



James D. "Darwin" Racey

October 30, 1926 - December 13, 2021

James D. "Darwin" Racey, age 95 years, a resident of rural Vienna, passed away Monday morning, December 13, 2021, at 6:55 AM at the Illinois Veterans Home in Anna, Illinois.

Darwin was born October 30, 1926 in Cypress, Illinois. He was the second of three children born to Thomas Melvin Racey and Edith (Johnson) Racey.

On May 8, 1943, Darwin was united in marriage to Wilma E. Brown at Charleston, Missouri. She preceded him in death on December 31, 2011.

Darwin is survived by: his children – Linda (Fred) Moore of Vienna; Bob (Alice) Racey of Belknap, Alan (Carol) Racey, Mark (Tracy) Racey, and Chuck (Becky) Racey all of Vienna; 12 grandchildren; 13 great grandchildren; 2 great-great granddaughters; a sister-in-law – Jackie Racey of Austin, Texas; nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and many friends.

In addition to his parents and wife, Darwin was preceded in death by: a great granddaughter – Taylor Simmons; a sister & brother-in-law – Louetta (Harvey) Klauka; and a brother – Kenneth Racey.

Darwin attended the Cypress Public Schools and was a graduate of Cypress High School.

He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1945 and served in the Asiatic-Pacific theater of operation. During his military service, Darwin was recognized with a merit badge as a sharp shooter with an M-1 Rifle. He was honorably discharged on October 19, 1946.

Darwin was a lifelong grain and cattle farmer. He loved the land, farming, and raising and tending his livestock herds. He was a 50+ year member of the Johnson County Farm Bureau.

Darwin was also an iron worker. He was a member of the International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental, and Reinforcing Iron Workers Local # 782, located in St. Louis, Missouri. Additionally, Darwin had been employed by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT).

Darwin was a 30+ year member of the Cypress School Board of Education. Additionally, he had served as a member of the Vienna High School Board of Education.

Darwin was an avid outdoorsman. He had enjoyed a number of sporting activities throughout his lifetime, including quail hunting, squirrel hunting, and fishing. Darwin also enjoyed raising a large vegetable garden and sharing the bounty of produce with family, neighbors and friends. During his retirement and until his health prevented him from doing so, Darwin enjoyed visiting with his morning “coffee buddies.”

Darwin was a member of Fellowship Baptist Church in Vienna. He accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior at the age of 86 years.

Funeral services will be conducted Wednesday afternoon, December 15, 2021, at 1 PM at Bailey Funeral Home in Vienna.

Burial will be in the Cypress Cemetery. Military flag presentation will be accorded by the Illinois National Guard Burial Honors Detail.

Visitation will be held Wednesday, December 15, 2021, from 11 AM – 1 PM at Bailey Funeral Home in Vienna.

Memorials may be made to Shriners Hospital for Children, 4400 Clayton Ave., St. Louis, Missouri 63110 or to the Illinois Veterans Home (resident activities fund), 792 North Main Street, Anna, IL 62906.

To share a memory of Darwin or to leave an online message of condolence for his family, please visit www.baileyfh.com

Honored to serve as pallbearers are Darwin's grandsons – Shane Racey, Jim Moore, Tyler Racey, Justin Racey, Jason Racey and Ryan Racey.

Cemetery Details

Cypress Cemetery

5847 State Route 37 South
Cypress, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 15. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Bailey Funeral Home
705 North First Street
PO Box 695
Vienna, IL 62995
(618) 658-2311
baileyfhinc@hotmail.com
<https://baileyfh.com>

Service

DEC 15. 1:00 PM (CT)

Bailey Funeral Home
705 North First Street
PO Box 695
Vienna, IL 62995
(618) 658-2311
baileyfhinc@hotmail.com
<https://baileyfh.com>

Tribute Wall



“ James D. "Darwin" Racey

January 30, 2023 at 12:19 AM



“ Bobby Rentfro lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey



Bobby Rentfro - December 18, 2021 at 08:38 AM



“ Sam Riley & Deb Newton lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey



Sam Riley & Deb Newton - December 16, 2021 at 11:17 AM



“ I am so sad to hear the loss of Uncle Darwin. I have so many good memories of him - especially of my visits on the farm. The picture is such a good memory of his smile and laugh. My love to the family❤️ . He is now with Jesus and Aunt Wilma and will have the best Christmas ever!!
You were a good man Darwin Racey!

