



Darren Allen Bell

October 20, 2025

It is with deep sadness that we announce the unexpected passing of Darren Allen Bell on October 20th, 2025.

Darren, 46, of Portsmouth, Virginia, grew up in the Western Branch area. He was the youngest of two sons of Carol and Donald Bell, and the younger brother of Michael Bell.

His childhood was full of neighborhood sports, bike rides that lasted until the streetlights came on, and music drifting from someone's porch. Those carefree days shaped Darren into the loyal, funny, and fun-loving man everyone who knew him came to love.

As an adult, Darren's contagious laugh and fierce competitive spirit were impossible to miss. He loved spending time at the beach, swinging a bat or a pickleball paddle, swapping stories with friends, listening to music or a podcast, watching a standup comedy routine, or simply relaxing with a cold drink in hand alongside his daughters and closest friends. Those moments captured Darren perfectly: someone who could make every day feel brighter, every conversation a little funnier, and every gathering unforgettable. Darren never shied away from any conversation, whether it was a joke or a debate; one of his many attributes was being a people person.

One of Darren's proudest roles in life was being a father. He pushed his daughters to work hard, aim high, and never settle for less than their best. He was their biggest fan, their guide, their safe harbor, and the joy he found in them was evident to everyone around him.

Over the years, Darren maintained a close relationship with his childhood friends, who became a second family to him and his daughters.

Darren is survived by his mother, Carolyn Bell; his brother, Michael Bell; and his daughters, Laura and Riley Bell. Darren will be deeply missed by all who loved him, but his laughter, lessons, and love will live on in the hearts of everyone who knew him.

A funeral service to celebrate his life will be held at 11 am. Wednesday, October 29, 2025, at Loving Funeral Home with committal to follow at St. Luke's Church Cemetery. The family will receive friends in the funeral home on Tuesday evening from 5-6:30 pm.

Cemetery Details

Graveside-St. Luke's Cemetery

14477 Benn's Church Boulevard
Smithfield, VA

Previous Events

A Visitation Celebrating His Life

OCT **28**. 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM (ET)

Loving Funeral Home Churchland Chapel
3225 Academy Ave
Portsmouth, VA 23703

Funeral Service

OCT **29**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Loving Funeral Home Churchland Chapel
3225 Academy Ave
Portsmouth, VA 23703

Tribute Wall

LS

“ My guy...my brother...the guy that probably understood me and was on the same page with each other more than anyone in my life.....it's taken me this long to get the strength and ability to write this.....I miss you ever day man you were the best part of me and always felt like we were connected on a way that most never experience. We would at times sit there for hours listening to music and not even speak and it was all good - didn't have to speak you knew where I was and i knew where you were. The memories laughing together in our good times and crying and holding each other in our toughest times man you are irreplaceable and the toll this has taken on my mind my body and my nervous system to take this long to write this tells you how hard it was and it is to deal with losing my best friend. Too many memories to write but they play in my head almost daily. I love you man - miss you more than you can imagine and I hope you are watching but I know you are....thanks for the signs - til we meet again my brother ❤️ with all my love DBell forever and always 😭💔

Lynwood Shackelford - May 25 at 10:59 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to the entire Bell family. Upon hearing this news, I immediately recalled that great Darren Bell smile that I used to see back in the old Food Lion days when me, Darren, Michael Ray, and the rest of the crew were all working and hanging out together. Darren had a great sense of humor and the laughs we shared many years ago now echo in my head and bring a smile to me even in this tough moment. He is and will always be missed by all that knew and loved him.
Condolences, The Galbreath Family

SeanandTerri Galbreath - October 29, 2025 at 12:38 PM

LE

“ *My sincere condolences to the Bell family as Darren will be sorely missed by all and he left us way too early. He was one of my brother Lynwood’s closest friends since childhood and had an infectious smile that would light up a room. I have so many awesome memories of Darren growing up including playing little league with my brother, all of us going out to the softball field to hit or playing on my dad’s church team, or just hanging out in the shack in our backyard. He was just a blast to be around and as his obituary stated so accurately he was just a people person.*

To his mom, brother, and daughters I am so sorry for your loss. Rest in peace Darren, you, me, my dad and brother and all your amazing friends and family will meet up again one day in heaven and have an amazing party!

