



Mr. Van Ness Evans

September 5, 1946 - July 26, 2015

Van Ness Evans was born on September 5, 1946 in Austin, Texas, the son of Limon W. Lowe and Emmaline Evans. He attended elementary and high school in Austin, graduating from Lyndon B. Johnson High School in 1964. He was a member of his high school's swim team. After high school he entered into the military serving in the United States Army until September of 1972 and was honorably discharged . He received many awards which include a commendation medal and a bronze star metal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal and One Overseas Bar. Van moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan in 1972. He was employed with Crown Vantage, retiring after 26 years.

Van met his wife Brenda Evans in 1979—his wife of 25 years, but his mate and sweetheart for the last 36 years.

Van was a member of Galilee Missionary Baptist Church in Kalamazoo. He became an active member in 2005, serving on the Senior Usher Board. Van had a love for cars, both old and new. His other interests include: bowling, swimming, fishing, playing dominos, traveling, car show, spending time with friends and family. He took a special interest in any Veteran's Honor activities. Van also enjoyed church outings and traveling with his friends and family. He had a special love for James Brown and his music. Van was known for his "cool" style of dress. He wore different types of hats and loved to wear Kangol's and Dobbs. He didn't "major in the minors of life". He never met a stranger and if you had the pleasure of meeting him, he left his imprint on your heart. He was a genuine "stand up" guy. If he was your friend, he was your friend to the end. He lived for his family. Those that knew him, almost felt like you knew his family, too. He had the gift of gab and was not shy to brag about how wonderful he thought they were. He took great honor in providing for and going over and above to meet the needs of those that he loved. He wasn't just a good father, he was a "GREAT DAD" and some may even argue that he was an even better "Papa"! He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

He was preceded in death by his father, Limon W. Lowe Sr. of Warsaw, NC ; his mother,

Emmaline Evans; a sister Everlena Low-Long; and brother, Limon W. Lowe Jr.

He leaves to cherish his memories: the love of his life, Brenda Evans; 3 daughters, Tamekka Bennett (Tyrone); Nakeia Burnett (Willie) and Shakya Evans all of Kalamazoo, MI; 2 sons, Kenneth Lee Evans (Gloria) of Austin, TX and Vanness "Ty" Evans of Kalamazoo, MI; 12 grandchildren, Kameron Evans, Krystal Evans, Amir Bennett, Ariel Bennett, Na'Quavion Evans, Quayshon Evans, Onistey Burnett Odisey Burnett, Jurni Burnett, TyRay Evans, Za'Raya Evans, DeAndre Reason (and their mother, Sylvia Reason) and LaRue Briggs Jr.; mother-in-law, Magnolia Thurmond; siblings, Melvin Lowe (Claudia) of Nashville, TN; Thurmon Lowe (Patsy) of Brooklyn, NY; Dwight Phillips; Eugene Thurmond (Margaret); Willie Thurmond (Leta), William Earl Thurmond (Pamela) Ike Thurmond (Marge) all of Kalamazoo, MI and Alfred Thurmond (Debra) of Atlanta, GA; 4 sisters, Mae Jones (John), Jean Wilson (Lavon), Emma Phillips and Joyce Dixon all of Kalamazoo, MI; brother in-law, Floyd Long of Portsmouth, VA; and a special Aunt he loved like a mother, Obedia Slater. Also, a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

Fort Custer National Cemetery

15501 Dickman Road
Augusta, MI

Previous Events

Family Hour

AUG 5. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

The Galilee Baptist Church
1216 N. Westnedge Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

A Homegoing Celebration

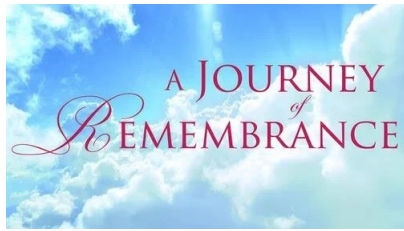
AUG 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

The Galilee Baptist Church
1216 N. Westnedge Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

Tribute Wall



“ Harper Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



Harper Funeral Home - July 30, 2015 at 09:27 PM

TE

That is beautiful tribute to a wonderful man we love you Mr Van Ness Evans your big brother thurmon and his wife Patsy Lowe God be with you all

