

IN LOVING MEMORY



William "Bill" Larry
Keathley, Jr.

OCTOBER 10, 1970 - DECEMBER 6, 2025



God's Garden

*God looked around his garden
And found an empty place,
He then looked down upon the earth
And saw your tired face.
He put his arms around you
And lifted you to rest.
God's garden must be beautiful
He always takes the best.
He knew that you suffering
He knew you were in pain.
He knew that you would never
Get well on earth again.
He saw the road was getting rough
And the hills were hard to climb.
So he closed your weary eyelids
And whispered, 'Peace be Thine.'
It broke our hearts to lose you
But you didn't go alone,
For part of us went with you
The day God called you home.*

Katie Evans

William "Bill" Larry Keathley, Jr., age 55, of Conway, passed away December 6, 2025. He was born in Conway, Arkansas, to the late William Larry Keathley, Sr. and Sharon Matthews Keathley.

Bill is survived by his wife, Tisha Keathley; daughters, Grace and Laiken Keathley; sister, Kristy Keathley Drollinger (Dan) and numerous extended family and friends.

Bill served his community courageously and selflessly as a firefighter for over 31 years, earning the rank of Assistant Chief of Operations at the Conway Fire Department. He was more than just a firefighter; he was a leader, a mentor, and a driving force in guiding the fire service in Arkansas into a new era. His influence reached beyond Conway, as he played a vital role in helping departments across the state develop advanced technical rescue capabilities, including rope operations, swift water, and structure collapse. Bill also played a key role in the development of Arkansas Task Force 1.

Bill was an outstanding father to Gracie and Laiken, never missing a ball game, school play, or event his girls were a part of. Even if he was on duty, he was going to be there. His love for his girls was unwavering. He was a role model, a hero, and a best friend to many. He enjoyed spending his free time with family, friends, being at deer camp, fishing or sitting outside listening to music by the fire. Bill is leaving an irreplaceable hole in our hearts. He will be greatly missed.

To view Bill's online guestbook, please visit
www.smithfamilycares.com