



Jonathan Ray Shepherd

February 14, 1974 - December 5, 2023

Jonathan Ray Shepherd, age 49, after a courageous three-year battle with cancer, successfully completed his earthly journey on Tuesday, December 5th, 2023 at 10:45 A.M., submitting his address change from Dot Street in Richlands, Virginia to Hallelujah Square in Paradise, Heaven.

Jonathan was born in Richlands on February 14th, 1974, the first-born son of Arnold Ray Shepherd and Georgia Mae Ray Shepherd.

A life-long resident of Richlands, he graduated from the Richlands Tabernacle Christian Academy in 1992 and attended Southwest Virginia Community College. After graduation, he worked at Heilig-Meyers Furniture Company. He also worked at Bristol Compressors, Lear Corporation in Lebanon, Virginia as a Thermo Plastic Engineer. Most recently, Jonathan was a correctional officer at Keen Mountain Correctional Center at Keen Mountain, Virginia for sixteen years.

He married the love of his life, Tina Lynn Shelton, on October 6, 2001. To this union was born one son, Ashton Dylan Shepherd. Jonathan loved traveling with his wife and son, enjoying all of God's beautiful creation. Some of his favorite pleasures were going to the beaches of South Carolina, traveling through the state of Georgia—where he said he would love to live, as well as fishing on Big Tumbling Creek in Washington County, Virginia.

Jonathan was the true definition of a chef, preparing such wonderful delicacies that only he could master. He loved good food and was always willing to try new dishes but was especially fond of crab legs and other seafoods. He enjoyed birdwatching and loved to sing Gospel songs.

Jonathan was a member of the Richlands Tabernacle where he loved to attend and worship his Savior. Even in his weakened condition over the past few months, he didn't want to miss church. He was so excited when his friends came and had church in his home last Friday evening. The service climaxed with Jonathan lying in his hospital bed singing "Ain't No Grave Gonna Hold My Body Down."

He was preceded in death by his father, Arnold Ray Shepherd; his paternal grandparents, Graham Arnold Shepherd and Ollie Mae Johnson Shepherd; his maternal grandparents, Lee Henry Ray and Virgie Ethel Blankenship Ray; his brother-in-law, Jonathan Carl Shelton.

Left to cherish his memory is his devoted wife, Tina Shepherd; one son, Ashton Dylan Shepherd; his mother, Georgia Mae Shepherd of Richlands; one brother, Joseph Wayne Shepherd (Jennifer) of Bandy, Virginia; brother-in-law, Joshua Seth Shelton (Amanda) of Grundy; three special nieces that he dearly loved, Chloe, Cora and Cara Shelton; and his in-laws, Jackie Luther Shelton and Patsy Louise Crabtree Shelton of Richlands. He is also survived by several uncles, aunts, cousins; and a host of family and friends.

Special thanks to the Oncology Departments of Clinch Valley Medical Center and Wake Forest Baptist Hospital in North Carolina, Dr. Twadros, Dr. McVey and Dr. McCormick, the nursing staff at Clinch Valley Medical Center in Richlands and Wake Forest Baptist Hospital, Carillion Home Care in Tazewell, Virginia whom he considered family and to Legacy Palliative and Hospice

Care.

Funeral services for Jonathan Ray Shepherd will be conducted at 2:00 pm on Sunday, December 10, 2023 at the Richlands Tabernacle Church in Richlands, VA with Rev. Roger Boyd, Rev. Don Smith, and Rev. James Vance officiating. Entombment will follow at Greenhills Memory Gardens Mausoleum, at Claypool Hill, VA. Pallbearers will be Zach Estep, Jamie Lint, Nathan Justice, Brian Mitchell, Joshua Shelton, J.D. Horton, Jason Shepherd, and Michael Paul Shepherd. Honorary pallbearers will be Men of the Richlands Tabernacle Church and Keen Mountain Corrections Officers. The Shepherd family will receive friends from 6-9 pm on Saturday evening at the church. The Keen Mountain Correctional Center Honor Guard will conduct special rites. Hurst-Scott Funeral Home in Richlands, Virginia is in charge of arrangements and those wishing to express sympathy online may do so at www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com

Cemetery Details

Greenhills Memory Gardens

11800 Gov G.C. Peery Hwy
Cedar Bluff, VA 24609

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **9**. 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Richlands Tabernacle
2505 Third Street
Richlands, VA 24641

Funeral Service

DEC **10**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Richlands Tabernacle
2505 Third Street
Richlands, VA 24641

Tribute Wall

JH

“ Tina, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. Praying that God will comfort you and give you peace.

Jeanne Horne - December 20, 2023 at 04:21 PM

SR

“ Tina-- you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

Sandy Rowe - December 12, 2023 at 03:10 AM

DH

“ Tina,
I am sincerely sorry to hear of the loss of Jonathan. You and your son along with all of Jonathan's loved ones will be in my prayers.