Thurmon Lowe brother of Van Ness Evans - August 02, 2015 at 01:50 PM



Thank you

Tamekka Thurmond - November 08, 2015 at 09:31 PM



“ Hey Daddy,

9 years ago today 🥹 time is just flying this all still just feels like yesterday. I really don't like this day to come because it's a reminder that you are not here physically. We still missing you so much Daddy we talk about you all the time we definitely keep you and your memory alive. I even pulled out your Beemer the other day washed her up and hit a few corners I hope that made you happy. I'm sorry I don't come visit you like I should I know if it was the other way around you would smcome visit me regularly however it's just hard because I just want to bring you home!!! I hope you know everything you instilled in me never left you always told me to get my education “get that piece a paper no one can take that from you” well Daddy I'm here to report that I DID IT & I did it in your honor I went back to school and got my Bachelors and Masters and I carried pictures of you with me when I walked the stage WE walked that stage and I just know you was there cheering your baby girl on 🎉 Dooda Bug is 9 going on 10 that's crazy huh? He's growing up so fast he's so smart and handsome and reminds me so much of you I wish y'all could've had a chance to go fishing and just hang out. Life sucks without you Daddy but we all still just doing the best we can and trying to make you proud from the sky. We love you ALWAYS & FOREVER!!! Love your baby girl and the rest of them crazy ppl you love lol



Kyia Kyia - July 26, 2024 at 01:35 PM



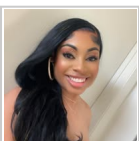
“ Mr. Van Ness Evans

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ Mr. Van Ness Evans

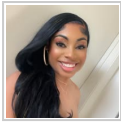
October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ Kyia Kyia lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans

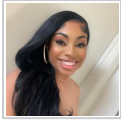


Kyia Kyia - June 25, 2018 at 10:05 PM



Forever missing you Daddy!!! I love you soooooo much I think about you every second of EVERY day!!!! Come back home 🥺💔

Kyia Kyia - June 30, 2018 at 10:45 PM



*Hey Daddy!
Just stopping but to say hi and that I miss you soooo much!!! I watch your video from time to time just to see you god I miss you!!! Please just come back home 💔
I love you always and FOREVER!!! Love me and Dooda Bug 🥺*

Kyia Kyia - October 03, 2019 at 11:10 PM



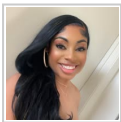
*Hi Daddy!!! 🙌
Today is Dooda Bugs 5th Birthday! Can you believe it?? We wish you could be here to celebrate with us I know you will be there but you know what I mean 🥺 Dad he talks about you literally everyday so I know you talk to him please don't ever stop because I won't either I will ALWAYS keep you alive! We love and miss you soooooooooooooo much daddy! Please just come home PLEASE!! Love always & FOREVER
Kyia and Dooda Bug 🥺*

Kyia Kyia - December 08, 2019 at 01:44 AM



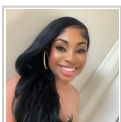
Hey daddy missing you!!! Today and every day! I ask God to send you back home we miss our rock life is just not the same without you we had so many more memories to make! I just want you to know that we all love and miss you and we can't wait to be reunited! Love ALWAYS AND FOREVER your baby girl and the whole fam love you daddy 💔🥺🥺

Kyia Kyia - May 02, 2020 at 10:51 PM



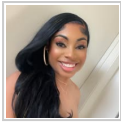
Hey daddy just thinking about you as usual! I miss you so much! We just celebrated dooda bugs 6th birthday can you believe it? He grew up so fast! He reminds me so much of you daddy you and him would of been partners in crime lol I'm ok daddy still just waiting for you to come home please come home!!!!!! Love always and forever your baby girl 🥺🥺

Kyia Kyia - December 06, 2020 at 11:41 PM



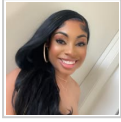
Hey Daddy!!!! Just thinking about you as usual I'm sorry I don't visit you like I should it's just so hard! I want you to know that me and the family are ok we just miss you like crazy! Still waiting for you to come home 🥺 we will mourn you until we join you! I LOVE YOU ALWAYS & FOREVER!!!! & Give Granny a kiss for me and tell her I love her! 🥺🥺🥺

Kyia Kyia - April 10, 2021 at 10:49 PM



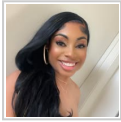
Hey Daddy! Today is that hard day for us! But just know that we are ok we miss you & we want you back home but we are ok don't worry! 6 years feels like forever 😞😭 I'm still just waiting for you to come home I think about you everyday I talk to you everyday I do whatever I can to keep you alive! I miss you sooo much daddy I would do ANYTHING to have you back!!! I love you today and forever love alwayssssss your "baby girl" 💕😭😭

Kyia Kyia - July 26, 2021 at 07:42 PM



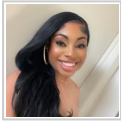
Hey Daddy! Just missing you a lil more around the holidays I know you would've been hiding sweet potato pies like you always did on Thanksgiving lol I think about you everyday dad & I would do anything to have you back home we all miss you so much!!! I hope you are doing ok in heaven and I really hope you hear me when I'm talking to you all day everyday lol I love you daddy!! Please come back home please.

