



Gary "Butch" Bolinger

October 19, 1945 - December 27, 2020

Gary "Butch" Howard Bolinger, 75, of Huntsville; died Sunday, December 27, 2020, at Mercy Hospital, Rogers. He was born Friday, October 19, 1945, at Prairie Grove; to George Howard and Mary Josephine Sparks Bolinger. Butch married Minta Joye Snow on Saturday, March 6, 1965 at Huntsville, AR; and together they were parents to two children. He was a businessman who owned and operated War Eagle Western Store for 41 years. One of the last of the old cowboys, a pillar of the community, and a gentle man; Butch was known for always shaking your hand, opening the door for ladies, and tipping his hat. He was a past member of the International Pro Rodeo Association, served as the President of the Madison County Rodeo Board for 13 years, and founded the Cowboy Division of Fellowship of Christian Athletes of NWA.

Butch pastored several churches in northwest Arkansas, including Pilgrim's Rest, Cobb Creek, Berryville Freewill Baptist, and Astounding Grace Church. Butch was proudest of his ministry, pastoring to those who didn't have a church and reaching the unreachable. He ministered to those in jail, serving as chaplain for the Madison County Jail for 12 years, as easily as those stopping to visit at the saddle shop. (He even performed weddings there.) He was also appointed as District Jail Inspector by Governor Mike Huckabee and was voted the "Nicest Man in Madison County." Butch loved his family and friends, and will be dearly missed by the many whose lives he touched in the community. Butch was preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Jeffrey Bolinger; and one sister, Carolyn Cline. He is survived by his wife, Joye

Bolinger of the home; one son and daughter-in-law, Bret and Kim Bolinger of Springdale; one daughter and son-in-law, Amy and Rick Culver of Springdale; two granddaughters, Katelyn Slane of Fayetteville; and Makenna Bolinger of Springdale; four nephews, Bobby and Jenney Wilson of Huntsville; Landon and Amanda Bolinger of Conway; Tim and Sheri Owens of Fayetteville; and Craig and Chris Owens of Nashville, Tennessee; one niece, Jordan and Andre Barrows of Springdale; several great nephews and great nieces, and a host of friends. Butch will lie in state at Brashears Funeral Home 8:00-12:00 noon, Tuesday, December 29, 2020. Funeral Services will be 2:00 PM, Tuesday, December 29, 2020, at Astounding Grace Church, Hindsville, with Bill Anderson officiating. Due to COVID-19, please practice social distancing, masks are required and will be worn in honor of the staff at Mercy Medical Center who took such great care of Butch. Services will be live streamed on the Astounding Grace Facebook Page; and for those who wish to remain in their vehicles and listen to the service, it will be broadcast on 89.1 FM in the parking lot of the church. Pallbearers will be Justin Laird, Floy Bob Cartmell, Jonathan Wagner, Rick Evans, Bobby Wilson, and Greg Slane. Honorary pallbearers will be the Deacons of Astounding Grace Church. Interment will immediately follow services at Huntsville Cemetery. Services are entrusted to Brashears Funeral Home and Crematory of Huntsville.

Tribute Wall

JD

“ Joye and Family: So sad hearing about my Buddy, Butch, who helped this old State Trooper get settled at Madison County, in 1969. When he preached Jeen's funeral in 2007, I knew that the days were getting longer and the years were getting shorter. He was indeed a great Cowboy! J.P.

John Paul Davis - January 05, 2021 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ Joye and family, our prayers are with you. Butch was a kind and caring person, truly cared about your soul. Lots of memories and will treasure my belt forever. Love y'all

Debbie Moppin - December 31, 2020 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ Missed but never forgotten

Tracy Stuck - December 31, 2020 at 12:00 AM

VH

“ So sorry to hear about Butch.He meant so much to us.Praying for Gods comfort for your Family.

Verlene, James, Michael & Micah Harrison - December 31, 2020 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ I wanted to send my prayers to all of you. Butch was a great person who I confided in a lot as a teen for advice to make right choices and helped me in many ways. I treasured him as if he was a father figure for years. Bret "Thumper" and I were friends for many years until we both married and moved on with our adult lives. He was loved by so many and I pray for endurance until you can see each other again.

