



## James Wendell Thornton

June 9, 1957 - September 4, 2025

James Wendell Thornton passed away at 68 years of age on September 4, 2025, at University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, MS. He was born in Jones County, MS to Augustus and Betty (Golden) Thornton. He loved to garden, hunt, fish, cook, talk about different types of firearms, pester & joke around. He also loved to teach younger generations about gardening, hunting, cooking and history. He had a vast knowledge of history on planes and firearms. He was a member of Houston Road Congregational Methodist Church where he led the singing and cooked breakfast at the Church every 4th Sunday.

He was preceded in death by Augustus Thornton (father), Betty Golden Thornton Kennedy (mother), Carl Kennedy (step-father), Jackie Breland (sister), Robert Thornton (brother), Nancy Thornton (sister-in-law) Hailey Williams (niece) Nehemiah Mills (father-in-law) Ermajean Mills (mother-in-law), David Lee Mills (brother-in-law), Mark Yount (brother-in-law) Judy Mills (sister-in-law).

He is survived by his wife of 25 years, Mary Ellen Mills Thornton, David Thornton (brother), Lynda Evans (aunt), Betty Kennedy (aunt) and many other family members and friends.

Pallbearers are Tanner Walker, Turner Walker, Preston Anderton, Austin Wedgeworth, Kevin Runnels, David Anderton & Eric Hudson. Honorary Pallbearers are Chris Freeman, Sheen Shepherd, Daxx Shepherd, Will Shepherd, Tyler Thornton, Josh Thornton, & Cameron Atkins.

Service will be at Memory Chapel in Laurel, MS on Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 2pm with visitation from 12pm-2pm. Brother Greg Matthews will officiate. The burial service will follow at Union Line Cemetery in Soso, MS. To sign the online guest book, visit: [www.memorychapellaurel.com](http://www.memorychapellaurel.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Union Line Cemetery

Corner of Jefcoat Road and Union Line Road  
Soso, MS 39480

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 9. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Memory Chapel Funeral Home  
3100 Audubon Drive  
P. O. Box 674  
Laurel, MS 39440  
(601) 428-5235  
memorychapel@comcast.net  
<https://www.memorychapellaurel.com/>

## Service

SEP 9. 2:00 PM (CT)

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