Kyia Kyia - November 27, 2021 at 08:19 PM



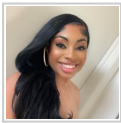
Missing you Daddy!
Just stopping by to show you some love I love and miss you so so so much! Keep watching over us & come home ❤️😭

Kyia Kyia - May 04, 2022 at 10:37 PM



Hey Daddy ☐
That day that we all dread was the other day 😞 but I want you to know we all kept our heads up and got through it. Daddy more and more time is going by and I find myself angry that you are simply not here to see so much I'd give anything to have you back. We all missing you beyond something crazy but I hope we are making you proud. Thank you for even from Heaven you still take care of us and make sure we good! I love you forever and everrr love your Baby girl & Dooda Bug ❤️😭

Kyia Kyia - July 28, 2022 at 06:06 PM



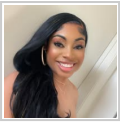
Hey Daddy,
I was just thinking about you Happy Easter I love and miss you beyond this world 😞
Love always and forever
Kyia 😭😭

Kyia Kyia - April 09, 2023 at 06:46 PM



Happy Fathers Day to the BEST DADDY EVER!!!! Daddy I miss you so much I just want you back please just come home please we need you!
Love always and forever and everrrrr
Your baby girl
Kyia 😭😭😭

Kyia Kyia - June 18, 2023 at 07:31 PM



*Hi daddy I was just thinking about you & I wanted you to know how much I love and miss you!!! I just wish you could come home 😭
Love you forever & everrrrrr 🥰*

Kyia Kyia - October 21, 2023 at 12:08 AM

SS

“ *Samara Sance lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Samara Sance - April 10, 2017 at 10:20 PM

DJ

“ *Debra Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Debra Johnson - August 19, 2015 at 11:46 AM

JS

“ *Janine Seals lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Janine Seals - August 13, 2015 at 11:32 AM

JS

Van will be missed!!

Janine Seals - August 13, 2015 at 11:39 AM

TL

“ *Mr.Thallas & Monique Lowe & Family.I'm the Son of Thurmon Lowe.We will like to send our Condolences To Uncle Van's wife &:Family.May Uncle Van Rest in Peace With his Angles.Love Always The Lowe's*



Thallas Lowe - August 05, 2015 at 08:34 PM

TL

“ *Thallas Lowe lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Thallas Lowe - August 05, 2015 at 08:25 PM

LM

“ *Lori Miller lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Lori Miller - August 05, 2015 at 05:04 AM

FL

“ *Fred and Esther Lawrence*



Fred Lawrence - August 04, 2015 at 09:47 PM

HH

“ *Herbert & Sharon Higgins lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Herbert & Sharon Higgins - August 04, 2015 at 08:34 PM

JR

“ *John And Lucille Rose lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



John and Lucille Rose - August 04, 2015 at 08:06 PM

RF

“ I worked with Van at Crown Vantage/James River for 15 years. He was an all around good guy. Condolences to his family. RIP Van.

Renafor Owens Jr. & Family



Renafor Owens Jr.& Family - August 04, 2015 at 04:34 PM

CL

“ *Cenella Lowe lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Cenella Lowe - August 04, 2015 at 04:26 PM



“ *Karest Willis-Brown lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Karest Willis-Brown - August 04, 2015 at 03:36 PM

JJ

“ *Julie Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



julie johnson - August 04, 2015 at 01:41 PM

BW

“ *Bobby White lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Bobby White - August 04, 2015 at 10:31 AM

FW

“ Van you will be missed , You were our ray of sunshine every day . All of us at Dollar General will miss you so much . Our prays and love go out to the family . When god took you , He took one of the best . Fran and everyone at Dollar General

Fran Wisser - August 04, 2015 at 08:02 AM

LW

“ Lorita Wells lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



Lorita Wells - August 03, 2015 at 10:17 PM

LW

Sorry to hear of the loss of your love one Van, he was a great man, always had kind words to say, and was kind to anyone he came across. Van you made a different in anyone you came across life. I will cherish the time spent with you and Brenda. May God keep your family in peace and comforter as you go on to be with the Lord. Brenda you are a great woman I know its hard, but you will have a lot of support, keep your head up and I am here if you need anything. Love you.