Lee - October 29, 2025 at 09:38 AM

LM

Our family sends our condolences and prayers to all Bell family members. We are in shock after all you guys have been thru. May GOD bless and bestow his grace on each of you. V/R The Moran Family

Lynn Moran - November 01, 2025 at 12:42 PM

LS

“ *Linda Shackelford purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Darren Allen Bell.*



Linda Shackelford - October 28, 2025 at 12:06 PM

BB

“ *Bernie and Kathy Brennan planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Darren Allen Bell.*

Bernie and Kathy Brennan - October 28, 2025 at 09:16 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Darren Allen Bell.*



October 28, 2025 at 09:16 AM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Darren Allen Bell.*



October 28, 2025 at 08:00 AM

BW

“ *Brian, Jenn, and Drew Williams purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Darren Allen Bell.*



Brian, Jenn, and Drew Williams - October 28, 2025 at 07:10 AM

BW

“ Brian, Jenn, and Drew Williams planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Darren Allen Bell.

Brian, Jenn, and Drew Williams - October 28, 2025 at 07:10 AM

CA

“ Cathy A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Darren Allen Bell.

Cathy A. - October 28, 2025 at 05:56 AM

TE

“ I am so very sorry for your loss. Your family and Darren's kids are in our thoughts and prayers. I will always remember Darren as one of my brother's best friends growing up, who brought so much joy to everyone whose path he crossed. God bless you all during this difficult time.

Terri - October 27, 2025 at 11:24 PM

TF

“ Terri Coyne and family purchased the Forever Our Angel Bouquet for the family of Darren Allen Bell.



Terri Coyne and family - October 27, 2025 at 11:16 PM

HM

“ Heather M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Darren Allen Bell.

Heather M. - October 27, 2025 at 09:54 PM

LD

“ Love Doug, Michelle, Quinn & Dillon purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Darren Allen Bell.



Love Doug, Michelle, Quinn & Dillon - October 27, 2025 at 08:37 PM

LD

“ Love Doug, Michelle, Quinn & Dillon planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Darren Allen Bell.

Love Doug, Michelle, Quinn & Dillon - October 27, 2025 at 08:37 PM

JB

“ There is absolutely nothing in the world that I can ever say to convey the sadness for your loss...As I listened to Darren speak last year...I could see clearly he lived life to the fullest with a sparkle in his eye...He will be truly missed....It is my with my sincerest condolences for the loss of such a special young man...God bless you all

Jackie Bell - October 27, 2025 at 07:40 PM

T)

“ Terri Hillegas (Bryces mom) purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Darren Allen Bell.



Terri Hillegas (Bryces mom) - October 27, 2025 at 07:40 PM

LF

“ Love, The Powers Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Darren Allen Bell.

Love, The Powers Family - October 27, 2025 at 06:22 PM

LF

“ Love, The Powers Family purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Darren Allen Bell.



Love, The Powers Family - October 27, 2025 at 06:22 PM

RS

“ Rick Sherwood planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Darren Allen Bell.

Rick Sherwood - October 27, 2025 at 06:01 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Darren Allen Bell.



October 27, 2025 at 06:01 PM

BH

“ Bryce hillegas purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Darren Allen Bell.



Bryce hillegas - October 27, 2025 at 05:21 PM

A&

“ Annette Brossette &David planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Darren Allen Bell.

Annette Brossette &David - October 27, 2025 at 04:17 PM

A&

“ Annette Brossette &David purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Darren Allen Bell.



Annette Brossette &David - October 27, 2025 at 04:17 PM

MM

“ I can't believe this, and my prayers are being said for all. May he rest in peace.

Marylou McAlpine

Marylou McAlpine - October 27, 2025 at 04:13 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Darren Allen Bell.



October 27, 2025 at 03:23 PM

SC

“ *Sandy C. purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Darren Allen Bell.*



Sandy C. - October 27, 2025 at 03:00 PM

TC

“ *Team 269, Larry ,Tommy H.& Cristine purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Darren Allen Bell.*



Team 269, Larry ,Tommy H.& Cristine - October 27, 2025 at 02:55 PM

LF

“ *LARRY MILLER AND THE MONDELEZ FAMILY purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Darren Allen Bell.*



LARRY MILLER AND THE MONDELEZ FAMILY - October 27, 2025 at 02:52 PM

JE

“ There are no words to accurately describe the tremendous loss for your family. Darren was more than just a co-worker. Darren was a friend of mine that I never had a dull moment with. He could and would talk about everything that crossed his mind. Riley and Laura, you may not know me , but I know all about you. Your dad loved you both more than anything and was beyond proud of the people you are and what you are accomplishing in life. Darren will always be a once in a lifetime friend and I’m honored to have been one of his.

Jennifer - October 27, 2025 at 02:45 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Darren Allen Bell.



October 27, 2025 at 02:34 PM

TF

“ Tyler Capps & Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Darren Allen Bell.

Tyler Capps & Family - October 27, 2025 at 02:34 PM