

# 2018 MINER'S MEMORIAL

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## LEONARD GRIFFITH

*April 1, 1965 ~  
February 6, 2018*



Leonard W. Griffith, age 52 years, a resident of Valley Bend, passed away Tuesday, February 6, 2018. He was born April 1, 1965 at Baltimore, MD a son of the late William L. Griffith, Sr. and the late Shirley Anne Daff Griffith. On August 27, 1988 at Dailey, he was married to Phyllis Joanne Dulaney Griffith who survives at Valley Bend. Also surviving are two sons, Troy E. and Brett W. Griffith, both of Valley Bend and a special son, Andrew John Torres of Jacksonville, NC; a daughter, LeaAnne Dulane Griffith of Valley Bend. Two brothers, William L. Griffith, Jr. of Sebring, FL and Edward M. Griffith and Jennifer of Buckhannon, WV; two sisters, Brenda A. Osborn and husband Bill and Rhonda L. Tharp all of Wyandotte, MI and his Godchildren, Acadia, Zydrunas, Natanas and Aricelli Gaver and Evan and Jillian Morgan also survive. Leonard was a 1984 graduate of Pickens High School and was employed at Arch Coal Company in mine maintenance at the time of his death. He was a member of the BBS Steering Team of Arch Coal, one of the founders of Cheat Mountain Basketball League and a member of the Pickens Presbyterian Church. Leonard's gifts to the world were solid love and friendship you could count on. In basketball, he was as likely to assist as he was to score. And for his family, he made everyone feel the favorite. Anyone who was lucky enough to know him had a friend forever.

## ROBERT ALLEN GROSTEFON

*December 9, 1957 ~ September 12, 2018*

Robert Allen "Bob" Grostefon, 60, Bicknell, passed away Wednesday, September 12, 2018 at Sidney and Lois Eskenazi Hospital in Indianapolis. Bob was born December 9, 1957, in Logansport, IN, the son of Nicholas Eugene Grostefon and Erna Mae (Crabtree) Masters. He married Angela Sue Cox on April 28, 2012. He was working at Peabody Coal Mine. He was a member of the Mariah Creek Christian Church. Bob was an avid outdoorsman. Bob is survived by his wife, Angela Grostefon of Bicknell; daughters, Nikki Nichole Grostefon of Indianapolis, Heather

Crane of Albion, IL, Tonya (Jonathan) Babbs of Bedford and McKenzie Grostefon of Plainfield; sons, Shannon (Ashley) Crane of Lockhart, TX, C.J. Thompson of Mitchell, IN and Jerry Thompson of Plainville, IN; thirteen grandchildren; brothers, Richard Grostefon of Winamac, IN, Nicholas Eugene Grostefon II of Vincennes and Kevin (Alyse) Grostefon of Vincennes; and sister, Kimberly (Gary) Lukens of Bruceville. He was preceded in death by his parents; son, Shawn Allen Grostefon; and daughter, Patricia Lynn Grostefon.



## **JAMES ALBERT "JIMMY" WHITLOCK**

*November 02, 1979 ~ February 21,  
2018*



James Albert "Jimmy" Whitlock, 38, of Smithers left this adventure called life and went home to be with his maker on February 21, 2018.

He was preceded in death by his dad, Albert Mitchell "Mitch" Whitlock. Who we are sure met him at the gates with a big grin on his face.

He was a highwall miner operator, a devoted dad, a jokester, an amazing friend, a loving son, the coolest brother, a jack of all trades and quite the philosopher. Not necessarily in that order. He enjoyed so many things about life. Among those are spending time with his kids, music, Harley's, hunting and fishing, invent-

ing things on the fly and debating any topic of your choice. He had the biggest heart and never knew a stranger.

He leaves behind his two greatest loves in life, his son James Mitchel Whitlock and a daughter Alivia Nichole Whitlock. He will be dearly missed by his mother Rebecca (Siers) Whitlock, sister Lisa Sigmon, and his girlfriend Jessica Knight along with countless family and friends.

Jimmy would hope that you will do a random act of kindness for some needful person.

## **RONALD "RON" RAY TAYLOR**

*August 12, 1974 ~ June 5, 2018*



Ronald "Ron" Ray Taylor, 43, a resident of Junior, passed from this life Tuesday, June 5, 2018, in Ruby Memorial Hospital as a result of injuries sustained in a coal mining accident.

Ron was born Monday, August 12, 1974, in Elkins, a son of Ronald Marshall Taylor and Helen Lloyd. On March 28, 1997, in Virginia, he married the former Crystal Renee Howard who survives.

