



Willie Merchant Padget, Jr.

December 4, 1946 - September 23, 2025

Saluda, SC

Willie Merchant Padget, Jr.

Willie Merchant Padget, Jr., 78, passed away Tuesday, September 23, 2025 at Self Regional Healthcare in Greenwood.

Born in Saluda County and the son of the late Willie Merchant Padget, Sr. and Milwee McGee Padget Ouzts, he was the husband of Sandra Gardner Padget. Mr. Padget was retired from Auto Body Repair and was a member of Red Bank Baptist Church. He had a deep love for hunting, farming, and gardening.

Surviving in addition to his wife of 55 years are two daughters, Jamie Butler (Dean) of Ninety Six and MeriAn Chomic (Nicholas) of Green Cove Springs, FL, a sister, JoAnn Renard (Jeff) of Manassas, VA, a brother-in-law, Charles Gardner of Saluda, a sister-in-law, Donna Rushton (Kenneth) of Saluda, three grandchildren, Jordan Butler (Joseph Johnson), AnaBelle Chomic and William Chomic and several nieces and nephews.

Mr. Padget was preceded in death by his stepfather, Barney Ouzts and a sister-in-law, Celia Gardner.

A graveside service will be held 5 p.m., Thursday, September 25, 2025 at Travis Park Cemetery with Rev. Jonathan Deal officiating. The family will receive friends following the service at the grave.

Memorials may be made to Red Bank Baptist Church, 309 E. Church Street, Saluda, SC 29138.

Cemetery Details

Travis Park Cemetery

Travis Avenue
Saluda, SC

Previous Events

Graveside Service

SEP 25. 5:00 PM (ET)

Travis Park Cemetery
Travis Avenue
Saluda, SC

visitation following graveside service

SEP 25 (ET)

Travis Park Cemetery
Travis Avenue
Saluda, SC

Tribute Wall

CS

“ *Sandra, Jamie, MeriAn and family I'm so sorry for your loss. Prayers are lifted for your peace and comfort.* ”

chrystal scott - October 01, 2025 at 07:08 AM

CS

“ *chrystal scott lit a candle in memory of Willie Padget,* ”



chrystal scott - October 01, 2025 at 07:05 AM

BM

“ *Bill Morse lit a candle in memory of Willie Padget,* ”



Bill Morse - September 30, 2025 at 06:06 PM

LG

“ *Our heartfelt condolences, thoughts and prayers are with you.* ”



Lynn Gunter - September 25, 2025 at 01:24 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Willie Merchant Padget, Jr..

September 25, 2025 at 09:26 AM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Willie Merchant Padget, Jr..



September 25, 2025 at 09:26 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Willie Merchant Padget, Jr..



September 25, 2025 at 09:05 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Willie Merchant Padget, Jr..



September 25, 2025 at 06:14 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Willie Merchant Padget, Jr..

September 25, 2025 at 06:14 AM

CA

“ Sandra, I am so sorry to hear of the passing Merchant. Loved the times we all spent together at the lake. Prayers for you.

Carol - September 24, 2025 at 10:03 PM

RM

“ Randy M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Willie Merchant Padget, Jr..

Randy M. - September 24, 2025 at 09:11 PM

MS

“ MaryAnne Smith lit a candle in memory of Willie Padget,



MaryAnne Smith - September 24, 2025 at 05:39 PM

JY

“ Sending prayers and my condolences to Mrs Sandra and family. So very sorry for your loss.



Josephine Young - September 24, 2025 at 05:36 PM

GC

“ Merchant was a good man and friend to me. Blessings to Sandra and girls. He will be missed very greatly by all.

Gene Cason - September 24, 2025 at 12:35 PM

SS

“ *SAFEbuilt SC purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Willie Merchant Padget, Jr..*



SAFEbuilt SC - September 24, 2025 at 11:40 AM

WG

“ *William Naomi & Brenda Goodman lit a candle in memory of Willie Padget,*



William Naomi & Brenda Goodman - September 24, 2025 at 10:59 AM

TC

“ *The Saluda County CTC purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Willie Merchant Padget, Jr..*



The Saluda County CTC - September 24, 2025 at 10:53 AM

SW

“ *Merchant was a special man. Merchant was my bus driver when I was in first grade. Always kind. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. He will be missed by all*

Susan Wicker - September 24, 2025 at 10:44 AM

BM

“ Bonnie Morelock lit a candle in memory of Willie Padget,



Bonnie Morelock - September 24, 2025 at 09:19 AM

SU

“ Merchant was always so kind to me. I loved talking gardening with him and he was always quick to share his wisdom with me along with a bag of produce. He will be greatly missed!

Suzannah - September 24, 2025 at 08:43 AM

TM

“ The Saluda County Multi-Complex planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Willie Merchant Padget, Jr..

The Saluda County Multi-Complex - September 24, 2025 at 08:41 AM

TM

“ The Saluda County Multi-Complex purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Willie Merchant Padget, Jr..



The Saluda County Multi-Complex - September 24, 2025 at 08:41 AM

TM

“ *MERCHANT WAS A GREAT GUY. HE TAUGHT ME A LOT ABOUT PAINTING CARS TO PERFECTION. HEY GAVE ME GREAT ADVICE AND WAS ALWAYS KIND TO ME. HE WILL BE TRULY MISSED. MY PRAYERS GO OUT TO THE FAMILY.*

Terry McGrath - September 23, 2025 at 11:27 PM

RM

Merchant, was a good guy in high school and I'm sure this lasted all of his life. I pray for his Family over his loss and wish them God's Blessings during this very sad occasion. Randy Meredith

Randy Meredith - September 24, 2025 at 09:05 PM