



Ruben "Eli" Friend

September 19, 1939 - January 26, 2026

Ruben "Eli" Friend, age 86, of Rock Cave, died at his home on Monday, January 26, 2026. He was born in Upshur County on September 19, 1939, a son of the late Ruben Jackson and Melba Fern Lee Friend. He was united in marriage on March 12, 1960, to Clarabelle J. Simmons Friend, who preceded him in death on November 9, 2019. In addition to his parents and his wife, he was also preceded in death by one sister, Almetta Andrew and four brothers: William "Coy" Friend, Calvin Friend, Henry Friend, and Donald Friend.

He is survived by four sons: Luke Friend, Randy Friend, and James Friend all of Rock Cave and Matthew Friend and wife Brenda of Buckhannon; seven grandchildren: Nina Westfall, Bethany Friend, Nathaniel Friend, Brandy Caynor, Kayla Bouscher, Trina Rutherford, and Kara Bellen; three great grandchildren: K.C. Westfall, Blaine Westfall, and Isabella Friend; twelve step great grandchildren; one brother, Daniel Friend and wife Eva of Rock Cave and one sister Carol R. Friend of the Clarksburg Healthcare Center. Several nieces, nephews, and cousins also survive.

Ruben grew up attending the Eden Church and later became a member of the Eden Homecoming Association. He was a member of the Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church at Arlington.

Friends will be received at the Heavner and Cutright Funeral Chapel on Friday, January 30, 2026, from 12:00-2:00 PM at which time the family will have a service of remembrance. Due to inclement weather, graveside services will be held at a later date at the Canaan Cemetery. In lieu of flowers,

donations may be made to a church of your choice in memory of Ruben.

Cemetery Details

Canaan Cemetery

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 30. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Heavner & Cutright Funeral Chapel and Cremation Services
940 Route 20 South Road
Buckhannon, WV 26201
(304) 472-8024
heavnerandcutright@aol.com
<https://www.heavnerandcutright.com/>

Tribute Wall

FJ

“ I am so sorry to hear of your loss. Keeping you in prayer. Felicia Burger (Westfall) Johnston, Retired Upshur County Schools Music Teacher

Felicia Burger Johnston - February 01 at 07:24 AM

SF

“ Sorry to hear this guys. We grow up, get married and move and loose track of people we grew up with. Boys my thoughts are with you. Prayers for comfort

Sandy Fultz - January 31 at 12:52 AM

CL

“ Matthew, Luke, James, Randy and families. So sorry to hear of the passing of your dad. But he is in a better place and up in Heaven with your Mom, his parents and grandparents and his siblings. He is no longer suffering and he was a very good man. Our family thought highly of your family. Joy and I would have liked to have attended his service and pay our respects but due to snow and cold weather, we decided not to attend but are thinking of you all in your time of grief. He loved his family and will be missed but he is looking down on all of you and would not want you to grieve for him. Enjoy your memories of him and all the good times you had. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and we are thinking of you all. Joy Loudin & Carolyn Flory



Carolyn Flory & Joy Loudin - January 30 at 09:33 PM

TI

“ So sorry for your loss coy was a very special person and his family was family to my daughter prayer for your family

Tiny - January 29 at 05:02 PM

TI

Rubin

Tiny - January 29 at 05:04 PM

TI

So sorry for your loss prayer for your family

Tiny - January 29 at 05:11 PM

OC

“ Sending prayers to all Family and Friends.
May God comfort each of you.
Rest In Peace

Orville & Karen (Shaw) Collins - January 28 at 02:45 PM

VO

Thanks u all we all appreciate ur all prayers and thoughts

Venessa osburn - January 29 at 09:04 PM

SC

“ ShanahDanny Austin Dawson Branson Camdin purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Ruben "Eli" Friend.



ShanahDanny Austin Dawson Branson Camdin - January 28 at 12:24 PM

JS

“ *Janet Stump lit a candle in memory of Ruben
"Eli" Friend*

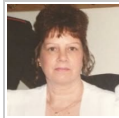


Janet Stump - January 28 at 11:42 AM

JS

My warmest sympathies. Eli and his wife were such good neighbors all those years ago, always willing to give a helping hand.

Janet Stump - January 28 at 11:44 AM



Prayers sent for friends & family .Sorry for your loss.Grew up around all the family at Arlington & Eden.

Jane Wheeler - January 28 at 12:07 PM