Also left to cherish Ron's memory are two children, Brandon Taylor and Alexandria Taylor, both of Junior, one sister, Connie McCollam and husband, Doug of Mill Creek, nieces and nephews, Doug and Sean McCollam, Matthew, Sarah, Jason, Paul, and Kyle Howard, Ashley Basil, Adam and Levi Workman, Shaun, Scotty Jr., and Timmy Powell, and Anna Daniels,

several great nieces and nephews, four sisters-in-law, Sherry Powell and husband, Scott, Marcia Tumblin and husband, Jeff, Pam Howard and companion, Stan Wegman, and Patty Howard and companion, Scott Daniels, and his coal mining family. Ron was preceded in death by two bother-in-laws, Randy and Curtis Howard.

Ron attended the schools of Randolph County and worked as a coal miner for Carter – Roag Coal Company. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, shooting guns, and riding four-wheelers. He was a kind and caring man with a great sense of humor and loved by everyone who knew him. He loved his boxer dogs. Ron was an excellent provider for his family who he loved above all others.



## HUBERT "BUBBY" GRUBBS JR.

*September 24, 1988 ~  
March 28, 2018*



Hubert "Bubby" Grubbs, Jr, 29 of Harlan passed away on Wednesday, March 28, 2018 from injuries sustained in a coal mining accident. Bubby was born September 24, 1988 in Harlan, KY to Hubert and Martha Stewart Grubbs, Sr. He was a 10 year coal miner.

He is preceded in death by his infant son, Damon Parker Grubbs; grandparents, Mird and Delilah Stewart; Harmon and Virginia Grubbs; mother-in-law, Sandy Napier; a host of aunts and uncles; nephew, Cody Skidmore.

Besides his parents he is survived by his wife, Mandie Grubbs; father-in-law, Tom Napier; brothers, Dennis Grubbs and Angela Robbins, John Ben (Laura) Swanson, Steve "Green Bean" (Melissa) Adams, Steven (Na-

talie) Lewis, Chris "Critter" (Ashley) Daniels, Josh (Vanessa) Stewart, Todd (Jenny) Middleton, and Tony Irvin; sisters, Jennifer Grubbs and Neil Irvin, and Gail Couch; nieces, Brandy Grubbs, Alyssa Irvin, Toni Girl Irvin, Melinda Irvin, and Amber Irvin; nephews, Gavin Grubbs, Aspen Johnson, and Caleb Skidmore.

Hubert's wife, Amanda Grubbs, says she just wants people to remember the kindness her husband had for others. They had been married for five years. "Just his good heart and how, just, open he was to be kind and loving to everybody that he met," Amanda said.

Grubbs was a coal miner with more than 10 years of experience. He had both his surface mine and underground mining certificates.

## MICKY EDWARD COOK

*June 12, 1980 ~ December 11, 2018*

Micky Edward Cook, age 38, of Nauvoo, passed away on Tuesday, December 11, 2018.

Mr. Cook was preceded in death by Arthur Fletcher Kimbrell, Julia Ann Kimbrell, Elmer Cook and Lucille Cook.

He is survived by his Wife-Amy Loretta Cook; Mother-Janice Ann Cook; Father-Tommy Edward Cook; Sons-Conner Edward Cook and Cooper William Cook; Sister-Jana Nikol Sprouse (Matt); Brother-Brett Shane Cook (Lauren Pellegrino); Brother-in-law-Josh Ingle (Cari Beth); Nephews and Nieces-Nate Sprouse, Nikolas Sprouse, Jaci Cook, Breeson Cook, Tegan Cook, Brady Ingle and Blake Ingle.



## NEVIN J. HOSTETTER

*November 6, 1983 ~ December 20, 2018*



Nevin J. Hostetter, 35, of Central City, went to be with the Lord on December 20, 2018. Born November 6, 1983 in Manheim, PA, he was a son of Calvin and Eileen (Kurtz) Hostetter of Casselman.

He is preceded in death by his maternal grandfather Harry Kurtz. Nevin is survived by his parents; wife of 14 years, Cassandra (Knepper) Hostetter; children Michaela, Andra, and Weston, all at home; siblings Craig of Rockwood, Nathan and wife Tracy of Rockwood, Jessica and husband Shane Kreiger of Newville, Doyle and wife Emily of Rockwood, Troy and wife Karisa of Northern Cambria, Kari of Somerset, Trevor of Rockwood, and Tara and husband Nathan Evans of Bruceton Mills, WV; maternal grandmother Fern Kurtz of Pine Grove; paternal grandparents Dale and Thelma Hostetter of Annville; 5 nephews; and 3 nieces.

