



## Alfred Bruce Ball

August 2, 1933 - May 30, 2015

Al Ball, 81 of Signal Mountain, fought the good fight, kept the faith and won his place at the feet of Jesus in his heavenly home, Saturday, May 30, 2015 after a brief illness of a year and a half.

He was the son of Bruce and Elsie Ball of Knoxville, TN. He was born August 2, 1933. He attended Knoxville Schools, in the Army from 1954-1956 and graduated from Carson-Newman College in 1959. He married Tweetie R. Holder of Pickens, SC the day after his college graduation. This August 22 would have been their 56th year of marriage.

After graduating from Carson-Newman, he was pitching coach for one year at Carson-Newman. He taught and coached at schools in Jefferson City, TN, Lakeland, FL, and 20 years at Signal Mountain Junior High School. He taught and coached 8 years at Red Bank High School. He coached football, basketball, baseball and taught PE at the Junior High. At Red Bank High School he taught American History and coached boy's basketball and golf.

He is survived by his wife, Tweetie, of 55 years, his son, Brad (Janice) Ball of Dublin, GA, and daughter, Nikki Lynn Ball of Signal Mountain and loveable pet Libby.

His Celebration of Life Service will be held at Signal Mountain Baptist Church, 939 Ridgeway Ave, Signal Mountain at 3:00 pm Monday June 1, 2015. There will be no visitation. Private burial is at Chattanooga National Cemetery.

"Al Ball, a former Class D League pro baseball pitcher for Knoxville Smokies, has reached out and touched thousands of lives on Signal Mountain whether he was cracking the whip in gym class, paddling some misguided soul for 'misbehaving', teaching boys and girls the rudiments of football, basketball and baseball; 'Skimming somebody at the golf course or directing the communities summer recreation program.'" (Adapted from article by Ward Gossett, sports writer, February 8, 1981.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to a discipleship book being written by his son, Brad Ball, to be published by the start of 2016 and dedicated to his father, Al Ball. Make donations payable to Signal Mountain Baptist Church, 939 Ridgeway Ave, Signal Mountain, TN 37377.

Please share your memories at [www.lanefh.com](http://www.lanefh.com). Arrangements by Lane Funeral Home, 601 Ashland Terrace. 423-877-3524

# Cemetery

**Chattanooga National Cemetery**  
1200 Bailey Ave  
Chattanooga, TN, 37404

# Events

<b>JUN 2</b>	<b>Service</b>	03:00PM
	Signal Mountain Baptist Church 939 Ridgeway Avenue, Signal Mountain, TN, US, 37377	

# Comments

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“ Of course, as a graduate of Signal Mtn Jr High, I remember Mr. Ball well. But, what I will remember most is that he made a visit to my father, Bob Goodrich, in his final days while he grieved the passing of my mother and awaited his final call which came a few short weeks later. Although they may not have seen "eye to eye" in that last visit, it touched my father so much. Even when his friends that he was closest to failed to visit, Mr. Ball was there. Thank you for your time and caring.

Jeanie Goodrich

**Jeanie Goodrich** - Yesterday at 08:56 PM

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“ Tweetie,

Bud and I just read in the Times-Free Press about Al. just wanted you and your family to know that you are in our thoughts and prayers.

**Joyce and Bud Shay** - Yesterday at 05:59 PM

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“ Oh, so many memories! Coach Ball was my first coach in anything (no kid's programs that started when you were 4 back then). He taught me about teamwork, a team 'family', respect for others, and a love for basketball. The man had amazing patience for a bunch of clutzy, and often silly junior high girls. He coached my brother and sister as well and will always be remember by our family as a wonderful man. Our condolences to the family,  
Kathy Whitaker Williams

**Kathy Whitaker Williams** - June 01 at 02:10 PM

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“ Coach Al Ball was a great guy. I never played for him but I played against his teams many times. he was a class person. He will be missed by everyone that had the privilege to know him. Vance Rose, Soddy Daisy, Tn

**Vance Rose** - June 01 at 01:15 PM

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“ We never know how much a person touches the lives of others until he leaves this earth and at that point, people reflect on how this individual made a mark on life. Al Ball truly did leave a mark on life for all of us. I know personally that Al Ball truly touched the lives of four boys on Signal Mountain. Mr. Ball either taught or coached the Tritapoe Boys at Signal Mountain Junior High and Red Bank High School over a span of 16 years. He touched our lives more than he will ever know. Mr. Ball has always been the subject of many discussions, as we have grown older and laugh at the times Mr. Ball coached us or even taught us with the “Board of Education”. Thank you Coach Ball and God Bless You until we meet again.

Mike Tritapoe

Michael Tritapoe - June 01 at 10:25 AM

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“ We are so sorry to hear the news of Coach Ball. It breaks my heart. My fondest memories of this great man (other than learning the definition of "you flinched") was seeing him almost drive the green on #5 Signal Mtn. CC. Our heart goes out to the family. Thank you Coach.

Allen & Judy Hanks Fethe  
Knoxville TN

Allen Fethe - June 01 at 09:21 AM

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“ Bro. Brad & Janice,  
Thinking of you and your family as you lay your father to rest today.  
I see where he touched thousands of girls and boys, and men & women as he walked the halls of our schools. May God continue to bless you as you strive to make a difference in the halls of our greatest institution, the Church!

Your fellow servant in Christ,

Ralph & Sue Page  
Adrian, Ga.

Ralph Page - June 01 at 08:35 AM

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“ I had Coach Ball at Signal Mountain Junior High along with my sister and two brothers....Coach called each one of us "Cash Register".....He was one of our favorite teachers of all times! Both of my brothers had Coach for their football years. We all had him for P.E. I know that he will be dearly missed. May God comfort his family with love, peace and understanding during this very hard time of grieving.

Sincerely, Bette Gaines Register Rogers ( siblings: Vicki Lynn Register Eldredge, Danny Wyman Register and Levon Calvin Register II)



**Bette Register Rogers** - June 01 at 07:31 AM

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“ Coach Ball was a Great Coach, friend and neighbor. Sincere condolences to his family. Look forward to shooting a few hoops with him in heaven.

**Johnny Day** - June 01 at 05:22 AM

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“ Coach Ball will always be remembered. I will never forget the briar patch. If we could all touch as many lives as this man has. This world would be such a better place. My prayers and thoughts are with the family.

**tommy harris** - May 31 at 10:58 PM

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“ I remember coach Ball from SMJH! He was always nice to me, because of him, I learned how to play chess...he didn't allow talking during Wednesday study hall, so I brought a chess board and learned how to play chess against Mike Allen. Also, I must confess, one time I saw Coach on the golf course and right as he swung the club, I honked my horn...I thought it was hysterical, but I'm sure after his horrible shot, he was not amused! Now he knows it was me...guess I'll have to explain myself when I get to heaven. Hope he forgives me, rest in peace Coach Ball! Sincerely, Richard Merritt



**Richard Merritt** - May 31 at 10:18 PM

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“ I have so many fond memories of Coach Ball! I am praying for your family...he was a good man! Blessings!!

**Stacie Hensley Meilstrups** - May 31 at 09:10 PM

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“ The Thatcher family sends caring thoughts your way! We are thinking about you all and remembering Coach Ball.... Catherine, Elizabeth, Lewis, Pat and Carolyn

**Elizabeth Bryant** - May 31 at 08:47 PM

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“ Coach Ball was paramount in our youth. Strict ,yet convicted in his beliefs. Sending prayers to the family. We feel as if a part of our youth is gone.

**signal mountain kid** - May 31 at 07:20 PM

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“ Thinking of everyone.



**Gene Land** - May 31 at 07:18 PM