Darlene Rutledge - December 15, 2021 at 08:23 AM

JF

“ Jeff Dunn Family lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey



Jeff Dunn Family - December 15, 2021 at 07:22 AM

LG

“ Just learned about Uncle Darwin's passing. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers and that he is reunited with Aunt Wilma. Love you all.
Leon and Jean

Leon and Jean Gore - December 15, 2021 at 12:21 AM

RK

“ Robert Dale Kean lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey



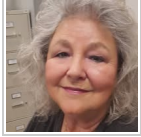
Robert Dale Kean - December 14, 2021 at 08:56 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James D. "Darwin" Racey.



December 14, 2021 at 04:49 PM



“ *Sheila Merideth lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey*



Sheila Merideth - December 14, 2021 at 03:29 PM



“ *Clearon & Jane Ross Wright sent a virtual gift in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey*



Clearon & Jane Ross Wright - December 14, 2021 at 12:35 PM



“ *Clearon & Jane Ross Wright sent a virtual gift in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey*



Clearon & Jane Ross Wright - December 14, 2021 at 12:31 PM



“ *Robert And Lori Taylor lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey*



Robert and Lori Taylor - December 14, 2021 at 11:16 AM

AB

“ Anita L Bullock lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey



Anita L Bullock - December 14, 2021 at 10:53 AM



“ Mike Crews lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey



Mike Crews - December 14, 2021 at 10:21 AM

JS

“ John Slack sent a virtual gift in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey



John Slack - December 14, 2021 at 08:21 AM

SJ

“ Steve & Darla Jones lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey



Steve & Darla Jones - December 14, 2021 at 07:48 AM

JH

“ *Jed Hand lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey*



jed hand - December 14, 2021 at 12:17 AM

LD

“ *Lonnie Dunn lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey*



Lonnie Dunn - December 14, 2021 at 12:09 AM

JR

“ *James & Diane Rainbolt lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey*



James & Diane Rainbolt - December 14, 2021 at 12:07 AM

LD

“ *Lonnie And Judy Dunn lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey*



Lonnie and Judy Dunn - December 14, 2021 at 12:04 AM

MH

“ *Mary Lou Hynes lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey*



Mary Lou Hynes - December 13, 2021 at 11:23 PM

EH

“ *Ernie Henshaw lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey*



Ernie Henshaw - December 13, 2021 at 10:59 PM

TR

“ *Teresa Richerson lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey*



Teresa Richerson - December 13, 2021 at 10:13 PM

VE

“ *Vicki Eastwood lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey*



Vicki Eastwood - December 13, 2021 at 09:33 PM

JH

“ Justin & Tricia Hartline lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey



Justin & Tricia Hartline - December 13, 2021 at 09:00 PM



“ Carol Bryant sent a virtual gift in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey



Carol Bryant - December 13, 2021 at 08:59 PM

PW

“ Pat Womack lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey



pat womack - December 13, 2021 at 08:38 PM



“ Darwin was such a joy to talk to, his was going to Real Rehab when I was and I loved to talk to him about his garden

Jeannie

Jeannie McCall - December 13, 2021 at 08:20 PM

DH

“ Dennis And Pat Harner lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey



Dennis and Pat Harner - December 13, 2021 at 08:09 PM

TM

“ Terri MacDonald lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey



Terri MacDonald - December 13, 2021 at 08:09 PM

TA

“ Teresa Anderson lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey



Teresa Anderson - December 13, 2021 at 07:49 PM

LM

“ Larry And Carolyn McGill lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey



Larry and Carolyn McGill - December 13, 2021 at 07:46 PM

DB

“ Dorothy Bacon lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey



Dorothy Bacon - December 13, 2021 at 07:35 PM

GC

“ Our sympathies to the family, remembering the breakfast group in past years always enjoyed the visit.

Gerell Caain - December 13, 2021 at 07:19 PM

LM

My condolences to the family of Darwin Racey. Darwin was a hard working man who was proud of his children. He was respected by all who knew him.

Larry W. Mizell - December 15, 2021 at 08:44 PM

CT

“ Carla Tapley lit a candle in memory of James D. "Darwin" Racey



Carla Tapley - December 13, 2021 at 07:01 PM

NH

“ My thoughts and prayers are with Linda, Bob and Allen. So sorry for your loss.



Nancy Heisner - December 13, 2021 at 06:59 PM

VB

“ *Linda, I have so many fond memories of us in high school and how your dad always teased us. I loved him and your mother as if they were my own. Love you.* ”



Vera Bedwell - December 13, 2021 at 06:55 PM