

### ROGER O. GODWIN



Roger O. Godwin, 58, passed away at his residence Monday, December 25. A native and life-long resident of Fernandina Beach, Roger was a son of the late Harold Lee and Willie Hulett Godwin, Sr. He was a 1977 graduate of Fernandina Beach High School and after high school, he attended Georgia Southern College in Statesboro, where he played baseball.

While at Georgia Southern he also was a member of the USA All Star baseball team and played in Cuba as part of the Intercontinental Cup Games. After leaving Georgia Southern he later graduated from Florida State University.

After completing his degree, Roger played professional baseball for three years as part of the Houston Astros organization and also played professional ball as part of the European League in Holland.

He returned to the states and began a career as a teacher. He taught PE at Hilliard Middle-Senior High School and coached baseball for four years. He then went on to teach PE at Yulee Middle School. He also coached girl's softball and soccer while there.

Roger then returned to the family commercial fishing business. He loved being on the water whether it was commercial shrimping or sport fishing. He was always at home on the water. He also loved playing the guitar and singing. Although he never sang or played professionally, he never turned down the opportunity to play or sing before a group. It was said of him, "he was a pretty good hobby class singer and guitar player." In addition to his parents; he was predeceased by a nephew Phillip Godwin.

He is survived by his sister and brothers, Mary (Al) Bennett of Fernandina Beach, Albert (Kay) Godwin of Crawfordville, Florida, Bob (Kathy) Godwin of Hilliard, Lee (Annette) Godwin of Fernandina Beach; three nephews Deron Bennett, Brad (Kristi) Bennett and David (Hilarie) Godwin; a great niece Hayley Godwin; as well as three great-great nieces.

A memorial service was held Saturday, December 30 in the Burgess Chapel of Oxley-Heard Funeral Directors. He will be laid to rest in a private family service at a later date.