



B.J. Watkins

April 10, 1955 - December 13, 2011

John Robert (B.J.) Watkins, 56, of 956 Laurelwood Way, passed away December 13, 2011 at Hospice of the Carolina Foothills.

A native of DeGraff, Ohio, son of the late Herbert Charles and Virginia Parr Watkins, he was an employee of BMW and a member of Gowensville First Baptist Church. He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. Mr. Watkins was an avid golfer and Ohio State fanatic.

Surviving are his wife of 37 years, Mary Jo (Jody) Notestine Watkins of the home; two sons, John Robert Watkins, Jr. and Justin Wade Watkins; a daughter, Jessica Michelle Watkins; two brothers, Karl Lillard of Dayton, Ohio and Charles Watkins of Ohio; a sister, Betty Prince of Missouri; and one grandchild.

Funeral services will be held 2:00 p.m. Saturday at The Wood Mortuary, conducted by Dr. Chad Rickenbaker. Burial will follow in Gowensville First Baptist Church Cemetery.

Visitation will be held 12:30-1:45 p.m. Saturday at The Wood Mortuary.

The family is at the home.

Memorials may be to Gowensville First Baptist Church, 5650 N. Highway 14, Landrum, SC 29356.

Online condolences may be made at www.thewoodmortuary.com

Previous Events

Service

DEC 17. 2:00 PM (ET)

THE WOOD MORTUARY CHAPEL

300 West Poinsett Street

Greer, SC 29650

(864) 877-3351

woodmortuary@bellsouth.net

Tribute Wall



“ I worked with BJ at Honda east liberty plant several years ago. I considered him a friend. He was a good man. I am truly sorry for your loss##imported-begin##Nick Lantz##imported-end##

December 24, 2011 at 12:33 AM



“ Jody we know your heart is aching, we are so sorry BJ is gone now. We love you and you are in our prayers.##imported-begin##Hector & Loraine Vela##imported-end##

December 21, 2011 at 11:58 AM



“ Oh Jody we are so sorry for your loss and your pain. We have fond memories we shall treasure. Our prayers are with you now and always.##imported-begin##Hector & Loraine Vela##imported-end##

December 20, 2011 at 01:19 PM



“ Jody and family,
We are so sorry for your loss. We have worked with BJ since the beginning at BMW. He was so special to us. I didn't get to see BJ once he went on BJ but I thought about him a lot. He always made me smile and laugh. What an honor to have known such a very special person. May God watch over you and your family.##imported-begin##Vickie and Gary Theis##imported-end##

December 19, 2011 at 08:19 AM



“ To the Watkins Family, I am so sorry for your loss of such a great man. We will continue to keep you and your family in our prayers. BJ was such a great inspiration to our BMW family and it was an honor to have known him for this short time on earth. He will be greatly missed by all.
With deepest sympathies, Ken Blackman and Family###imported-begin###Ken Blackman###imported-end###

December 17, 2011 at 11:57 AM



“ Jody and Family,
BJ was truly an amazing person. I thank God for allowing him to cross my path in life. I feel so blessed to have worked for him. I am grateful for his honesty, encouragement, wisdom and friendship. He will be truly missed but never forgotten.

May God bless you and comfort you.###imported-begin###Helen Lee###imported-end###

December 17, 2011 at 10:55 AM



“ Jody, I am praying for you and know that this will be a valley of sorrow. I also know that God is able and willing to uphold you by His righteous right hand. I know that God will meet your needs and pour out into your heart His Holy Spirit of Comfort and Peace. There is not way to describe God's care for us in such times as these. I will continue to pray for you and your family. I love and appreciate your family and I considered it a privilege to pray for John. Our hearts are heavy at his homegoing. It is hard to be happy at his good fortune when we feel the passing so dearly.###imported-begin###jill branyon###imported-end###

December 17, 2011 at 09:41 AM



“ Dear Watkins Family, my heart goes out to each and everyone of you for BJ's passing. BJ has been a big influence in my life and if it was not for him I would not be where I am now at BMW. Even though we had our tough times at work he was always there for me when ever I needed a hand or a heart for comfort. BMW has lost a great team player but he will never be forgotten in the Assembly ESA Dept that he established from the beginning. With deepest sympathy to BJ's family, Donny Lewis##imported-begin##Donny Lewis##imported-end##

December 17, 2011 at 06:46 AM



“ Jody and family,
We have so many fond and funny memories of BJ. He was such an awesome addition to our Bible Study and a great golf buddy. Our trip to Folly Beach was such a great time, not to mention all the golf outings.
Please know our hearts are with you and that BJ will truley be missed by so many. He touched everyone in a very special way.
Love you all,
Jeannine and Rick##imported-begin##Rick and Jeannine Shook##imported-end##

December 16, 2011 at 03:21 PM



“ To the Watkins Family,

We are so sorry for your loss and we continue to keep all of you in our prayers. BJ will be greatly missed by so many people. (I will especially miss the flying chest bumps while he yelled booya!! after a good golf shot and the sometimes sideways arrival at your golf ball due the the perfect powerslide of the golf cart to the exact location you have to be to hit your ball, BJ laughing the whole way.)

