



## Dr. Terry L. Amburgey

December 11, 1940 - April 1, 2022

Dr. Terry L. Amburgey, Ph. D., of Sturgis, Mississippi, passed away at age 81 on Friday, April 1, 2022, at Baptist Medical Center—Golden Triangle in Columbus, Mississippi. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, April 7, at Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church in Bradley, Mississippi, with Rev. Mike Sanders officiating. Visitation will be the day of the service from 9:30 a.m. until service time at the church. Interment will be 10:30 a.m. Friday, March 8 at Long Beach City Cemetery in Long Beach, Mississippi, with Rev. Mike Sanders officiating.

Terry was born on December 11, 1940, to Samuel and Neva Alberta Amburgey in Trenton, New Jersey. Prior to his retirement, Dr. Amburgey was a professor for 30 years in the College of Forest Resources at Mississippi State University and retired with the title of Giles Distinguished Professor. He received Awards of Merit from both the American Wood Protection Association and the Railway Tie Association and was elected as a Fellow of the International Academy of Wood Science. While at Mississippi State, he was given the title of Giles Distinguished Professor and received several awards for his teaching by the Department of Forest Products, the College of Forest Resources, and the Mississippi State University Alumni Association. Dr. Amburgey's graduate students have made significant contributions to their chosen fields of employment. His professorship at Mississippi State was preceded by 10 years with the USDA Forest Service in Gulfport, Mississippi,

as a Research Wood Decay Specialist.

Terry is survived by his daughter Lauren Shurden and husband Donald of Oak Grove, Mississippi, and his sister Narice Moore. One of his greatest joys was being “PopPop” to his grandson Joshua Ryan Shurden. He was preceded in death by his daughter Danielle Marie Parker, his parents, and his brother Bart Amburgey.

Serving as pallbearers will be H. Michael Barnes, Nate Irby, Shane Kitchens, Brian Lindsey, Kevin Ragon, and Charles Sanders. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that those interested in giving a memorial gift in Dr. Amburgey’s name are asked to send donations to the Oktibbeha County Humane Society, P. O. Box 297, Starkville, MS 39760 or to Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, 3067 Pleasant Ridge Road, Sturgis, MS 39769.

The family would like to express special thanks to his caregiver and friend, Shirley Long, and to the medical staff at Baptist Medical Center and Hospice in Columbus; as well as his pastor and family friend, Mike Sanders.

Services are under the direction of Nowell-Massey Funeral Home, 724 North Columbus Avenue, Louisville, MS. Memories and condolences may be shared with the family by signing the guest register at [www.nowellmasseyfuneralhome.com](http://www.nowellmasseyfuneralhome.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Long Beach City Cemetery

South Girard Avenue  
Long Beach, MS 39560

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 7. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church  
3067 Pleasant Ridge Road  
Sturgis, MS 39769

## Service

APR 7. 11:00 AM (CT)

Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church  
3067 Pleasant Ridge Road  
Sturgis, MS 39769

## Interment

APR 8. 10:30 AM (CT)

Long Beach City Cemetery  
South Girard Avenue  
Long Beach, MS 39560



# Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Terry L. Amburgey*

January 29, 2023 at 06:32 AM



“ *Koppers purchased the Classic Sympathy Dish Garden for the family of Dr. Terry L. Amburgey.*



Koppers - April 05, 2022 at 09:02 AM



“ *European Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Dr. Terry L. Amburgey.*



April 05, 2022 at 07:51 AM



“ *European Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Dr. Terry L. Amburgey.*



April 04, 2022 at 07:24 PM

JB

“ *Dr. Amburgey was a wonderfully talented man who shared his gifts of science and kindness with the world. He was a fantastic mentor who contributed many of his talents for the furtherment of mankind.*

*I shall miss you my friend!*

*Love,*

*Jeff & Kathleen Broadfoot*

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**Jeff Broadfoot** - April 04, 2022 at 02:44 PM

