



BOBBY JOE BRACKNELL SR.

August 18, 2025

Bobby Joe Bracknell, age 83, passed away on Monday, August 18, 2025. He was a loving husband, devoted father, and grandfather. He was born October 14, 1941, to Woodrow Wilson Bracknell and Florette Matthews Bracknell. He grew up in Hueytown, Alabama but had very fond memories of the time he spent with his grandparents in Woodstock, Alabama.

Bobby graduated from Hueytown High School in 1960 and attended apprentice school through Local 92 Steelworkers Union. He worked with American Bridge until he began his career at United States Steel. He retired from US Steel in 2004.

Bobby was preceded in death by his parents, Woodrow (Bud) and Florette Bracknell; his loving wife Sandra Franklin Bracknell; his son Bobby J. Bracknell Jr and son in law Timothy Wilding. He is survived by his children Melinda (Russell) Nix, Brent Jason Bracknell, and Elizabeth Wilding; his grandchildren Anna Nix (Michael) Portera and Peyton Grace Wilding; his sister Vera (Bob) Graves and brother Woodrow (Woody) Bracknell; and many beloved nieces and nephews. Bobby had an incredibly special fur baby, Daisy Belle, that he loved dearly and was a constant companion after the loss of his wife, Sandra.

In addition to his participation in Local 92 Steelworkers Union, Bobby was a member of the Hueytown Lion's Club, Hueytown Civitan Club, Hueytown High School Alumni Association, and the Allemande Club. During his time with the Allemande Club, he and Sandra enjoyed years of square dancing, clogging, round dancing and formed lifelong friendships. Bobby was a member of Hueytown First Methodist Church and enjoyed working in the food pantry. Bobby was a talented leather craftsman and made many leather bracelets for his children and their friends, custom leather purses and belts/toolbelts for friends and coworkers. He loved to travel with his wife, Sandra, and their fur babies in their motorhome throughout the United States. Bobby was a pet lover and had many beloved pets over the years and adored his grandpups.

A private graveside burial was held on Friday, August 22nd at Valhalla Cemetery in Midfield, Alabama.

“Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 In My Father's house are many [a]mansions; if it were not so, [b]I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.” John 14: 1-3

Tribute Wall

LB

“ My life has intertwined with the Bracknell family for many years, and I was so sad to hear from Woody of Bobby’s passing. I know he is finally reunited with Sandra, and they are both together in heaven! Bobby was, as his obituary stated, a fine man! He had a way of looking at you when he spoke and a knack for asking just the right questions to make you feel interesting and important! I know Melinda remembers me and I am hopeful that Brent and Beth remember me as well. I enjoyed babysitting you all and remember how fortunate I was to be able to travel with your family on ‘square dance’ vacations and sometimes to their parties. One of my fondest memories was of North Carolina and being with you all at the changing of summer to fall. We rocked in big rocking chairs on a creaky old porch while Bobby and Sandra square danced inside. You guys were very content and such good children! If my sister, Brenda was alive, she would be sad as well. She always loved Bobby and Sandra so much.
Please know I am thinking of you all and you have my heart felt condolences! Linda Gilbert Bales

Linda Bales - August 25, 2025 at 05:35 PM