



William Bradley Jaynes

July 30, 1959 - January 21, 2026

William "Bill" Bradley Jaynes, a man of deep faith, steadfast character, and generous heart, was born on July 30, 1959, in Lansing, Michigan. He made his home in Potterville, Michigan, where his life and legacy continue to echo through faith, family, music, and service.

Bill's greatest joy and calling was sharing the love of Jesus Christ. A gifted musician, he devoted his talents to playing the Lord's music on guitar and bass, believing music to be a powerful way to reach hearts. Along with his band, Sacred Armor, Bill wrote and produced two Christian music albums. His first album, *You Are Holy Jesus*, featured the title song of the same name, proclaiming his reverence and worship. His second album, *Jesus Is The One*, again carried its title song as a bold declaration of faith. Other featured songs included *God Is Great*, *What an Easter!*, *Holy God*, and many more.

Bill would play anywhere and anytime—churches, concerts, street corners—wherever God opened a door. He was most proud of his ability to share his faith through music and through his handcrafted Faith Crosses, which he created as symbols of strength, protection, humility, and devotion.

Bill was always ready to share a laugh; his well-timed one-liners were legendary. However, when asked his opinion on any matter, Bill was known to state, "I follow Scripture rather than opinion."

In his earlier years, Bill found great joy in the outdoors. He worked as a hunting guide throughout Central Michigan, sharing his knowledge and love of nature with both local and national personalities. His passion for the outdoors

continued through 3-D archery hunts alongside his wife and daughters, and through field trials with his beloved dog, Ranger.

Bill lived a life marked by hard work and adaptability. He worked as a machinist, later owned and operated his own construction company, and most recently served as a bus driver for Dean Transportation and the Grand Ledge School District-roles he carried out with responsibility and care.

A faithful patriot, Bill proudly served his country as a member of the Michigan National Guard. He will be remembered by many as the Defender of the Underdog, a man who stood as a protective and steady presence for his family, friends, and anyone who needed someone to stand beside them.

Bill is lovingly survived by his wife, Susan Jaynes; his daughters, Michelle Philo and Katie (Jeff) Boulton; his grandchildren, David Philo, Jessica Philo, Elizabeth Philo, Kylee Boulton, and Bastien Boulton; his mother, Judy Witwer; and his sisters, Deborah (Jeff) Cook and Teresa (Alex) Mendez. He was preceded in death by his father, William Jaynes.

Bill's life was a living testimony of faith in action. His favorite Bible verse was Joshua 24:15 "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Which also resulted in his life reflecting the verse from Ezekiel 22:30:

"I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land..."

Bill strove every day to be that man-standing in the gap for his family, his friends, and anyone in need.

Through his music, his service, and his unwavering devotion to Scripture, he leaves behind a legacy that continues to inspire, encourage, and strengthen all who were blessed to know him.

Friends are encouraged to support Bill's family at visitation and funeral services. Funeral services are Friday, January 30, 2026 at 11:00 AM at Pray Funeral Home in Charlotte with Pastor Tom Surdenik officiating. Visitation will be held on Thursday, January 29, 2026 from 6-8:00 p.m.

The funeral service will be webcast so you may watch it from any computer, smartphone, or mobile device that has internet access. Go to www.prayfuneral.com, click on Bill's tribute, then click on Photos & videos from your computer (or Media from your smart phone). Just prior to the beginning of the service, a link will appear on this page to watch the webcast. Friends and extended family members may send flower arrangements to the service to sit in your chair as a show of your support for the family. If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or the Wounded Warrior Project. Family and friends are encouraged to share remembrances and condolences online in Bill's Tribute Page at www.prayfuneral.com. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte, MI.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **29**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W. Seminary St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Funeral

JAN **30**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W. Seminary St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Webcast in memory of William Bradley Jaynes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - January 29 at 08:12 PM

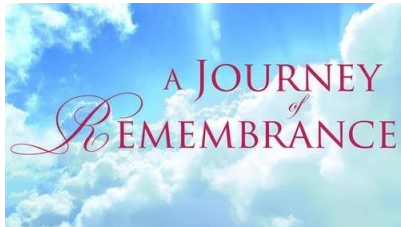
KW

Was sorry to read. Please accept my condolences to all. What a beautiful tribute to him . Kathy (Lotre) Walter

Kathy Walter - January 30 at 02:13 PM



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of William Bradley Jaynes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - January 28 at 11:34 AM

SC

We will be missing Bill's wonderful voice.

Sam Colegrove - January 28 at 04:12 PM



Annette Atherholt

“ *Condolences, prayers, and love to all Bill's loved ones! He was one of the most cheerful guys I knew; no matter what came his way. The other day someone said to me, he's singing for Jesus now, and I said, "No he's singing with Jesus now!" I can picture that too, him and Jesus singing together while he plays a guitar Jesus made especially for him. Let's try not to be sad, we will miss him, but honestly being with Jesus is the best place to be.*

Annette Atherholt - January 29 at 11:37 PM



“ *43 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - January 28 at 11:28 AM



“ *I didn't personally know Bill but my daughter was a passenger on his bus this year. Driving a bus has to be difficult and when the kids are middle schoolers.... even more so. It's a job that's often taken for granted but I hope he and his wife know I appreciate them getting my daughter to school safely every day. Wishing his family peace during this difficult time.*

Natalie Whitten - January 25 at 07:09 PM

CM

“ Long nights fishing all summer long. Hunting all winter. Out doors was our playground, we would rather fish and hunt than party like many of our classmates did. Miss you Bill, may god be with your family and receive you into his loving arms.

Love,
Corky

Corky McKennan - January 24 at 07:02 PM

DG

“ Bill was a light in our community for Christ. I've always considered him and his wife Susan, good friends. We've worked together, sang together and worshipped together. He left us a legacy of what it means to be a Christian and will always be remembered with love.

Dawn Goodman - January 24 at 10:31 AM