyed gardening and raising roses. Bill enjoyed staying in close and regular contact with many people by phone even when he was unable to physically get out and visit.

Bill is fondly remembered for his love of “snickers” candy bars.

A worship service honoring the life of Rev. William R. Gholson will be held Tuesday morning, October 16, 2018, at 10 AM at First Baptist Church, 301 North 7th St., Vienna, Illinois. Immediately following the service a luncheon for family and friends will be served in the church fellowship hall.

A graveside committal service will be conducted at 2 PM Tuesday at Hickory

Hill Cemetery near Broughton, Illinois.

Visitation will be held Monday evening, October 15, 2018, from 4 PM – 8 PM at Bailey Funeral Home in Vienna and from 9 AM – 10 AM Tuesday, October 16, 2018, at First Baptist Church.

Memorials may be made to the Illinois Baptist Children's Home and Family Services, 949 County Road 1300 North, Carmi, IL 62821.

# Cemetery Details

## Hickory Hill Cemetery

County Road 11  
Broughton, IL

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **15**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Bailey Funeral Home  
705 North First Street  
PO Box 695  
Vienna, IL 62995  
(618) 658-2311  
baileyfhinc@hotmail.com  
<https://baileyfh.com>

## Visitation

OCT **16**. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church  
7th & Washington St.  
Vienna, IL

## Service

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OCT 16. 10:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church  
7th & Washington St.  
Vienna, IL

## Luncheon

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OCT 16. 11:15 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church  
7th & Washington St.  
Vienna, IL

# Tribute Wall



“ *Rev. William Rex Gholson*

January 30, 2023 at 12:19 AM



“ *Reverend Gholson touched many lives with his presence and wiling wittiness for our Heavenly Father; His life was and remains a glowing example for Christianity in our time.*



*Reverend Gholson and Pauline were a forever presence for many years with and for our family: Louis and Eleanor Martin - Lou, Jr., Michael Dean, Patrick Alan, Kenton, Kris, Shawn, and Deanna. Always there in the good times and not so great of times.*

*In loving memory we honor the memory of his presence on this old earth. He touched our lives and our hearts.*

*God's blessings to Pauline, family and many friends.*

*On behalf of the family of Louis and Eleanor Martin,*

*Deanna Sullivan  
16 October 2018*

Deanna Sulivan - October 16, 2018 at 06:41 PM

JS

“ John Slack sent a virtual gift in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson



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**John Slack** - October 16, 2018 at 11:26 AM

DT

“ Don And Jane Treece lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson



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**Don and Jane Treece** - October 16, 2018 at 08:44 AM

BI

“ Billy lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson



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**Billy** - October 15, 2018 at 11:55 PM

BJ

“ Bill And Beth Jordan lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson



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**Bill and Beth Jordan** - October 15, 2018 at 10:04 PM

BS

“ *Barbara Studley lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson*



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**Barbara Studley** - October 15, 2018 at 05:41 PM

AS

“ *Angie Street lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson*



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**Angie Street** - October 15, 2018 at 05:18 PM

JH

“ *Jerry & Rondice Houseman lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson*



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**Jerry & Rondice Houseman** - October 15, 2018 at 04:50 PM

EH

“ *Ernie & Tricia Henshaw lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson*



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**Ernie & Tricia Henshaw** - October 15, 2018 at 04:36 PM

WD

“ *This world has lost a wonderful, kind gentleman.*

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**Wayne Dunn** - October 15, 2018 at 03:35 PM

KC

“ *Heaven is a little fuller. Sorry we won't be able pay respect in person but a piece of "brother Bill" will always be in our hearts.*

*Kevin, Annette and Alison Conroy*

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**Kevin Conroy** - October 15, 2018 at 12:18 PM

SH

“ *Steve & Jeannie Housewright lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson*



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**Steve & Jeannie Housewright** - October 15, 2018 at 10:30 AM

MG

“ *Mr. & Mrs. Ashley Gholson purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Rev. William Rex Gholson.*



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**Mr. & Mrs. Ashley Gholson** - October 15, 2018 at 09:47 AM

AG

“ Ashley & Aimee Gholson lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson



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**Ashley & Aimee Gholson** - October 15, 2018 at 08:31 AM

LG

“ Lora Goddard lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson



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**Lora Goddard** - October 14, 2018 at 08:53 PM

NW

“ Neal & Carol Watkins lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson



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**Neal & Carol Watkins** - October 14, 2018 at 10:30 AM

LK

“ Linda Koehler lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson



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**Linda Koehler** - October 14, 2018 at 08:23 AM

BR

“ I am so sorry for your loss Rodney. I met your Dad when he spoke at Pop's funeral service. Mom and all of us were pleased and comforted by Reverend Bill's words that day. Pop always spoke highly of your Dad and held great respect for him. God shed his blessings on you all for comfort.



