

**Clint Arthur Thurman**



69, a resident of Prairie Grove, Arkansas, went to be with his Lord, April 3, 2008 at the Circle of Life Earlene Howard Hospice home in Springdale, Arkansas. He was born December 7, 1938 at Cincinnati, Arkansas, the son of John D. and Ova E. Kirby Thurman.

He was preceded in death by one daughter, Brenda Kay Thurman; his parents; two brothers, Bill Thurman and Clifford Thurman; one great granddaughter Anna Renae Garrett.

Survivors include one son, Arthur Thurman and wife Sherlyn of Fayetteville, Arkansas; one daughter, Katheryn Thompson and husband Robert of Siloam Springs, Arkansas; two brothers, Richard Thurman of Pasadena, Texas and Raymond Thurman of Nashville, Tennessee; one sister, Anna Belle Walker of Gentry, Arkansas; four grandsons, Jason Garrett, Rocky Thompson, Cody Thurman, and Kyler Thurman; five great grandchildren, Haley Garrett, Makenzie Garrett, Tesla Thompson, Ashton Lockhart, and Gauge Thompson.



**APPRECIATION**

On behalf of the Thurman family, we wish to express their gratitude for your many acts of kindness, and for your attendance at the funeral service.

**Luginbuel Funeral Home  
Prairie Grove, Arkansas**

online guest book, visit [www.luginbuel.com](http://www.luginbuel.com)



**Clint Thurman**

December 7, 1938 - April 3, 2008

## Dad's (Clint Thurman's) Eulogy - "Safe at Home"

April 8, 2008

Arthur Thurman

### Read Obituary

On behalf of the family, we want to thank you for taking time to come celebrate Dad's life.

We choose to celebrate today and have much to be thankful

I have several funny family stories about Dad to share & I am certain you may have a few of your own.

As many of you know, One of Dad's interests was baseball

Baseball provided him great pleasure in his youth during otherwise very hard times growing up on the farm

Because of his great interest in baseball, I have elected to celebrate his life with this Eulogy which I would title "**Safe at Home**"

Life has many similarities to Baseball

My son reminded me yesterday that Baseball is included in the Bible.

Genesis 1:1 states "In the BIG INNING God created the heavens and the earth".

We have many different phases and cycles in life much as the Baseball diamond has different positions and bases.

Some complete the base paths of life quickly while others it takes a bit longer

Imagine for a moment, Dad's life divided along the base paths.

Growing up /Youth as First Base; Marriage/Raising a Family/Working Years as Second Base; The Papa Clint/Retirement Era - Third base; and lastly the Going Home years

### Growing up/Youth:

Growing up in the Cincinnati/Weddington area, Dad attended Rennie and Cincinnati school before consolidation to Siloam for High School

He often told the story of having enough kids to field 4 baseball teams in the Cincinnati community.

The kids were supported their teacher, Mr. Edens, who proclaimed that if anyone hit the ball far enough to break the school house windows, he would pay for the glass and help with the repairs

One faithful day with the bases loaded, Dad came to bat facing Juan Barnes pitching. Juan had no intentions of throwing Dad anything to hit, so he threw short of the plate only to see the ball hit the dirt, bounce into the strike zone, and be promptly blasted the ball over the school house.

Baseball continued into High School as traveling teams routinely played those from other towns Dad fondly remembered pitching and playing as a Sophomore when the Seniors sat on the bench He also recalled playing with University players at the Fairgrounds in Fayetteville.

Times were tough on the farm, but according to our Aunt Anna Belle, Dad managed to find a few dollars to court our mother with Banana Splits from the Dairy Queen at school lunch time

I think she still likes Banana Splits, don't you Mom?

**Marriage/Raising a Family/Working Years:**

As Dad rounded 1st base of life, he quit school and traveled to Fayetteville to help support the family on the farm, first working as a produce stocker at IGA, and later Shipley Baking Company on Dickson Street before joining Campbell Soup in 1960.

Marriage came in 1957 with kids arriving in late 1958, 1961 and late 1962.

A Knock on the young couple's door in the early 1960's introduced Dad to a Bill Collector for Sears and Roebuck who promptly demanded payment on a delinquent account.

Dad responded I don't have an account with Sears and Roebuck, but the persistent collector informed that he did and owed for a set of roller skates.

Roller Skates? I have any Roller Skates?

Dad later determined his younger brothers Bill and Richard has helped sign him up for the account.