Marla Bibby McMeans - December 31, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ butch was a great Christian person and will be truly missed.
Tallie, Nancy & chad Parker



Chad parker - December 30, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ I think it would be difficult, if not impossible, to find someone who did not like Butch. Everyone appreciated his kindness and humor. A good man has gone home. My sincere condolences to the family.

Jackie Collins - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

TL

“ Amy, my condolences to you and your family. Praying for peace and comfort during this difficult time. May God bless you and your family.



Tina Liu - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

BN

“ We are so saddened by your loss but know he is in a better place. He will really be missed by so many. He was just such a nice man.

billy m nelson - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ Joye and family may God bless and comfort each of you.

Keith Cornett - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ Joye and Family,
Our love and prayers are with you all through this difficult time. Butch made an impact on many, and we are thankful for his wonderful testimony for God, and his dedication to serving others for Him! The other part of the team is still here to carry on! Love you, Joye.



Larry and Susan Bates - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ Our sympathy and prayers to the family.

Sherman and Donna Phillips - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ *Such sweet, kind gentle soul. Always funny, always kind words, kids loved him & felt at home in his store. Our grandkids would need a pair of boots, we would take them down, say "Butch will fix you up, just tell him what you like" & send them in without us because we knew meeting Butch & having him help them pick out a pair of boots & putting it on our bill was an experience & fun with Butch & Joye by his side. He will be missed & cherished & remembered & loved forever. God hold you ALL in His arms now & days ahead because I know the hurt must be deep & painful & for that I am so very sorry. Our hearts, hugs & love goes out to you. 💕💕🙏*



Jana Ramirez - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ *Butch was a good friend to our family. We have so many good memories. Thoughts and Prayers for the coming days.*

Charles and Betty Jo Gurley - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ *I loved Butch like my second Dad. And sometimes got lectures like a second Dad when I was younger. I will miss him greatly and will never forget him.*

Donita Harrison - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

LV

“ *Butch was a great man and has helped so many and was loved by all. He made Madison County a better place He will be missed by everyone who knew him. I pray for comfort and strength through this devastating time. God Bless you all.*



Linda M Vaughan - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ *To the family of Butch. So sorry for your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*

Loy and Lindy Phillips - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ *Butch was a great man
Joye and family in our prayers.
Pauline Ledbetter and brenda Smith*

Brenda Smith - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

RJ

“ *Butch was very special to our family. Prayers for family.*

Rick and Vickie Jones - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ Joye, Bret and Amy,
You are in my heart as you grieve Butch's death and celebrate his amazing life. He and Mike had a running joke about how many times he could repair Mike's Redwing boots purchased in 1973. I think he kept Mike working in them till almost 2000!
We will all miss Butch.
Dena James

Dena James - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ Bro.Butch left a great legacy of a man of integrity and love for God and others. We are praying for the family.



Ana Smith-Young - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

HH

“ Joy, sorry for your loss. We loved Butch and will miss him. Praying for you and your family.

Harold Dean and Janice Howell - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ I'm so sorry for you loss Butch was a great and a very godly man that knew how to put smiles on faces he was very kind and loving and will be forever missed but never forgotten

Tiffany Faulkner - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Butch was a great man and will be missed. Prayers for Joye and family.

Don Crow - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

NE

“ We will all see him again some day.

Nena Evans - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ so sorry for your loss



lisa Clark - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ My heart and Prayers go out to the family.



Lynn pickup - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

KI

“ Prayers for pastor Butch's family. We will all miss him.

Kim - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ *Such a wonderful man and what a legacy he leaves behind! What a wonderful time he is having with the the Lord in heaven, although he will be missed greatly here!* ”



David and Callista Boyd - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ *My prayers and heart go out to the family of Butch, he was a great God fearing man, I know that he is rejoicing in heaven. Joye, I mourn for your pain and your broken heart. You all will be in our thoughts and prayers.* ”

Darla Ellis, Emalee Litterell, And Addy Litterell - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ *We are all so sorry for your loss. Our prayers go out to all of Butch's Family, Friends & his Congregation!! May God give you all, strength and comfort through this time.* ”



Springdale Signalization Department - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ *Joye, I'm so sorry for your loss. Hugs, Love & Prayers for your family & your church.* ”

Shirley (Cain) Clark - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ *We thought a lot of Butch. He will be missed. Thoughts and prayers for the coming days.* ”

Charlinda Reeves and family - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ Wayne Clark and Carolyn Brooks

A Great Loss!!