Lorita Wells - August 03, 2015 at 10:21 PM

HF

“ Hollin And Fry Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



Hollin and Fry Family - August 03, 2015 at 08:06 PM

FF

“ Francies Frazier lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



Francies Frazier - August 03, 2015 at 03:05 PM

LL

“ *Lula Ligon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Lula Ligon - August 03, 2015 at 02:24 PM

TW

“ *Terry Wilson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Terry Wilson - August 03, 2015 at 02:08 PM

TW

“ *Condolences to the Evans family. Van will be missed.*
- Terry Wilson & Family

Terry Wilson - August 03, 2015 at 11:41 AM

AF

“ *ABBOTT FAMILY lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



ABBOTT FAMILY - August 03, 2015 at 11:07 AM

CF

“ *Charlene Harkness & Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Charlene Harkness & family - August 03, 2015 at 10:10 AM



“ To Brenda and family,
Whenever I would see Van he was always pleasant and cheerful. Van was well know throughout Kalamazoo for his great personality and his great style of hats. I will be praying for you and your family during this time.

Wanda Dungey Thurmond - August 03, 2015 at 06:09 AM

MH

“ Merdis & Arthur Harris lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



Merdis & Arthur Harris - August 02, 2015 at 09:19 PM

CH

“ Chris lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



Chris - August 02, 2015 at 08:33 PM

MJ

“ Brenda and Family Van will be truly miss our prayers are with you we love you Michael and Linda Johnson

Michael and Linda Johnson - August 02, 2015 at 03:22 PM

MJ

“ Michael And Linda Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



Michael and Linda Johnson - August 02, 2015 at 03:18 PM

MJ

“ *Michael Linda Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Michael Linda Johnson - August 02, 2015 at 03:15 PM

QH

“ *Quante Harris lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Quante Harris - August 02, 2015 at 12:42 PM

RW

“ *Robert & Patricia Woodford lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Robert & Patricia Woodford - August 02, 2015 at 09:31 AM

JB

“ *Van was a wonderful neighbor , such a sweet man !! He will be missed by many of us ! He always waved to everyone that drove passed his home ! He was definitely one of lives treasure !
Thoughts and prayers going out to his wife and family !! So very sorry for your loss !!*



Jackie Barker - August 01, 2015 at 09:02 PM

TE

“ *Thurmon Lowe Brother Of Van Ness Evans lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Thurmon Lowe brother of Van Ness Evans - August 01, 2015 at 04:39 PM

EF

“ Earline Fields And Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



Earline Fields and Family - August 01, 2015 at 01:30 PM

LJ

“ God bless you Brenda. God is your shelter in the time of storms. Lean on Him.



Lucile Johnson - August 01, 2015 at 09:50 AM

JJ

“ Jessica Jackson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



Jessica Jackson - August 01, 2015 at 02:26 AM

GM

“ Glenda Gail McKinley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



Glenda Gail McKinley - August 01, 2015 at 12:24 AM

GM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



george and melissa - July 31, 2015 at 10:51 PM

GM

“ 2 files added to the album Van Ness



george and melissa - July 31, 2015 at 10:47 PM

PG

“ Pauline Gardner lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



Pauline Gardner - July 31, 2015 at 06:08 PM

CW

“ Cathlin Walker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



Cathlin Walker - July 31, 2015 at 03:45 PM

CW

Brenda; To everything there is a season and purpose, a time to be born, a time to die , a time to plant, a time to pluck, a time to kill, a time to heal, a time to break down, a time to build up, a time to weep, a time to laugh, a time to mourn. Ecclesiastes 3:5. The word is true. My prayers for your comfort.

Cathlin Walker - July 31, 2015 at 03:56 PM

VM

“ Brenda:

My condolences to you during this time. May God continue to bless you and give you the strength, guidance and direction during this difficult time. Keeping you and your family in my thoughts and prayers.

