



## Mr. John Wilson Ridgeway, Jr.

February 12, 1990 - May 5, 2024

John Wilson Ridgeway, Jr., passed away on May 5, 2024, in Brandon, Mississippi. Born to J.W. Ridgeway, Sr. and Dora Ridgeway (née Everett) on February 12, 1990, in Laurel, Mississippi, John was a beloved husband, son, brother, uncle, and friend. John was known throughout his 34 years for his larger than life personality.

John grew up in the Currie Settlement of Ellisville, Mississippi. He spent his childhood in the company of his sister, Yarmesia Everett, forging a sibling bond like none other. John made lifelong friends throughout his school years. His outgoing personality earned peer recognition as the first African-American to hold the Mr. South Jones High School title. After graduating from South Jones with honors in 2008, John pursued his passion for building and business at the University of Mississippi, earning a dual degree in Corporate Managerial Finance and Real Estate Analysis. His academic pursuits translated into robust professional licensures, including a real estate brokerage license and commercial/residential general contractor license with accreditation across Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama. John remained true to his roots and dedicated his professional career to continuing his father's legacy with John W. Ridgeway Contractors, LLC | Ridgeway Homes. In 2017, John's hard work landed him in the top 10 of The Mississippi Business Journal's Top 50 under 40. He ultimately grew the company to one of the largest minority-owned homebuilding companies in Mississippi. From fetching

water on job sites as a little boy to becoming the Chief Operating Officer, John worked tirelessly to take Ridgeway Homes to new heights and took pride in the community recognition the company received throughout South Central Mississippi.

John began his religious foundation at Immaculate Conception Catholic school at three years old, where he met lifelong friends. He accepted Christ at an early age at New Hope Baptist Church in Ellisville, Mississippi. He often remarked that the only explanation for his life's path was that God always took care of him. John joined Word of Life Church of Flowood, Mississippi in 2018, shortly after proposing to the love of his life.

In 2019, John married Shaunacey Ridgeway (née Hunter) in a fairytale wedding in New Orleans, Louisiana. John and Shaunacey settled in Brandon, Mississippi, with their two corgis, Welshi and Winston. Together, they created a home that was a haven for love and laughter. John cherished his role as a husband and corgi dad above all others.

The life of the party and never one to pass up a good time, John always enjoyed spending time with old and new friends alike. He truly lived out his life by dancing like no one was watching. John's spontaneity and zest for life could only be matched by his equal appreciation for the quiet of everyday mundanities.

John's memory will be honored and kept alive by his devoted wife, Shaunacey; loving parents, J.W. and Dora; doting siblings, Yarmesia Everett (Monoletto), Ricky Ridgeway, Shirley Kelly, Belinda Goins (Lewis), Ronald Ridgeway (Kellia), Vanassa Wilson (Alfonso), Judy Ridgeway, and Justin Ridgeway; his adoring niece and nephew, Dalton Keys and Meagan Keys; and a host of treasured friends and family.

# Cemetery Details

## Paradise Gardens Memorial Cemetery

745 Hwy 468  
Brandon, MS 39042

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 17.** 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Dean Memorial Funeral Home  
745 Highway 468  
Brandon, MS 39042  
(601) 825-3884  
<https://deanmemorialfuneralhome.com/>

## Service

**MAY 18.** 11:00 AM (CT)

Word Of Life Church  
5401 Lakeland Dr.  
Flowood, MS 39232

# Tribute Wall



“ Dean Memorial Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. John Wilson Ridgeway, Jr.



Dean Memorial Funeral Home - May 16, 2024 at 11:14 PM

AC

*My deepest condolence to my cousin Sister Shauncey Hunter Ridgeway & Family. Praying for yall Strength to endure this chapter called Death. Angelite Caldwell.*

Angelite Caldwell - May 18, 2024 at 10:59 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. John Wilson Ridgeway, Jr..



May 17, 2024 at 04:19 PM

LH

“ Lillian Hunt planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. John Wilson Ridgeway, Jr..

Lillian Hunt - May 17, 2024 at 04:19 PM

NM

“ *New Hope Women Mission purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. John Wilson Ridgeway, Jr..*



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**New Hope Women Mission** - May 17, 2024 at 02:01 PM

NM

“ *New Hope Women Mission planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. John Wilson Ridgeway, Jr..*

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**New Hope Women Mission** - May 17, 2024 at 02:01 PM

RA

“ *Rodney & Nikki Ashford purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Mr. John Wilson Ridgeway, Jr..*



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**Rodney & Nikki Ashford** - May 17, 2024 at 10:39 AM

TF

“ *The Westons (Todd and family) purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. John Wilson Ridgeway, Jr..*



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**The Westons (Todd and family)** - May 16, 2024 at 09:52 PM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. John Wilson Ridgeway, Jr..*



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May 16, 2024 at 11:56 AM



“ *The Evans planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. John Wilson Ridgeway, Jr..*

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**The Evans** - May 16, 2024 at 11:56 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. John Wilson Ridgeway, Jr..*



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May 13, 2024 at 10:44 PM



“ *Brandi Chancellor + Dwayne Lee purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. John Wilson Ridgeway, Jr..*



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**Brandi Chancellor + Dwayne Lee** - May 13, 2024 at 10:32 AM

MC

“ Marsh Children purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mr. John Wilson Ridgeway, Jr..



Marsh Children - May 13, 2024 at 05:17 AM

RF

“ Rosie Marie Sawyers and Family purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Mr. John Wilson Ridgeway, Jr..



Rosie Marie Sawyers and Family - May 11, 2024 at 02:43 PM

RF

“ Rosie Marie Sawyers and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. John Wilson Ridgeway, Jr..

Rosie Marie Sawyers and Family - May 11, 2024 at 02:43 PM

BM

“ Brenda McGrew-Mitchell lit a candle in memory of John Ridgeway,



Brenda McGrew-Mitchell - May 09, 2024 at 12:46 PM

EP

“ *ELLA PORTER lit a candle in memory of John Ridgeway,*



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**ELLA PORTER** - May 08, 2024 at 11:58 PM



“ *Prayers for the family*



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**A'smile Alexander** - May 08, 2024 at 06:05 PM

EA

“ *Eddie Ainsworth lit a candle in memory of John Ridgeway,*



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**Eddie Ainsworth** - May 07, 2024 at 09:27 PM

EP

*To the wife and parents and the rest of the family you have me and my family deepest condolences 🌸*

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**ELLA PORTER** - May 08, 2024 at 01:54 PM