FB

“ *Dr Amburgey was great leader in the treated wood industry and his knowledge on wood decay and treated wood products were invaluable. Dr Amburgey and his team played a tremendous role in the early borate research and developing the standards for Borate /Creosote treated crossties. His knowledge and passion for the industry will be missed.*

*Godspeed Dr. Amburgey*

*My sincere condolences to all his family and friends*

*Floyd Bowlby*

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**Floyd Bowlby** - April 04, 2022 at 12:19 PM

CM

“ *Craig McIntyre purchased the Blue & White Sympathy Standing Spray for the family of Dr. Terry L. Amburgey.*



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**Craig McIntyre** - April 04, 2022 at 11:50 AM

JB

“ Dr. Amburgey and his team's research with borate for the Railway Tie Association were the headliners for many years at our annual meeting. I am not aware of how many years those presentations spanned but they were appreciated each time. His optimism, interest, research and smile were warmly appreciated and resulted in a major positive shift in railroad practices. My heart felt condolences and prayers for his family and friends. Blessings,  
John Bosshart

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john bosshart - April 04, 2022 at 11:20 AM

CW

“ What a great human being. He always welcomed our family as if we were his. He will not be forgotten. Our condolences to his family ❤️

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Charlotte Ward - April 03, 2022 at 03:43 PM

MB

“ Lauren,  
Martha & I thought we would share this sentiment with you and yours.

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free  
I am following the path God laid for me  
I took his hand when I heard his call  
I turned my back and left it all*

*I could not stay another day  
To laugh, to love, to work, or play  
Tasks left undone must stay that way  
I found that peace at the close of day*

*If my parting has left a void  
Then fill it with remembered joy  
A friendship showed, a laugh, a kiss  
Ah yes, these things I too will miss*

*Be not burdened with time of sorrow  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow  
My life's been full, I savored much  
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch*

*Perhaps my time seemed all too brief  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief  
Lift up your heart and share with me  
God wanted me now he set me free*

*In remembrance, may God bless you and yours,  
Mike & Martha*

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**Mike Barnes** - April 02, 2022 at 03:01 PM

JF

*Lauren I'm sorry for your loss...I only meet your dad a few times but he was always really nice...I will keep you and Don in my prayers...Fish*

**John R. Finley** - April 03, 2022 at 01:48 PM

JH

*We are so sorry for your loss. Prayers for all of you.  
Janice and Bone Hamilton*

**Janice Hamilton** - April 03, 2022 at 06:45 PM

SP

*Lauren, I have worked for with dr. Amburgey for thirty years and he was kind and had the great heart for everyone.. I miss him. My sincerely sympathy, Excuse my language;  
Susie Parikh*

**Susmita "Susie" Parikh** - April 04, 2022 at 09:03 AM

AT

*I am among the many fortunate students and colleagues that were mentored by Dr. Amburgey. He had a big impact.*

**adam taylor** - April 04, 2022 at 11:06 AM

JM

*I was honored to know and work with Terry for over 35 years. He was always keen to share his knowledge in a friendly way. His work with the Railway Tie Association tie grading courses (with Mike Barnes) was one great example and he was one of the few people I knew who could use 130 slides in a 20 minute presentation and do it well. His work with the borates on railway sleepers likely saved the market. There are so many examples of how he made his mark- most importantly by being a good person and that is all we can ask. Please accept my condolences- Jeff Morrell*

**Jeff Morrell** - April 04, 2022 at 04:17 PM

TS

*I am so sorry to hear this news. Doc was a great friend and colleague. This is a huge loss for me and for many on a personal and professional basis. My deepest condolences to his family.*

**Todd Shupe** - April 04, 2022 at 05:56 PM

HG

*Terry and I first met at NC State in 1967 - he impressed as a kind, humorous and knowledgeable man. We stayed in touch over the years through IRG and AWWPA meetings, where his deep understanding of wood preservation would have been evident to all. The research community will miss his wisdom and gentle good humour. Our condolences to all Terry's family.*

*Harry and Sandra Greaves, Australia.*

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**Harry Greaves** - April 07, 2022 at 01:50 AM