

Willis James "Jim" Mattinson

April 1, 1938 ~ July 17, 2023

You and your family gave him such wonderful care! It shows the quality of your family and the love and support you share. Love to everyone! Carolyn and Randy Dixon

- Carolyn Dixon

Grandpa, thank you for your example of love, kindness and strength. I will miss hugging on you and reading to you. I often think about the time you walked my little brothers and I to the park to play basketball and then to the corner store to get candy. That was such a fun day and I cherish the individual time we got to spend with you. You were always cheerful and the best company. I wrote this poem in your honor. “ They say grief is love with nowhere to go, but really that love helps generations grow. We take the good that was taught before and instill family values at the core. Our children’s children will know this love, how to forgive and never give up. Our loved ones live on in us. We see them as we build on and trust, they gave us everything we need, to succeed as a family.” I love you Grandpa and hope you will visit me in my dreams. Goodbye for now. XOXO, Maddy

- Madeline McPhee

I have so many fond and special memories with Grandpa. We read the newspaper together when I was learning to read and he helped me annunciate the longer and harder words. He was relearning how to read himself and he was the first adult to ask me how to pronounce a word here or there, and when I realized he wasn't just testing me but was actually learning as well, it created a very special admiration for him that I would carry my whole life. He was so earnest and open in his quest to regain his knowledge that it showed me it was okay to ask questions and not know the answers and continuously strive to learn. He took me on walks and hikes and showed me plants and bugs; teaching me about the poisonous, dangerous, or edible ones. There are a few things in my life that are so intertwined with Grandpa (and Grandma too) that I will always think of them when they happen; camping is one of those things. Camping trips are full of fun memories of grandpa for me. There were several trips to Capitol Reef and other camping sites where I had the opportunity to ride with grandpa and I gleaned a few colorful and fun names to call other drivers when they're acting foolish (Jack Smack is one I still use today). Grandpa loved Grandma's sweets and treats as much as us grandkids do and he'd always be just as excited as us when it was

time to eat. He could be a little messy while eating and often left a little residue of food or drink when he'd give me a kiss, but I cherish that leftover love on my cheek because I know how raw and real Grandpa's love for me is. I've always felt loved. Thank you for loving me Grandpa.

- Lisa Hooper

Grandpa is such a strong man. With lots of courage and thoughts. Always intrigued, full of joy, and laughter at the answers. Always delighted to see you, always! Giving you a big wet kiss and strong hug, only to quickly show off his cherished wife. Always explaining and showing you something neat Grandma LaWana had done. Asking questions during muted commercials and hoots and hollers at the basketball players. I remember so many camping trips, backyard basketball games and Grandmas cooking, which grandpa just loved. Thank you for the examples, for the memories, for being such a strong team. I love you both greatly!!

- Camylle Rigby