Debi Riffe Harman - December 11, 2023 at 12:49 PM

SL

“ Sammi Lambert lit a candle in memory of Jonathan Shepherd



Sammi Lambert - December 10, 2023 at 04:27 PM

VN

“ Vicki Nuckels lit a candle in memory of Jonathan Shepherd



Vicki Stumpp Nuckels - December 09, 2023 at 09:33 PM

KW

“ Jonathan had the best personality & smile. I loved to hear him sing & tell jokes. We were blessed to know him. Tina and Ashton, you all are in my prayers. Love you!

Kristy Webb - December 09, 2023 at 09:05 PM

BS

“ To Jonathan's family and friends I am sorry for your loss and my prayers are with all of you during this difficult time. I worked with Jonathan at Lear several years ago. He always had a big beautiful smile. I remember having a really bad day at work and he stopped to say hi. He told me a few jokes and sang a song. He was always singing in the plant , before he left he had me laughing when I didn't even want to smile. " Jonathan you were one of a kind" and definately , "A Forget me not" R I P Jonathan Heaven is your reward



Betty Sargent - December 07, 2023 at 05:59 PM

DD

Tina & all of the family of Jonathan: Tina, I am so very sorry to hear about the passing of Jonathan. My heart goes out to you and your son and all the family. Please know you all are in my thoughts & prayers. I'm praying your memories with him will comfort you during this time. Much, much love & prayers. 🙏💙 Diana & Richard Dailey

Diana R. Dailey - December 24, 2023 at 08:19 PM

VZ

“ Tina and family, I'm so sorry for your loss. May God's comfort be with you all. Love and prayers.

Veronda Wells Zaga - December 07, 2023 at 05:56 PM

BC

“ *Bethlehem Old Regular Baptist Church planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jonathan Ray Shepherd.*

Bethlehem Old Regular Baptist Church - December 07, 2023 at 05:16 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jonathan Ray Shepherd.*



December 07, 2023 at 05:16 PM

EL

“ *Edna Lowe lit a candle in memory of Jonathan Shepherd*



Edna Lowe - December 07, 2023 at 03:58 PM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Jonathan Ray Shepherd.*



December 07, 2023 at 02:02 PM

DC

“ Prayers for the family. May God's blessings be with all of you. Dale Childers



Dale Childers - December 07, 2023 at 01:37 PM

SL

“ Tina and family,
You are all in our prayers. May the Lord wrap His loving arms around you and give you strength and comfort during this most difficult time.
Love and Prayers,
Jerry and Sharon Lowe



Sharon Lowe - December 07, 2023 at 11:08 AM

LD

“ Lisa Dye lit a candle in memory of Jonathan Shepherd



Lisa Dye - December 07, 2023 at 09:19 AM



“ TonyanEdgar Wicks lit a candle in memory of Jonathan Shepherd



TonyanEdgar Wicks - December 07, 2023 at 08:53 AM



“ *"God Has You" 21" Sonnet Chime was purchased for the family of Jonathan Ray Shepherd.*



December 07, 2023 at 07:05 AM



“ *Tina, my thoughts are with you and Ashton. Love and prayers*



Carolyn Hess - December 07, 2023 at 05:00 AM



“ *John's family and friends, you are in my thoughts and prayers. We as humans feel the sting of death as our loved depart from this life, but for those who go to Heaven, they are rejoicing at the splendor of Heaven, seeing God the Father, placing crowns at the feet of a Jesus, who h gave his life that we might have Eternal Life, being greeted by loved one, john's dad, his brother in law, Jonathan Shelton, and others, meeting the saints that are spoken about in the Bible. What a glorious time John is having in Heaven, singing praises to the Lamb of God, running on streets of gold, John, you have run your race of life, and won an incorruptible crown. You are home, forever safe to enjoy eternity.*



glennaphipps - December 06, 2023 at 09:51 PM

DB

“ *Delores Boyd lit a candle in memory of Jonathan Shepherd*



Delores Boyd - December 06, 2023 at 09:24 PM

BK

“ *My deepest condolences to Tina and his son, family and friends.. I didn't know Jonathan but I worked with Tina many years ago at CVMC... praying for all..*

Bonnie Keen - December 06, 2023 at 08:04 PM

HG

“ *Hilda Garrido sent a virtual gift in memory of Jonathan Shepherd*



Hilda Garrido - December 06, 2023 at 06:42 PM

AM

“ *Such a sweet man, always had a smile on his face. Will be greatly missed. Sending love, thoughts, and prayers for the family*



Ashley mitchell - December 06, 2023 at 06:12 PM



“ *Christine Hayton lit a candle in memory of Jonathan Shepherd*



Christine Hayton - December 06, 2023 at 05:35 PM

BW

“ *Tina and Ashton. Words can't express my sorrow at your loss. Just know you are loved.*

Brian Wright - December 06, 2023 at 05:33 PM