Ralph Edward James

April 14, 1951 - August 12, 2018

Ralph Edward James went to be with our Lord and Savior at the age of 67 on August 12, 2018. His big, kind, patient heart took its last beat after an extended stay in ICU at Forest General Hospital.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Charlotte Elliott James; daughter, Kelsey James Hall; son in law, Jeff Hall; grandson, Ethan James Hall; granddaughter, Adalee Taylor Hall; brother, Phil Ottis James; sister in law, Rita James; sister, Becky Teague; brother in law, Jim Teague; and sister in law, Deborah Elliott. He is also survived by nieces, Charay DuBose, Tracy Maggard, Jennifer Adcock, Brandi Holifield, Haley Wilson, and Raysita James; nephews, Marty Bullock, RayBob Jefcoat, Drew James and Raynold James, great nieces, Rachel Jefcoat, Audrey Maggard and Shayna Bullock Garrett; great nephews, Jordyn DuBose, Tyler Lewis, Zack Lewis, Taylor Jefcoat, Blake Maggard, Collin Maggard, Jackson Holifield, Kade Wilson, Rylan Wilson and Nathan Bullock. He also had a host of cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ottis Columbus James and Tressie Hill James O'Flinn, and sisters, Janie Katherine James Bullock and Barbara Ann James Jefcoat.

He was a member of First Baptist Church of Laurel. He graduated from West Jones High School Class of 1969. He worked for Ingalls Shipbuilding and

worked as a carpenter and brick mason before he started a career of serving in the Laurel Fire Department for 20 years. After he retired, he started a new business laying brick floors. When he got “too old” for that laborious job, he started another new career in education where he taught in the Industrial Maintenance department at Laurel High School for 7 years. He decided to finally retire again after his first grandchild was born.

He loved God, his family and friends. Everyone who knew him felt that love and kindness. He was a very talented man who could do just about anything. He had tremendous patience and loved taking time to teach anyone how to do something he knew how to do.

He left behind a host of beloved and dear friends who were always a phone call or visit away to borrow tools, get an opinion, or just to discuss the daily project. When he passed away, he was in the middle of constructing a “barndominium” for he and Charlotte.

His family would like to thank family and friends near and far for the countless prayers, visits, phone calls, and messages. They felt the overwhelming love for Ralph shine through. Also, to the physicians and ICU nurses at FGH, thank you for caring for Ralph during this difficult time.

Services will be held at First Baptist Church of Laurel on Friday, August 17, 2018. Visitation will begin at 12 noon and the service will follow at 2 p.m. Dr. Randy Turner will officiate.

The Laurel Fire Department will serve as pallbearers.

His wishes were to be cremated, wishing his ashes be spread near and far, with special request of some spread at Clingmans Dome in the Smoky Mountains. Ashes to ashes and dust to dust, Ralph’s life has touched many

people and his circle of life is now complete.

To sign the online guest book, visit www.memorychapellaurel.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **17**. 12:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Laurel
607 West 5th Street
Laurel, MS 39440

Service

AUG **17**. 2:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Laurel
607 West 5th Street
Laurel, MS 39440

Tribute Wall

Heaven's Comfort was purchased for the family of Ralph Edward James.

August 16, 2018 at 02:54 PM

Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Ralph Edward James.

August 16, 2018 at 11:50 AM

LR

Lori and Geir Rorstad purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Ralph Edward James.

Lori and Geir Rorstad - August 16, 2018 at 08:37 AM

BM

Our thoughts and prayers are with The James family

Greg and Barbara McCree

Barbara McCree - August 15, 2018 at 10:46 PM

BH

SINCERE CONDOLENCES TO YOUR FAMILY AND LOVED ONES. CHARLOTTE , RALPH WAS SUCH A KIND , LOVING SOUL , ONE COULD FEEL A KINDRED SPIRIT WHEN AROUND HIM. # A FRIEND BOBBY HOLIFIELD PRAYERS FOR YOU ALL 🌹🌹🙏🙏

BOBBY HOLIFIELD - August 15, 2018 at 09:35 PM

Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Ralph Edward James.

August 15, 2018 at 07:27 PM

SB

Prayers of peace and comfort to the family of this Man of God. Blessings

Stephanie Burton - August 15, 2018 at 01:03 PM

ES

Our thoughts and prayers are with the James family. Ralph was a good man and we all loved him very much. When we greeted each other, he always had a smile on his face. We will all miss him. Until we meet again my friend.

The Scrimpshire's

Eric Scrimpshire - August 15, 2018 at 10:51 AM

CH

Thank you Eric. We had some fun times with our girls at West.

Charlotte - August 15, 2018 at 02:14 PM

JP

Charlotte and family, my dad "Mutt" White with Bowen Tools worked in the oil business with your dad for years. Our whole family sends our prayers to you all. I went to West with Ralph. We all were friends and had a lot of fun times. He was the best. So kind and very nice. We were blessed to have known him. I am praying for you and your family, and I am sorry for your loss. Judy White Pitts

Judy White Pitts - August 15, 2018 at 10:39 AM

CH

I remember Daddy talking about "Mutt". They shared some good times. Thank you for the kind memory of Ralph. My family and I appreciate your prayers.

Charlotte - August 15, 2018 at 02:16 PM

NW

My thoughts and prayers are with you in this time of great sorrow. I had the honor to work with Ralph at R. H. Watkins. He was always joyful, kind and enthusiastic. Last year I saw him almost every morning bringing his precious grandson to North Jones Elementary. I will miss his kind and sweet smile. May he rest in peace in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Nilda R. Witty

Nilda Witty - August 14, 2018 at 10:44 PM

KH

Thank you Mrs Nilda!

Kelsey Hall - August 15, 2018 at 10:53 AM

CH

Oh he had fond memories of those days at Laurel High. We were so glad to see you at NJE.

Charlotte - August 15, 2018 at 02:12 PM

FC

So many fun memories of the camping trips all us friends made together, the meals and stories we shared. Our tile kitchen floor he laid will be a reminder of our friendship, too. We shall continue to remember Charlotte, Kelsey, and all his family as they adjust to life without Ralph. Keep looking Up for strength and faith. Love and prayers, Ralph & Fay Campbell

Fay Campbell - August 14, 2018 at 09:01 PM

KH

Thank you Mrs Fay and Mr Ralph! -Kelsey

Kelsey Hall - August 15, 2018 at 10:52 AM

CH

Thank you Faye. We have some great memories of those camping days. ❤️You

Charlotte - August 15, 2018 at 02:18 PM