*With Love and sympathy,
The Volino Family##imported-begin##Phil Volino##imported-end##*

December 16, 2011 at 12:31 PM



“ *I knew John in high school and we graduated from RHS in 1973, As I write this I find myself smiling thinking of ways he could make you laugh. It is good to now he didn't change. He was always the kind of guy you wanted to be around. May his immediate family feel peace at this time. It is well with my soul that John has gone home.##imported-begin##Ve Clark##imported-end##*

December 16, 2011 at 10:49 AM



“ *BJ A man of few words. But with everlasting memories.##imported-begin##Billy Adams##imported-end##*

December 16, 2011 at 12:48 AM



“ It was a great honor having you and your family as friends. You will be greatly missed by all. I know that we haven't seen each for a long time, but you have always been in our prayers. We want to extend our deepest sympathies. Forever your friends, Delmar, Linda, Phyllis and families###imported-begin##Delmar and Linda Zeigler and family and Phyllis Pulfer###imported-end##

December 15, 2011 at 10:24 PM



“ Our deepest sympathies in your time of loss.
BJ will be missed dearly by the many people that got the opportunity to know him.
With deepest sympathies.
Rick Blackmon
Siemens Industry###imported-begin##Rick Blackmon###imported-end##

December 15, 2011 at 04:35 PM



“ You were a man of honour B.J. always fairly. I have learned much from you and your experience has helped all ones involved. You have gone far too early. I remember back the common golf round and say thanks###imported-begin##Klaus Krusemark, Germany###imported-end##

December 15, 2011 at 03:47 PM



“ John - you will be missed & thought of everyday. watch over us down here and keep us safe until we see you again. I bet you're a beautiful angel! love and miss you.###imported-begin##Randi Rowe###imported-end##

December 15, 2011 at 03:45 PM



“ Jody, I am so sorry to hear of your loss... Prayers for comfort and strength are being sent for you and your family.
Paula###imported-begin##Paula "Henry" Archer###imported-end##

December 15, 2011 at 01:02 PM



“ Sending our sincere sympathy to you and your family. May God comfort during this time of loss. We have heard so much about John's suffering, sorry we can be there, but you are in our prayers and thoughts. Sincerely

Mike is the son of Clarence & Lova (Watkins) Leiss

Take care###imported-begin##Mike & Debbie Leiss###imported-end##

December 15, 2011 at 11:02 AM



“ BJ will be truly missed as a friend and a valued peer. Jody: I am with you in my prayers. Barbara###imported-begin##Barbara Bergmeier, Germany###imported-end##

December 15, 2011 at 08:29 AM



“ BJ You will be missed by us all out here--yesterday we started our round of golf by praying for you and your family and I parred the 18th hole dedicated to you. Thanks for all you've done by hiring me and say "Hi" to Woody for me--GO- BUCS!!!###imported-begin##Brian Ramsey###imported-end##

December 15, 2011 at 07:41 AM



“ *Bj will be missed very much. To the family, my prayer is that you find comfort in the memories that you have shared with Bj over the years. I know I will think about him every time I go thru a transfer making sure I don't stop the line.##imported-begin##Margaret Durrah##imported-end##*

December 15, 2011 at 05:49 AM



“ *I will miss BJ very much, he was a big part of my development as a section leader. His memory will go in all that he touched. The conversations we had while at work were business but sometimes full of laughter which made our nights more of a joyful event. He was very well respected by all that knew him.##imported-begin##Anthony Tricarico##imported-end##*

December 15, 2011 at 03:50 AM



“ *My prayers go out to the family.##imported-begin##Tra Fisher##imported-end##*

December 15, 2011 at 02:16 AM



“ *In the short time we knew each other, we shared a lot of good times. And of course we endured as two rabid Buckeye fans in Clemson territory. You'll be missed B.J.##imported-begin##Michael Pethuayne##imported-end##*

December 14, 2011 at 10:26 PM



“ B.J. will be greatly missed, and I pray God continues to watch over and protect his family and close friends through this time of sorrow.##imported-begin##Terrance Witherspoon##imported-end##

December 14, 2011 at 10:19 PM



“ Jody and Family, Here is nothing I can say except to let you all know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. Love you, Uncle Clyde##imported-begin##Clyde Watkins##imported-end##

December 14, 2011 at 07:57 PM



“ I am so sorry and send my sincerest condolences for the passing and loss of BJ. Having worked with BJ over the last 18 years, he will be remembered and missed.