Bobby Rentfro - October 14, 2018 at 12:27 AM

SA

“ I only got to know Bill and Pauline, it seems like a very short time, but yet it also feels like I've known them forever. They have made my life better just spending time with them. I will miss him terribly, I pray the family finds peace through this struggle of loss. Love always.

Sandie - October 13, 2018 at 09:31 PM

HJ

“ It is a rare occurrence in life to meet someone who makes you feel better having known them. Bill will always be in my thoughts and heart. My prayers and love to Pauline and family.

Heidi M. Jones - October 13, 2018 at 09:30 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rev. William Rex Gholson.



October 13, 2018 at 08:57 PM

MS

“ Mike And Nancy Solomon lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson



Mike and Nancy Solomon - October 13, 2018 at 07:18 PM

MS

So sorry for your loss. I will miss seeing his smiling face. We always had a short chat when he came through the drive up at the pharmacy. Before he left he would always ask me about "The Old Soldier" meaning my husband Mike. Memories to treasure.

Mike and Nancy Solomon - October 13, 2018 at 07:22 PM

JF

“ Richard and Joan Owen



So sorry for the loss of Rev. Gholson.  
Thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time.

Joan Faulkner-Owen - October 13, 2018 at 06:02 PM

SG

“ I got to know Rev. Gholson when we worked at VCC. He was the sweetest man. So sorry for your loss. We've all lost such a good man.



Sondra Goins - October 13, 2018 at 05:59 PM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rev. William Rex Gholson.*



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October 13, 2018 at 05:33 PM



“ *Garrett & Karen Wilson lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson*



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**Garrett & Karen Wilson** - October 13, 2018 at 05:26 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rev. William Rex Gholson.*



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October 13, 2018 at 04:28 PM



“ *Rev. Richard & Vickey Swiney lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson*



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**Rev. Richard & Vickey Swiney** - October 13, 2018 at 04:03 PM

RS

*Bro. Bill Gholson was a great man of God. Who had a heart of gold. Love everyone he meet. He was such a inspiration to me and many others. He will be truly missed. But this one thing I know I know he is in heaven rejoicing with the Lord. And I look forward to the day when we meet again.*

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**Rev. Richard Swiney** - October 13, 2018 at 04:10 PM

CM

“ *Curtis Miles lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson*



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**Curtis Miles** - October 13, 2018 at 02:29 PM

CM

“ *Will always remember Brother Bill with Vienna on the air back in the eighties. I still hold dear some advice Mr. Bill gave me on my wedding day in in 1988. Wonderfull man.*

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**Curtis Miles** - October 13, 2018 at 02:29 PM

BM

“ *Bro Bill and Pauline were my neighbors for years. I started going to church with Carrie McCall. My children were all baptised by Bro Bill. He was a wonderful man.*

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**Brenda McCall** - October 13, 2018 at 02:20 PM

LM

“ *Linda And Jeff Mathis lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson*



Linda and Jeff Mathis - October 13, 2018 at 02:07 PM

SF

*Mr. Gholson was a great man and it was an honor to have known him. Thinking of the Gholson Family. Scott & Angela Farmer*

Scott Farmer - October 13, 2018 at 02:41 PM



“ *Maria Vaughn lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson*



Maria Vaughn - October 13, 2018 at 01:52 PM



*So sorry for your loss, I loved to hear him preach, he was a wonderful man, prayers to the family xoxo*

Maria Vaughn - October 13, 2018 at 01:53 PM

MR

“ *I remember so many memories of adopted Grandpa Gholson! He help raise me when my parents need him. He was a Wonderful Pastor. Love and Prayers for all!*

melissa Roadifer - October 13, 2018 at 12:00 PM

MR

“ This man was the most amazing preacher I have ever known in my life . He baptized me  
He was a father figure to many many youths when I was in grade school and high school.  
He was the only preacher that I wanted to have do my wedding and he did .  
To Rondey and Carrie my heart and prayygo to you and Pauline  
But good knows we will see him again  
My thanks to him for showing me the way the truth and the light  
Monica Langley Rosenthal

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**Monica Rosenthal** - October 13, 2018 at 11:19 AM

DG

“ Our thots and prayers are with Sis. Pauline and family. Bro. Bill was a great friend. He stood beside me thru a rough time in my life. I will never forget what a great man of God he was. Thank you Lord for his life and testimony.

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**David and Bonnie Gillespie** - October 13, 2018 at 09:27 AM

KW

“ That "old man" could always put a smile on my face and brighten my day. This "Broomhilda" is sure going to miss him.  
Prayers and love to all of his family



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**Kristal Webb** - October 13, 2018 at 09:22 AM

Angie Melton

He sure loved you. You always brightened his day. He loved going out and giving you a hard time.

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**Angie Melton** - October 13, 2018 at 11:52 AM

JC

“ John Cherry lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson

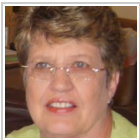


John Cherry - October 13, 2018 at 09:19 AM

JC

“ I've known Bro Bill and Pauline for many many years. What a wonderful Man of God he was. So so God Fearing. Bill knew my moms entire side of her family. This really really saddens me. Really hurt. Such an example of how someone should follow Christ. If you ever wanted to know about the Lord and the Bible he could gently lead you that direction. RIP BRO BILL GHOLSON. I'll see you again someday and we can once again rejoice in heaven.

John Cherry - October 13, 2018 at 09:19 AM



“ So sorry to have lost such a Godly man and friend. Each time I saw him he always mentioned the fact that he still doesn't remember how to use the copy machine even though he doesn't own one. When he was Chaplain at the Vienna Correctional Center, he would come to my office and ask if I could help him with the copy machine. We had a machine that would do everything except whistle "Dixie". When I retired, I made Brother Bill a short instruction manual for the copy machine. The first time I saw him after my retirement, he thank me for making his last days at VCC SO EASY. Heaven rekoices having Brother Bill.

Elaine Rotan - October 13, 2018 at 09:05 AM

LaRay  
Capron

“ I always enjoyed when Bro Bill would fill in at Pleasant Grove church he was such a blessing. He will be greatly missed.



LaRay Capron - October 13, 2018 at 08:37 AM

DB

“ Dorothy Bacon lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson



Dorothy Bacon - October 13, 2018 at 08:21 AM

MR

“ Mike And Teresa Richerson lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson



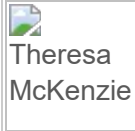
Mike and Teresa Richerson - October 13, 2018 at 07:48 AM

SR

“ SHERI ROBINSON lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson



SHERI ROBINSON - October 13, 2018 at 06:50 AM



Theresa McKenzie

“ *I'm so sorry for your loss, Sending Prayers of Comfort to ALL of you!!*



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**Theresa McKenzie** - October 13, 2018 at 04:50 AM



CB

“ *Rodney, Kari Beth, and family:  
We send our deepest condolences to you and your family. Mr. Bill was an amazing man who will fondly be remembered. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*

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**Chris & Morgan Banks** - October 12, 2018 at 11:57 PM



CH

“ *Cheryl Harris lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson*



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**Cheryl Harris** - October 12, 2018 at 11:40 PM



JB

“ *Ted and Joy Beggs*



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**Joy Beggs** - October 12, 2018 at 11:24 PM

KS

“ *Kim Simmons lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson*



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**Kim Simmons** - October 12, 2018 at 11:23 PM

RB

“ *Rich And Karen Brumley lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson*



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**Rich and Karen Brumley** - October 12, 2018 at 11:10 PM

LF

“ *He was our preacher, one Sunday service at Vienna First Baptist where my family & I attend. The Gholson Family is in our thoughts and prayers to get through this difficult time. They were such a comfort & supportive when we lost our son.*

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**Lisa Newman & family** - October 12, 2018 at 11:02 PM

DH

“ *David And Ellen Hill lit a candle in memory of Rev. William Rex Gholson*



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**David and Ellen Hill** - October 12, 2018 at 10:40 PM

MC

“ Mike Crews lit a candle in memory of Rev.  
William Rex Gholson



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**Mike Crews** - October 12, 2018 at 10:29 PM

BW

“ Bill And Barb Warmack lit a candle in memory  
of Rev. William Rex Gholson



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**Bill and Barb Warmack** - October 12, 2018 at 10:22 PM