Valerie Mitchell

Valerie Mitchell - July 31, 2015 at 12:18 PM

PL

My dear sister in law Thurmond and I are with you and the family in our thoughts and prayers we've not met but your wonderful husband and our brother never missed a chance to tell us how much he loved you and all the kids and what a wonderful wife friend and mother you are so trust and believe you meant everything to him until the end God Bless you all and stay strong that's what Van would want

Thurmond & Patsy Lowe

Patsy lowe - July 31, 2015 at 11:21 PM

DG

“ 4 files added to the album New Album Name



Danny and Danita Griffin - July 31, 2015 at 07:27 AM

DG

“ Danny And Danita Griffin sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



Danny and Danita Griffin - July 31, 2015 at 06:59 AM

DG

“ 16 files added to the album New Album Name



Danny and Danita Griffin - July 31, 2015 at 06:57 AM

DG

“ Memories of Van in Danny and Danita Griffin life, We will always cherish the time we shared with Van his wife Brenda and family. Van will always be special to us just like a brother. Will miss you. Smooches

Danny and Danita Griffin - July 31, 2015 at 06:43 AM

DG

“ Danny And Danita Griffin lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



Danny and Danita Griffin - July 31, 2015 at 06:26 AM

EF

“ Earline Fields And Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



Earline Fields and Family - July 30, 2015 at 04:40 PM

AG

“ Al & Lori Garrison lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



Al & Lori Garrison - July 30, 2015 at 02:05 PM

OD

“ We will miss you Van. Our heartfelt condolences to the family.

Odie and Michelle Dancer



Odie & Michelle Dancer - July 30, 2015 at 10:38 AM

ML

“ *What can I say about you that would ease my pain, other than what I have always told you, you are the best brother I could have ever asked for. I love you now and forever. I will miss out Friday mornings calls and you saying what's going on big head. God bless and Godspeed I will miss you but I will always have you in my heart. Thank you for all that you have done for me.*



Melvin Lowe - July 30, 2015 at 09:09 AM

PB

“ *Van, who always brought me tootsie roll pops or other treats at work, I will miss your friendliness and friendship. You helped me get my husband disability and were always there as a good friend . I will miss you and the ribbs you use to bring me too.*

Polly Baker - July 30, 2015 at 08:36 AM

JC

“ *Brenda,
Our condolences to you and your family on your loss of Van. We were good friends for many years, and he will surely be missed by all.
Be blessed Deacon James and JoAnne Colquiette*

James Colquiette - July 30, 2015 at 07:13 AM

JS

“ *Joe & Alexia Snell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Joe & Alexia Snell - July 29, 2015 at 11:24 PM

OD

“ *We will miss you Van. Our deepest sympathy to the family.*



Odie and Michelle Dancer - July 29, 2015 at 07:54 PM

JE

“ *Jo Ann Embrey lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Jo Ann Embrey - July 29, 2015 at 07:45 PM

JC

“ *James And JoAnne Colquiette lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



James and JoAnne Colquiette - July 29, 2015 at 06:47 PM

MF

“ *Mr. & Mrs. George Buchanan & Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Mr. & Mrs. George Buchanan & family - July 29, 2015 at 03:07 PM

SF

“ *Sharon, George Buchanan & Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Sharon, George Buchanan & family - July 29, 2015 at 03:05 PM

TA

“ *To Brenda and Family, my deepest sympathies to you . Ted and Audra Anderson aka Andy*

Ted and Audra Anderson - July 29, 2015 at 12:54 PM

WJ

“ William & Laverne Jones lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



William & Laverne Jones - July 29, 2015 at 12:18 PM

A&

“ Arlene Buchanan & Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



Arlene Buchanan & Family - July 29, 2015 at 12:09 PM

AS

“ Alma Snell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



Alma Snell - July 29, 2015 at 09:59 AM

LP

“ LaKeysha Pratt lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



LaKeysha Pratt - July 29, 2015 at 09:37 AM

MS

“ Mr. And Mrs. George H. Snell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



Mr. and Mrs. George H. Snell - July 29, 2015 at 08:53 AM



“ Van was one of the friendly people who I have known. .We will miss you.... your nephew (Al Thurmond) your neice (Tawana Thurmond) Will Johnson and Theresa Hubbard....Prayers going up. .



Blackirish Hubbard - July 28, 2015 at 10:18 PM



“ Lula Ligon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



Lula Ligon - July 28, 2015 at 09:09 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Van Ness Evans.



July 28, 2015 at 08:26 PM



“ Thurmon & Patsy Lowe and family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Van Ness Evans.



Thurmon & Patsy Lowe and family - July 28, 2015 at 08:26 PM



“ Alexander And Patricia Plair lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans



Alexander and Patricia Plair - July 28, 2015 at 06:36 PM

CF

“ *Cookie & The Jones Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Cookie & The Jones Family - July 28, 2015 at 05:04 PM

CS

“ *Curtis & Michelle Snell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Ness Evans*



Curtis & Michelle Snell - July 28, 2015 at 03:43 PM