The boys paid their debts and Dad was actually thankful they had gotten him credit established.

I had the pleasure of working with my Dad for 3 years at Campbell Soup hatchery in the early to mid 1980's while in College.

You could always tell by his facial expression if Dad was up to something.

On several occasions upon arriving at work, I would find Dad motioning for me to join him behind the Hatchery machines.

Upon arriving I would find several men eating hot fried chicken that Dad retrieved fresh from the fryer at the processing plant. 50 cents for a 3 pound bag, as I recall.

**"Papa Clint" and Retirement Era:**

As Dad passed second base and the Family phase of life, he moved toward the Papa Clint/Retirement Era.

His gardening expanded and so did his love for his kids, grandkids, nieces and nephews, brothers & sister He had a nickname for almost everyone.

The Bandits	Rin Rin Cottontop	Gerald Head	Squeak
Dooby Do	Big Girl	Baby Jean	& Others

Like Baseball, he played by the rules, was always accountable, rarely missed sending birthday and Christmas cards often showing up at cattle round-ups, ballgames, graduations, and school events to support his family team.

As he reached third base, the Papa Clint/Retirement Era, his thoughts turned toward retiring from a 40 year employment w/ Campbell Soup. He expanded contact with his sister Anna Belle and brothers Billie and Clifford, and desired more time to watch the grandkids and great grand kids' events.

**Coming Home and Sickness:**

As Dad rounded third and headed for Home, illness appeared and threatened to call the game early.

The appearance of his illness in early 2001 proceeded to limit his activities and slowed his pace. Yet, he continued to display ongoing interest in his team and placed them above his own circumstances

In September 2007, his health situation deteriorated, resulted in another hospital stay and forced him to give up living on his own.

He went to live with his sister Anna Belle before another hospital stay forced him into Inpatient Hospice Care At the Circle of Life

Despite his circumstances, God blessed him with extra innings staying at Circle of Life almost 3 months when the average stay is a few days.

He never lost his sense of humor and quickly became a friend and favorite of his care providers

In one instance, while preparing to eat lunch, he decided to tell the nurses a Knock Knock joke

Knock Knock                      No response from the nurse who was preparing his lunch  
Knock Knock                      Again no response  
Dad: Who's there?                Nurse catches on and Says "Who's there?"  
Dad answers Clint, but then realized he didn't have a punch line so he closes his eyes and pretends to be asleep.

But Dad's most significant At Bat came when he re-confirmed for Kathy and I his acceptance of Jesus as his Lord and Savior.

He was called up to the Big Team in Heaven on April 3rd

The ball cleared the fences. He has rounded the bases. And, He is **Safe At Home** in heaven today.

Thank you for allowing me to Celebrate my Dad's life this morning.

## IN LOVING MEMORY

God saw you getting tired  
and a cure was not to be  
so he put his arms around you  
and whispered "Come with Me"  
With tearful eyes  
we watched you suffer  
and saw you fade away  
although we loved you dearly  
we could not make you stay  
A golden heart stopped beating  
hard working hands at rest  
God broke our hearts to prove  
He only takes the best.



## CELEBRATING THE LIFE & MEMORY OF

Clint Arthur Thurman

**DATE, TIME & PLACE OF SERVICE**  
Tuesday, April 8, 2008 - 10:00 A.M.  
Luginbuel Chapel - Prairie Grove, Arkansas

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### ORDER OF SERVICE

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**Prelude Music**

**Opening Prayer**

**Jack Thompson**

**Scripture**

**"Special Music"**

**Words of Comfort & Victory**

**Dwight Hignite**

**Closing Prayer**

**Eulogy**

**Arthur Thurman**

**"Come to Jesus"**

**Family Memories Video**

"Rain Sweet Rain"  
"The Shade"

**Postlude Music**

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**GRAVE SIDE SERVICES WILL FOLLOW AT THE NORWOOD CEMETERY**

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### FINAL RESTING PLACE

Norwood Cemetery  
Weddington Community

### PALLBEARERS

Jason Garrett - Rocky Thompson - Cody Thurman  
Gerald Thurman - Darrell Thurman - Johnny Thurman

### HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Kyler Thurman - Clay Thurman - Mark Walker - Randy Walker - Cecil Thurman

### MEMORIALS

Circle of Life Earlene Howard Hospice Home  
901 Jones Road - Springdale, Arkansas 72762