



Vernon Godwin

April 16, 1909 - April 16, 2012

Vernon Claude Godwin, 103, of Heber Springs, formerly of Strawberry, passed away early Monday, April 16, 2012.

Born March 25, 1909 at Saffell, son of Wesley and Kate Rainey Godwin. He was an inspector for U. S. Steel in California.

He was united in marriage to Tommy Peterson March 14, 1998 who preceded him in death. He was also preceded in death by his first wife, Ruby Sexton and a daughter Colleen Johnson.

Survivors include a son, Bill Polston of Pleasant View, Colorado; a daughter, Janice Benscotter of Antioch, California; seven grandchildren, several great grandchildren, several great great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

[Send Flowers & Gifts](#)

Previous Events

Interment

APR **19** (CT)

Mt. Zion Cemetery
College City
AR 72476

Visitation

APR **19**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Bryan Funeral Home
415 NW Texas St.
Hoxie, AR 72433

Funeral Service

APR **19**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Bryan Funeral Home
415 NW Texas St.
Hoxie, AR 72433

Tribute Wall



“ *Vernon Godwin*

January 29, 2023 at 08:29 AM



“ *My dad, Dolph McNutt, and Claude were cousins and were about same age. I grew up hearing stories of some of things they did in younger years. Claude was a character. Saw him some thru those years and guess last time visited with him he came to Walnut Ridge and picked up my Dad and took him on fishing trip. Think they went to Florida. Daddy was not in good health then and died with emphzema in 1980. We moved to Little Rock that year and few years ago moved to Carter Cove on Lake Nimrod near Plainview(between Russellville & Hot Springs). Sorry I did not know Claude's children & grandchildren. Will keep you in my prayers. I still need help with finishing the family tree. So any of you cousins that have worked on this, get in touch with me.*

C

Anita McNutt Dillahunty - Plainview, AR, AR - Cousin - April 19, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TG

“ I met Claude 18 years ago when Bill and I married. Both of my grandfathers had passed away and he quickly filled a place in my heart. I had never met anyone like him, what a wonderful personality. Anyone who ever met him never forgot him. Four years later when he married my Granny he really did become my granddad. We have so many wonderful memories of hunting in Colorado (he built my stand and put it up), our annual fishing trips on Toledo Bend every May, him telling stories of growing up and growing old and many more. I was so blessed to have him come and spend his last months with me and Bill and I wouldn't take anything for the time we shared. I miss him deeply but know that he is home now. He lived life to the fullest.

Tara Polston - Quitman, AR - granddaughter - April 19, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BN

“ Not many people live such a long life, but its not surprising that Uncle Claude would acheive this amazing feat. I believe he enjoyed life more than anyone I know. I remember him as always busy but also happy to take time to enjoy whoever dropped in to visit with him. I will always remember the wonderful times we spent with Uncle Claude, Aunt Ruby, Janice, and Colleen at their home in California. I remember our trips to Yosemite Park and all those family reunions at the Oklahoma and Arkansas Picnics. I also believe he is having a great reunion now with all his friends and family in heaven and I know they are glad to have "The Life of the Party" with them again. He will be missed by all of his family that he leaves behind. Janice, you and all his Grandchildren and family members are in my prayers.
Love, Brenda

Brenda Swagerty - Rogers, AR - niece - April 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RN

“What a fun, unique uncle!! What a character my uncle Claude was! Although it has been many years since I last saw him, I can still hear that distinct (and loud) voice. My special childhood bond with Aunt Ruby and Uncle Claude started very early for me. Aunt Ruby was my namesake and she carried me out of the hospital after I was born. Uncle Claude carried my sweet Mother out of the hospital. I heard this story over and over and it always made me feel so special and loved. I have vivid recall of so many happy times with Ruby, Claude, Janice, and Colleen. I especially remember spending Christmas in their home when I was around 8 years old. We played with their new puppies. As adults, Claude and I had so much fun joking around with each other. I am sad about his dying. I am happy about his living such a long, happy and wonderful life. He was so passionate about everyone and everything. I am pretty sure that when I get to Heaven I will hear him before I see him. The very thought of Uncle Claude brings a smile both inside and outside.....Make that a chuckle!!!.....Elaine

Ruby Elaine Swicegood Walker - Springdale, AR - Neice - April 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KN

“Uncle Claude was such a huge personality! When I was a small child, his loud, booming voice scared me a little, but as I grew older I realized there was no relative more fun loving and outgoing than Uncle Claude. He lived his life exactly as he wanted and seemed to enjoy every moment - Claude liked to fish, hunt and he liked to dance - he definitely didn't "set it out" when it came to life - he danced! Bless Uncle Claude and blessings to my cousins in California as you grieve his death - your family in Oklahoma and Arkansas are thinking of you.

Kay Parmain - Colcord, OK - Niece - April 17, 2012 at 12:00 AM