Nevin was a 2002 graduate of Rockwood High School. He then served in Iraq with the U.S. Marine Corps, Battalion 2-5 during the 2003-2004 "Operation Iraqi Freedom". He was employed by AK Coal of Friedens after previous employment by Grannas Brothers Road Construction. He was a gunsmith, and enjoyed hunting, and working with firearms. Nevin was a loving father, wonderful husband, and man of God. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.



## **KAMERON D. RANKIN**

*November 29, 1990 ~  
September 11, 2018*



Kameron D. Rankin, 27, of New Bethlehem, died Tuesday, September 11, 2018, in a mining accident.

Born November 29, 1990, in DuBois, he was a son of Douglas C. and Tracy D. (Stitt) Rankin.

He married Charline M. (Anthony) Rankin on September 5, 2015. She survives.

Mr. Rankin worked in the Kocjancic mines near Brockway. He was the owner of the Fitness Down Under Gym in New Bethlehem since 2012.

He loved sports, hunting, camo and tinkering with things. He loved his dogs, loved life and he loved his family. Anyone that knew him loved him; he was to the point and blunt.

He is survived by his parents, Doug and Tracy Rankin of Rimersburg; his wife, Charline, of New Bethlehem; a sister, Tristen Best and her husband, Dustin, of Butler; a brother, Garret Rankin and his wife, Mandy, of New Bethlehem; his grandmother, Florence Rankin of New Bethlehem; and 14 nieces and nephews, Emery Best, Kerrigan Best, Brogan Best, Nick Hetrick, Maggie Rankin, Zoe Rankin, Tanner Davis, Conner Davis, Margaret Davis, Adalyn Adams, Kaian Ruffner, Madelin Durci, Noah Durci and Donovan Durci.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Jack and Linda Stitt; paternal grandfather, Marshall Rankin; and an uncle, David Stitt.





## **ROGER WILLIAM HERNDON**

*March 1, 1985 ~  
October 17, 2018*



Roger William Herndon, 33, of Bingham Ridge, Charmco, passed away on Wednesday, October 17, 2018 following a sudden accident. Born on March 1, 1985, at Ronceverte, he is the son of William "Bill" Herndon and Mary Avis Herndon.

Roger is preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Frank and Imogene Herndon; maternal grandparents, Roger and Mary Avis.

Roger enjoyed hunting and fishing

and was an Auger helper with his dad in the coal mines.

Survivors include his parents, Bill and Mary Herndon of Bingham Road, Charmco; companion, Kelly Jo Thomas of Rainelle; daughter, Aubrey Herndon of home; 3 sons, Franklin Herndon of home, Bransen Herndon of Ronceverte, Logan Herndon of Ronceverte; brother, Christopher Avis of Rainelle; grandfather, Forrest Brown of Charmco; extended family and a host of friends and co-workers.

## **JASON MICHAEL WILLIAMS**

*September 22, 1983 ~  
March 16, 2018*



Jason Michael Williams, 34, of Bloomfield passed away Friday March 16, 2018.

Born September 22, 1983 in Linton, Indiana the son of Charles Williams and Glenda (Patton) Wells.

Jason worked at Sunrise LLC Coal Mine, he was an electrical engineer supervisor and was a member of ABATE.

Surviving relatives include his mother Glenda Wells, Natalie Williams, their children, Jadon Williams, Destiny Williams and Chelsie Gooley, his sisters, Jessica (Daniel Thomas) Drake, Karen and family and Cherra Monroe and family, one brother, Chris Williams and family, his nieces and nephews, Megan, Gwendelyn, Keirstyn, Braylen, Max, Breleigh, Miranda, Jacob, Haven and Danny, his maternal grandparents, Estel and Connie Patton and family, several aunts, uncles, cousins and his coal mine family.

Jason was preceded in death by his father, his step dad John Simpson and his best friend Chris Tresner.

## CALEB J BROWN

*July 5, 1993 ~ December 30, 2018*

Caleb Josiah Brown was born on July 5th, 1993 in Longview. He grew up in the small town of Vader and attended Toledo High School.

On December 29th he was killed in a workplace incident in Centralia. Caleb leaves behind the love of his life, Brittney; their 3 year old son, Jason; his parents Micheal and Cheryl Brown; two brothers, Micheal (his partner Karolina) and Noah Brown; as well as many other wonderful friends and family. Caleb had a fascinating mind. He was kind, compassionate, non-judgmental, and loving.

He loved people not despite of their flaws, but because of them, and he never turned down an opportunity to give or receive a hug.

Caleb loved and was so proud of his family. He was an amazing father and absolutely head over heels in love with his partner, Brittney. He enjoyed watching movies, going on road trips, and a perfectly brewed pot of coffee; but was most often found in the company of his loved ones, enjoying the ins and outs of a long, meaningful conversation.

