



## Hillman Leonard Bailey

June 26, 1943 - December 7, 2017

Hillman L. Bailey went to be with the Lord at age 74 on Thursday, December 7, 2017. He is survived by his loving wife of 52 years, Dianne Bailey; two children, Greg Hillman Bailey (Christy) and Jeff Craig Bailey (Staci); six grandchildren, Zoe Brooke Bailey, Barrett Hillman Bailey, Brody Ross Bailey, Ty Elijah Bailey, Madison Leigh Bailey, and Mason Craig Bailey; two sisters, Brenda Fegenbush and Deborah Kohler; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents, Leo Hillman & Virginia Bailey and one brother, Joe A. Bailey. Hillman proudly served his country in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam Era. He served as a Birmingham Police Officer for 25 years retiring as Lieutenant and Commander of Internal Affairs. He also retired from the State of Alabama Department of Corrections in the Internal Investigations Division as an investigator. Hillman was a member of Sardis Baptist Church. Visitation will be Sunday, December 10, 2017 from 12:00 p.m. until 1:00 p.m. with a service to follow at The New Gardendale Funeral Home. Burial will be at Jefferson Memorial Gardens.

# Tribute Wall

KW

“ I guess the best way that I can describe Mr. Bailey is he was “A Man’s Man”. He was a tough, hard-working and honest man that loved his family dearly. Even though he probably did not know it, but I looked up to him for the sacrifices he made for our country and our community. A true hero in my book!

One funny story about Mr. Bailey.....whenever I would call on the home phone and ask to speak to Greg, if Mr. Bailey would answer, he would always say, “Greg is not here, he’s probably out hoodlum-izing”. It didn’t matter if Greg was at church or at work at UPS, he would always say that Greg was out “hoodlum-izing” and giggle. I was always too afraid to question him, so I quickly said, “Ok, thanks” and hang up the phone and think that myself, “What does that even mean?” Haha

*Mrs. Bailey, Greg and Jeff, you all are in my thoughts and prayers!*

*Kenneth Wells*

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**Kenneth Wells** - December 10, 2017 at 12:41 PM

CT

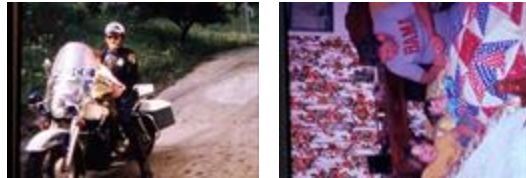
“ Well Mr. Bailey was like my second father growing up! I had the highest respect for him always! A idol, big and strong and could always out work me and Greg! Yes he called us girls if we picked up a broom instead of the 10 pound sledgehammer building pools! He taught me so many trades growing up. And I use everyone of them today! He was hard on me and Greg doing work to make us overall better men in life! I thanked him years back for all he did for me in life and I’m very proud and honored to have him in my life! I would not change a thing! I have thousand of stories of this great man! I will miss him dearly!! But he’s in my soul and I will never forget Mr. Bailey! Even at the age of 47 I called him Mr. Bailey never by his first name! Overall a very kind man that loved his entire family!

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**Chuck Trucks** - December 09, 2017 at 09:29 PM

 Karen  
Bailey

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



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**Karen Bailey** - December 09, 2017 at 05:55 PM

CT

“ I go back many years knowing and respecting H L. We went to High School (Banks) together. I was in the Navy the same time he was. Once we ran into each other in Beirut Lebanon as our ships were in port. We both joined the Birmingham Police Department. Both of us were promoted Lieutenants the same time. Our families spent a lot time together in the early days at the FOP. At a time like this I realize that we (I) don't maintain contact, as we should, on those we respect and love . It is only after they depart that we express our feelings. H. L. And his family were a part of my family. My son and Greg would often work with Hilman and he would outwork them. He would often would say “ come on girls let's get to work,” Greg and my son server together in the 20th SFG (Abn)

*H. L. was a hard dedicated police officer. He held the highest standards and principals required to serve the public. He was a professional and did not put up with mediocrity with those he worked with. He was proud of the Bailey family name. What I admire about Hilman most of all, He loved his wife and family. God Bless Hilman and his family.*

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**Charles Trucks** - December 09, 2017 at 09:49 AM

MH

“ Dearest Dianne & Family,  
I am so sorry to hear of the passing of this wonderful Man. He always treated Mike and I very kind and was very helpful.



My favorite Memory was when I got to be there for the birthing of the Baby Goats. They were so cute and HL let me be a part of that. It was a happy day.

Please know that your Family is in our thoughts and prayers always.

Sincerely,  
Mike & Mona Harrell

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**Mona Harrell** - December 09, 2017 at 06:41 AM


Karen  
Bailey

“ 9 files added to the tribute wall



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**Karen Bailey** - December 08, 2017 at 07:56 PM

 Karen  
Bailey

“ A special memory that I have of my uncle H.L. is when I was around 5 years old.


We were celebrating our nation's 200th anniversary and the year was 1976. Uncle H.L. had all of us kids at his house to enjoy fresh vanilla ice cream that he helped churn. I remember very vividly our family (my father Joe Bailey, my mother Donna, Paw Paw Leo, Granny Virginia, Aunt Di and cousin Greg). Thank you Uncle H.L. for such happy memories!

The picture is of my daughter Ashley with Uncle H.L. and Aunt Diane 2002



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**Karen Bailey** - December 08, 2017 at 07:08 PM

 Karen  
Bailey

*H.L. , Diane and Ashley Diane 2002*

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**Karen Bailey** - December 08, 2017 at 08:37 PM

PD

*HL got me started in Law Enforcement. I will always be thankful to him for that. He was a tough and well respected man. I will be praying that God comforts his family during this time.*

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**Phil Dillon** - December 09, 2017 at 10:29 PM