Carolyn Brooks - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

PE

“ *I am so sorry to hear of Butch's passing. We grew up with Butch and his family. They were always like part of our family. Loved his personality and loved to watch his passion when preaching. I know Butch is back with his heavenly family now rejoicing. He has had such an impact on so many lives, he will be missed greatly. Prayers continue for his family. Love you all*❤️ *Sam and Pam*

Pam Evans - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ *So sorry to hear this about Butch. He was a servant of Jesus and this community for many years and will be greatly missed. Prayers for all.*



Jeff Watson - December 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ *We send our prayers and deepest sympathies!!*



Mike & Nancy Froud - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

GJ

“ It's hard to understand why God takes those we love, but no one on earth can pretend to know what is in God's plan. All we can do is take it by faith and trust that we will see our loved ones again. Praying for you during this difficult time. Glenda

Glenda Kammerzell Jones - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the Bolinger family.

David Worley - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ Our deepest condolences to Butch's family & many friends. God bless you & give you comfort.



Renaë DENNIS Smith - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ So sorry for loss in our thoughts an prayers

Linda Bolinger - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ So heartbreaking to hear of Butch's passing. I'm sure he is pain free riding into the beautiful sunset in Heaven with all his family and friends who have passed before him. We are all sending prayers for comfort and love to Joye, Amy, Bret and family. Butch's parents were best friends with our mom and dad since before I was born, so we all grew up thinking he was our big brother, we have always loved him like our family, and will miss him dearly.



Love you, Brother Butch
Suzanne, Pam and Cathy and family

Suzanne Fox - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ I am sorry to hear of his passing. Sending sincerel sympathies to all his family.

Kelly Couch - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ I pray for peace and love to surround all the family and church families through all the coming days of so many feelings. Jesus is our rock and our refuge.

Carol Fishel - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ So sorry for your loss you are in our thoughts and prayers ! When I was young a trip to Huntsville wasn't complete without a stop at the War Eagle Western Wear . And then the bartering would commence lol good times. We just want you all to know that we love each and every one of you !

Joe Fancher Family - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ So glad I had the opportunity to care for Butch. Although he was sick, he managed to keep a smile on his face!! Prayers and my condolences to the family and friends of Butch! Masking up in honor of Butch and those that have lost their lives to Covid. May you rest in paradise!!



Jaclyn Henry - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to the family, may God reach down and give you comfort and peace. Butch was a great man I could tell just from the few times I met him. God needed him home and I know we will all get to see him again someday if we strive to make Heaven our home. Sending hugs and love.



Carolyn Meek - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

LA

“ Love and prayers,
Leann (Gurley) Ash



Leann Ash - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ Butch impacted my life in a huge way. I can honestly say I wouldn't be where I am today if he hadn't entered my life. I know many will say the same. I am grateful and a better man because of Butch. He will be greatly missed my heart goes out to his family.

Jonathan - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ So sorry for your loss. We will miss very much. Praying for your family.



Terry and Karen Fuller - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

EG

“ I am so sorry for your lost and you are in our prayers



Eugene and gail - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ So sorry for your loss. Joye, you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. Love to all

Joetta McCoy Smith - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ so sorry for your loss. Butch was a great man. He will be missed. thoughts and prayers to all the family



sharon myers - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JY

“ Joye, Brett ,Amy and family, We are so sorry for your loss of Butch. He was a great man and will be surely missed. Our prayers are with you all.



Jim & Linda Yates - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ Butch was a great person and will be missed. Sorry for the loss.

Donnie Litterell - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

HD

“ Lifting the family up in prayer. I know how much he will be missed. I had a belt made by him, it was so very beautiful. May God give you all peace and comfort.

