



Billy Joe Yates

September 17, 1981 - December 21, 2025

William "Billy" Joe Yates, 44, of Huntsville; passed away Sunday, December 21, 2025, at Washington Regional Medical Center, Fayetteville. He was born Thursday, September 17, 1981, at Colorado City, Texas; to William and Tamey Fern Vanderpool Yates.

Billy Joe was a 2000 graduate of Huntsville High School and worked as a general laborer. He was known for his uninhibited personality, often remembered by classmates as someone who brought energy and laughter wherever he went. He lived life with optimism and enthusiasm, bringing joy through his contagious laughter. His infectious smile lit up every room, and his amazing hugs left a lasting impression on all who were blessed to know him. Billy Joe had a kind and sincere heart, guided by strong convictions. He loved music and was rarely silent, often singing wherever he was, even while running. He also found peace and joy in the outdoors and enjoyed staying active. Above all, Billy Joe was a faithful follower of Christ who loved God deeply and cared for all people.

Billy Joe was preceded in death by his grandfathers, William Henry Yates and James "Windy Bill" Vanderpool; and one grandmother, Erma Vanderpool.

He is survived by his parents, Bill Yates, and Tamey Hutchens (Byram McCune), all of Huntsville; one grandmother, Margaret Yates, of Austin, Texas;

and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

The family will receive friends 5:00 PM-7:00 PM, Wednesday, January 7, 2026, at Brashears Funeral Home. Funeral Service will be 10:00 AM, Thursday, January 8, 2026, at Huntsville First Assembly of God with Alex Foster officiating. Pallbearers will be Tyler Vanderpool, Clayton Vanderpool, Hunter Vanderpool, Michael Yates, Daniel Yates, and Carson Yates. Honorary pallbearers will be Bobby Joe Rogers, Brentley Rogers, and Mark Calico. Interment will immediately follow services at Sparks Cemetery, Huntsville, AR.

Services are entrusted to Brashears Funeral Home and Crematory of Huntsville.

Previous Events

Receive Friends

JAN 7. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Brashears Funeral Home and Crematory
509 North Gaskill Street
Huntsville, AR 72740
(479) 738-2123
<https://www.brashearsfuneralhome.net/>

Funeral Service

JAN 8. 10:00 AM.

Huntsville First Assembly Of God

Tribute Wall

GE

“ I am heartbroken to hear of his untimely passing. I was in choir with Billy Jo, and he brought an infectious joy to me and everyone around him. His smile was impossible to ignore. Condolences to his many friends and family. I lost touch but was proud to call him my old friend. He was loved.

Gina (Spring) Easley - April 08 at 09:52 PM

DP

“ I loved the brain in his head. What a smart and deep dude who always made you think and laugh. What a shame to go too far before your time. I hope his memory lives on and on. Can you imagine the laughter in the afterlife rn?

Dave P - January 08 at 09:12 PM

T1

“ Tamey, Bill, and family, I am deeply saddened by your loss. What a handsome man with a bright smile--it looks like he is the perfect combination of the both of you. Although the holes in your hearts are great with his loss on this earth, I pray that fond, happy memories will help ease that gap and the comfort of the Lord will embrace you during this difficult time. He dances with angels above and smiles down upon you. Love, prayers, and sympathy to all.

Tammy Griggs Mata, HHS Class of 1981 - January 08 at 07:51 PM

EV

“ Eddie and Sarah Vanderpool purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Billy Joe Yates.



Eddie and Sarah Vanderpool - January 07 at 09:53 PM

RV

“ Thoughts and prayers for the family

Ronnie & Kathy Villines - January 07 at 05:16 PM

MF

“ Marvin & Rose Anna Fort purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Billy Joe Yates.



Marvin & Rose Anna Fort - January 07 at 03:52 PM

DS

“ Debbie S. purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Billy Joe Yates.



Debbie S. - January 07 at 03:19 PM

“ Rest in Peace, Billy!!!

Not many people know but Billy Joe was my best friend back in our elementary and junior high years; at that time we were rarely seen apart. Growing up together we sat next to each other on the bus and, when we weren't being absolute crazy goofballs, we talked about home and family and shared our thoughts and feelings and sadness.

Billy Joe and I constantly had to be separated in class (cause we talked too much 😂) but we made it a point to find each other on the playground every. single. day. In junior high we were starting “Rip” and “Liz” linebackers and very close as brothers (and as team). We grew up together, went to church together, play football together, drank Surge together 😂 Those memories are real, meaningful, and they matter. Billy mattered; and He always will.

BILLY Joe Yates was a Christian and I know how close he was to God. Even while facing addiction and mental health battles, his faith was real. He fought hard battles that many people never truly understand, and he deserved compassion, grace, and love.

I need to be honest with you, and with myself. I carry a deep sense of shame and regret for turning my back on him when he needed love the most. Instead of lifting him up, instead of loving him with the grace and mercy Jesus shows us, I was judgmental and chose to walk away. That is something I am truly sorry for; I am disappointed in myself for not being the friend he deserved and for not choosing love when it mattered.

I regret not encouraging him, not standing beside him, not reminding him of his worth when the weight was heavy. That regret will stay with me, and I pray God forgives me where I failed.

Please know this: Billy Joe's life had meaning, his faith mattered, and his struggles do not define the beauty of who he was!! I believe he is finally at peace, fully healed, and held by the same God who

walked with him through every storm.

Please know that I am here for you — to listen, to remember him, to grieve with you. You are not alone in this pain.

*With love and sincerity,
Robert*

Robeet Ayccock - January 07 at 12:34 PM

TB

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Travis Bramall - January 06 at 11:13 PM

JC

“ *I remember Billy Joe as my 3rd grade student. I would see him from time to time & he always was full of joy. God gifted him with music & the ability to make people smile. May the peace of God guard your hearts & minds. Please accept our condolences.*

Joel & Lisa Rowlett Carlson - January 06 at 08:59 PM

BW

“ *I'm so sorry for your loss Tamey, prayers and condolences sweet lady.*

Billie Whorton

Billie Whorton - January 06 at 08:32 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Billy Joe Yates.*



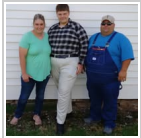
January 06 at 07:42 PM



“ *Rich & Juanita McGinness purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Billy Joe Yates.*



Rich & Juanita McGinness - January 06 at 06:32 PM



“ *Billy Joe had a love for music, and a love for Christ*

Angela Parker - January 06 at 03:04 PM