Johnny Allison##imported-begin##Johnny Allison##imported-end##

December 14, 2011 at 02:53 PM



“ What an honor it was to get to know such a honest and Godly man. He will be greatly missed here at BMW. I am sorry that I didn't get a chance to say goodbye. Your family will be in my prayers. Peggy Bobo, BMW##imported-begin##Peggy Bobo##imported-end##

December 14, 2011 at 01:52 PM



“ Dear Watkins family, I am so sorry to hear of BJ's passing. I worked with BJ at BMW for 16 years. There are a lot of people who make an impact on one's life. BJ was one who made an impact. It feels like we lost our head coach here in the ESA department at BMW. BJ may be gone but he will never be forgotten. May God bless you and comfort you in your time of loss.##imported-begin##Richard Van Vleet##imported-end##

December 14, 2011 at 11:40 AM



“ Hi Jody and Family, Praying that you find comfort in God's word "He'll never leave nor forsake you". BJ will truly be missed by Assembly groups.
Sincerely,
Debra Davis Clayton, BMW##imported-begin##Debra Clayton##imported-end##

December 14, 2011 at 11:13 AM



“ May God cover you and your family with love and a peace that passes all understanding during this time of great loss and sorrow. You are in our prayers .
Larry and Cheryl Gilliland##imported-begin##Larry Gilliland##imported-end##

December 14, 2011 at 10:18 AM



“ Dear Watkins Family;
The absence of B.J. will be greatly missed. I have been honored to have worked with him and to have shared laughs and smiles. I have always respected and admired him as a person and he always had shown me that same respect. I take comfort in knowing of his salvation and pray that you will find strenght in yours during this time. I cherish our memories and celebrate his life.
Michael##imported-begin##Michael Jones##imported-end##

December 14, 2011 at 09:14 AM



“ I am sorry for your loss, especially during the holiday season. I hope and pray your family will have peace and comfort during your time of sorrow
Linda Arthur##imported-begin##Linda Arthur##imported-end##

December 14, 2011 at 08:57 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you and yours, Jody. Much love to you.##imported-begin##Michelle Peck##imported-end##

December 14, 2011 at 08:27 AM



“ We will miss "Big John" and the deep conversations about OSU and U of M!

We are thankful to have known John and his family. We have many and good memories from Ohio! What a blessing to know a man of God who would say, "I am praying for you!" We will miss him!##imported-begin##Larry & Kathy Shetenhelm##imported-end##

December 14, 2011 at 06:58 AM



“ A great honor to have had the good times and bad times at work, always honest and professional. A man to look up to. Farewell to a good friend and motivator for "the most frustrating game" which we loved to play so much. Thanks for the time with you.##imported-begin##Kai Schneiderwind - Germany##imported-end##

December 14, 2011 at 06:45 AM



“ I was so sad to hear about BJ I worked with him at BMW and he was a very kind man. He will be greatly missed here at BMW .##imported-begin##Valerie Brown ##imported-end##

December 14, 2011 at 12:11 AM



“ It was pleasure working with BJ, even though I did not get a chance to work with him alot, I know he will be greatly missed!##imported-begin##Johnny Stines##imported-end##

December 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Jody and family,
You are all in our prayers. John will be truly missed but we will see hiim again some day. Love you all, Vicki and Conley##imported-begin##Vicki and Conley Bell##imported-end##

December 13, 2011 at 08:42 PM



“ Jody and family,

Sorry for your loss. John will be dearly missed by all. Thinking about you in your time of sorrow.

Rick and Cindy Watkins###imported-begin##Rick and Cindy Watkins###imported-end##

December 13, 2011 at 07:14 PM



“ Jody and family, John was such a kind man, he will be missed. Love to all of you.###imported-begin##Debby Bartow###imported-end##

December 13, 2011 at 07:06 PM



“ I'm so sorry for your lost; He is out of pain and in a better place, but we still will miss his presence here. May God give you comfort and strength for the days ahead. Your family are in my prayers.

*In Christian love,
Thelma###imported-begin##Thelma Purtee###imported-end##*

December 13, 2011 at 06:43 PM