Heidi Lantz Dudley - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

BU

“ I never shall forget how Bother Butch and you Joye made Jerrell and I feel so welcome when we first started there! Even though Jerrells Sickness had progressed quite a bit you let him take up the offering for the church!! I will miss the godly pastor of astounding grace!!My prayers are with you joye and your family. God will see you through it all praise his holy name!!❤️

Barbara Upshaw - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ Butch was a good man and I know he is so proud to be looking at the face of God. God Bless the family and know my prayers are with you.

Dorothy Roberts Dyer - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Wishing you peace to bring comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts

Donna Stewart Bolinger - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you all during this time of your loss.

Margaret (Mrs. Austin) Smith - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

EN

“ I can't imagine the loss you must feel. Butch was a wonderful man to so many. A true cowboy we will never forget. Prayers for comfort and that our heavenly Father gives you the strength you need in the days ahead.

Erma Nelson - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ Butch was good man and a great cousin. I will always remember him for the belts he made and all the kind words he spoke.



Brian Skaggs - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ He was dear friend of the Ficht family my Dad Curtis Ficht used to go to his leather shop over the years. He made me a leather sheath a few yrs ago, and I've bought 2 pair of cowboy boots that I still have. My thoughts and prayers for everyone

Mike Ficht - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ Joye, Amy, and Brett I sure hate that y'all have lost Butch. Rejoice in the fact he's no longer suffering and far better off than we are now. I have so many memories of y'all when I was a kid and still carry some of those lessons to this day in my heart.

Christine Drake Balentine - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

LL

“ Joye and family, what a wonderful legacy Butch left . I know I am not the only one that admired both of you. My prayers are with you all.

Laberta Keck Lashley - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ Joye and family, I'm so sorry to hear of Butch's passing, but you know he is with the Heavenly Father now. The parting is very painful, but I pray your loving memories will be some comfort in the coming days, months and years. I send my love and prayers. Billie Clark

Billie Clark - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

BT

“ Fly high with angels. Heaven gained a new one.

Bobbie Tate - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ You have begun a journey I've been on a few years already. Be strong when you need but don't be afraid to let it out when needed as well. Take your time and grieve as long as you feel the need. Please don't shut friends and family out as you will need them in the coming days.



ken bean - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ Our family prays for you all at the time of your loss, but we rejoice that he is at peace with his Savior.

Bret Snow - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

GB

“ I will never forget this man. He meant so much to Bob and I. My prayers are with the family and I pray that God will wrap His arms around all of you and comfort you

Gayle Bramall - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

WH

“ Sending our sincere condolences to Joye & family from us and the McKnight family. You all will be in our thoughts and prayers during this sad time.

Woodrow and Debra Harmon - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

KR

“ No words can express my deepest sympathy for the family Hoping this song helps. Butch touch so many lives and he is in Heaven now, it doesn't really make the pain any less today but someday you'll see him again.

Kellie McLoud Swaim

Kellie Swaim RN - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Prayers

Jackie Hensley - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

HM

“ God Bless

Howard and Nete McLoud - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Jay and I thought so much of Butch and you, Joye. You will remain in my prayers

Marcia Martens



Marcia Ann Martens - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ *Butch has always been one of the greatest inspirations in my life. Countless times stopping by the store and visiting was always a highlight for a trip into town. You and Butch have always been so good to me and my family. Truly Madison County, as well as Arkansas, have lost a great man*



Timothy C Hepler - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ *We thank God that our life's journey took us through Hindsville, Arkansas a few years back. We met some great people there. One of the greatest was Pastor Butch at Astounding Grace Church. He was a gentle, compassionate, loving Shepherd of his flock. Love and prayers for all the family.*
Pat and Bill Ferguson

Bill and Pat Ferguson - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ *I feel like I know Butch because his daughter talked of him so beautifully. I know for a fact he is in paradise but I mourn for the broken hearts left behind. The thing about great people, they aren't immortal, even though it would sure be beneficial to the rest of the world if they were. My heart and soul is with the family at this time.*



Demi Robinson - December 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM