



Charles Ray White

February 19, 1943 - January 8, 2026

Charles Ray White, 82 of Ozark, Arkansas, passed away, Thursday, January 8, 2026 in Little Rock, Arkansas. He was born February 19, 1943 in Paris, Arkansas, to Charles William White and Mary Ellen Holt White. Charles was of the Methodist faith and a member of the Ozark First United Methodist Church. He retired from Arkansas Valley Electric after 41 years, working his way up from the Right of Way crew to Operations Manager. In his second career, he spent 14 years as the Chief Lawncare Engineer with Black Hills Energy. Charles Ray was initiated into the Kappa Alpha Order on November 14, 2021. He was a huge Hillbilly football fan and loved being with his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Ralph Franklin; two sisters, Shirley Cross and Kaye Stewart; and brother-in-law, Raymond Casey.

Charles "Big Bear" is survived by his wife of 64 years, Donna "Nana Bear" Franklin White; one son, Thomas White and wife Lori; one daughter, Lisa Robison and husband Danny, all of Ozark; three sisters, Patricia White Casey, Fluffy Sory and Tuffy Edwards all of Ozark; four grandchildren, Leslie Bednar and husband Trey, Beth Ann Wetzel and husband Chase, Dakota Robison, and Jediah White and fiancée Meagan Harris; three great grandchildren, Drake Bednar, Charley Bednar, and Coulter Wetzel; numerous nieces and nephews; and also leaves behind the remaining members of his White Rock

Mountain deer camp.

Memorial Services will be held at the Gardner Family Life Center at 3 pm on Sunday, January 18, 2026 with Tommy McCormick officiating. Visitation will follow the service. Cremation arrangements were made under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home in Ozark. The family requests that everyone wear Charles Ray's favorite color, Hillbilly Purple, in his honor.

Serving as honorary pallbearers will be Gary Briley, Wayne Davis, Charles Otto Haberer, Tommy McCormick, Billy Mason, and the Black Hills Employees.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Charles Ray and Donna White Scholarship Fund at Bank OZK.

To leave an online memorial visit www.shafferfuneralhomeweb.com

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 18. 3:00 PM (CT)

Gardner Memorial Family Life
104 S 5th St
Ozark, AR 72949
(479) 667-1459

There will be a visitation to follow

Tribute Wall

DH

“ Every time I had the pleasure of being around Charles Ray he was always jokingly fussing with someone and he enjoyed it thoroughly. He was a man I looked up to as he was a man with a big heart, devoted to his family and community. He was a faithfully loyal fan of the Ozark Hillbillies and every time the future Hillbillies score a touch down and the celebratory cannon fires off, Charles Ray will be smiling from heaven.

Dale & Patricia Hixon

dale hixon - January 16 at 09:46 PM

CA

“ Cody & Angie Abney purchased the Blue Caribbe an Bouquet for the family of Charles Ray White.



Cody & Angie Abney - January 16 at 07:12 PM

KR

“ Kellee Ragains lit a candle in memory of Charles White



Kellee Ragains - January 13 at 02:37 AM

RW

Ozark will never be the same again!! So very sorry. Raymond and Regina Hardcastle Williams.

Raymond and Regina Hardcastle Williams - January 25 at 07:44 PM

VK

“ Charles Ray was one of a kind! He never met a stranger And you could hear him coming before you ever saw him. He loved his family, he loved life, and was a faithful Ozark hillbilly fan. I have many good memories of Charles Ray over the years, he was a true friend and will be missed



Vicki Brown King - January 12 at 12:27 PM

PW

“ Charles Ray and Donna led our MYF in my teen years. We would talk about life and all the things teen girls talk about! They were great at guiding us and I never forgot that. I will especially miss his comments on my facebook posts. Rest in Peace Charles Ray. And my prayers go with Donna as she navigates this path. Both were great role models in the turbulent '60's. ❤️ Pat 'Prissy' Jones Wattam

Pat Wattam - January 11 at 10:38 PM

SM

“ Sherry McClellan lit a candle in memory of Charles White



Sherry McClellan - January 11 at 12:52 PM

GM

“ Gary L. McCreary planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charles Ray White.

Gary L. McCreary - January 10 at 07:17 PM



“ *Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Charles Ray White.*



January 10 at 07:17 PM



“ *Stephanie Belt lit a candle in memory of Charles White*



Stephanie Belt - January 10 at 04:59 PM



“ *So sorry to hear about Charles Ray. He was our neighbor when we all grew up. Always remember him as a very caring person. Rest in peace my friend. Molly Baskin Campbell.*

Molly Baskin Campbell - January 10 at 04:57 PM