



## S. Wayne Bingham

October 20, 2020

S. Wayne Bingham, 91, peacefully passed on Tuesday, 10/20/2020.

Surviving to cherish his memory are his wife of 65 years, Ruby, three children and their spouses, six grandchildren and three spouses, two great granddaughters, six of his seven brothers and sisters, and numerous nieces and nephews, all who were very special to him.

He was born and raised on a dairy farm in Cleveland County, North Carolina where he learned the value of hard work and perseverance. He earned his bachelors and masters degrees from North Carolina State University and his doctorate from Louisiana State University. In 1961, Wayne and Ruby moved their home to Blacksburg, VA where he worked for 35 years as a Virginia Tech professor in plant physiology and weed science. He was a true Hokie at heart and enjoyed attending the football games every year since the stadium opened.

During his tenure at VT, he was an active member of numerous professional organizations including the International Turfgrass Society and received numerous awards for his research on turf weed control, grass growth regulators, weed control on rights-of-way, and physiology and control of specific weeds in Virginia and the Northeast. He developed a strong turfgrass weed control program which addressed the turfgrass industry needs and communicated results through a strong extension program. In 1991, he received several awards: the Northeastern Weed Science Society Outstanding Applied Research Award for turf, ornamentals and vegetation

management; the Virginia Turfgrass Council R.D. Cake Memorial Award for outstanding contributions to the turfgrass industry; the Society Award from the International Turfgrass Society; and was named fellow by the Weed Science Society of America for his sustained quality programs.

He loved the outdoors, gardening, golfing, hunting and fishing. He was a true family man who enjoyed vacationing with family and friends. He was an active member of the Blacksburg Lion's Club and the Blacksburg United Methodist Church.

A private graveside service will be held at Westview Cemetery in Blacksburg Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg. You can share a favorite memory of Wayne on the funeral home's website at [www.mccoymfuneralhome.com](http://www.mccoymfuneralhome.com).

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Blacksburg United Methodist Church, 111 Church St SE, Blacksburg, VA 24060 or a charity of your choice. Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

# Tribute Wall

LL

“ So many lovely memories -- cookouts, playing pool, discussions about the best type of green beans to grow, and, of course, VA Tech. I am so sorry to learn of Wayne's passing. Such a generous and dear man. My heartfelt sympathy to Ruby and family. Peace be with you.



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**Linda Lambert** - October 24, 2020 at 12:27 AM

DM

“ Wayne was a dear friend to our family. We shared many good times and good travels. We wish we could have been with you today. We grieve with you and send our love to all. Will and Doris

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**Doris McElfresh** - October 23, 2020 at 08:43 PM

MC

“ I was Dr. Bingham's last graduate student. He and the PPWS program taught me more than any other school I attended. Thanks for the opportunity you gave me Dr. Bingham! Rest In Peace! Sincerely, Dr. Mark Andrew Czarnota

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**Mark Czarnota** - October 23, 2020 at 01:39 PM

ST

“ Uncle Wayne was always so very kind and a lot of fun! I have lots of memories of him from the family reunions, he always seem very interested in our lives. If memory serves me right, one year after the July 4th reunion, him and Aunt Ruby went with us to watch the fireworks at the Shelby Mall. They both have always made me feel so special. So sorry for your loss and we are praying for you guys!

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**Sherri Bingham Tipton** - October 23, 2020 at 11:04 AM

RB

“ I am so sorry for your loss..my thoughts and prayers are with you all. 💖

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**Robin Bingham** - October 23, 2020 at 10:45 AM

BR

“ I met Dr Bingham as an undergraduate returning to finish school in my 30s - very knowledgeable and personable. Then was fortunate to work with him later on as the local Ag Extension agent. Even after Wayne retired we'd run into each other somewhere and chat about family, turfgrass, whatever. A truly wonderful person - so glad to have had the privilege to know him.

*My thoughts & prayers to his family.  
Barry Robinson*

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**Barry Robinson** - October 23, 2020 at 10:33 AM

JF

“ Dear Ruby,  
I was so sorry to hear the news about Wayne. I have such great memories of all the faculty that I worked with, including Wayne, from the Plant Pathology, Physiology and Weed Science era. It was always good to see Wayne and you at departmental events, even after he retired - he made the effort to join us. Wayne always had that smile that would make anyone smile. In my thoughts and Prayers. Judy Fielder (formerly PPWS).

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**Judy Fielder** - October 23, 2020 at 08:25 AM

MT

“ I will always remember Uncle Wayne and Aunt Ruby's wedding anniversary because their wedding was on my birthday at the Bingham home place. Uncle Wayne was a good hunter. I remember his tales of calling in turkeys and think he would hunt with a bow and arrow early in the hunting season. I especially remember his accuracy with my homemade sling shot made by Uncle Billy using a dogwood branch, straps of a rubber tire, and the tongue of an old shoe. Uncle Wayne demonstrated his accuracy hitting targets several yards away with round stones gathered on a hill near the sawmill. All the Bingham's were quite an inspiration to me growing up in the family as the oldest grandson. Keeping the family in prayers as they celebrate the life of Wayne Bingham.

Max Treece

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Max Treece - October 23, 2020 at 06:30 AM

GB

I remember that sling shot or another one made of the same materials.

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Greg Bingham - October 26, 2020 at 11:09 AM



“ Healing Tears - Blue and White was purchased for the family of S. Wayne Bingham.



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October 22, 2020 at 10:24 PM



“ *White Sympathy Standing Spray was purchased for the family of S. Wayne Bingham.*



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October 22, 2020 at 03:08 PM



“ *I was only a kid and remember hunting quail with dad, uncle Wayne, and their uncle Warren. I will never forget the time we flushed a covey of quail and they flew in all directions away from us. Uncle Wayne shot in one direction and quickly turned 180° in the opposite direction and shot again taking both birds all while I was still trying to pick a target 🎯🎯🎯. He was quite the sportsman. I love y'all and will be keeping you in my thoughts and prayers!*

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**Dean Bingham** - October 22, 2020 at 03:02 PM