



James Lee Hancock

August 17, 1947 - February 3, 2025

James Lee Hancock, age 77 years, a resident of Herrin and a former resident of Goreville, passed away Monday, February 3, 2025 at 6:09 A.M. at SIH Herrin Hospital.

James was born August 17, 1947 in Searcy, Arkansas. He was the eldest of 10 children born to Jack W. and Mary (Carter) Hancock.

On December 4, 2009, James was united in marriage to Kenna Jo (Prater) Hancock in Paducah, KY. She survives.

In addition to his mother and wife, James is survived by: 2 Daughters – Rhonda of Florida and Auna of Arizona; a granddaughter – Cody; 2 Great grandchildren; 8 Siblings – David Hancock of Marion, Danny Hancock, Robbie Hancock and Bill Hancock all of Goreville, Sherry Hancock of Paducah, Cathy Skogley of Greenville, Tracy Gumm of Goreville and Stacy Hancock of Chicago; as well as nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

In addition to his father, he was preceded in death by: 2 daughters – Leah Hancock and Jacki Adams; as well as a brother – Ronnie Hancock.

James attended Vienna Public Schools. He then served in the U.S. Navy.

Throughout his career, James worked as a talented cook and chef, preparing meals in both restaurant kitchens and on oil rigs in Louisiana and Oklahoma.

James was a true jack of all trades. Whether he was out in nature fishing and hunting, working with his hands in woodworking, or restoring cars with his talent in autobody work, he found joy in every craft he pursued.

James was a member of the First Pentecostal Church in Goreville.

A service honoring the life of James Lee Hancock will be conducted on Friday, February 7 at 1 P.M. at the First Pentecostal Church, 915 N Broadway St, Goreville, IL 62939. Pastor Kevin Cox will officiate.

Burial will be in the Zion Cemetery near Ozark, Illinois.

Visitation will be held Friday, February 7, 2025 from 12 PM to 1 PM at the church.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105-9959.

Cemetery Details

Zion Cemetery

Ozark Road
Ozark, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 7. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

First Pentecostal Church
915 North Broadway Street
Goreville, IL

Service

FEB 7. 1:00 PM (CT)

First Pentecostal Church
915 North Broadway Street
Goreville, IL

Tribute Wall



“ *Bailey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of James Lee Hancock*



Bailey Funeral Home - February 07, 2025 at 04:59 PM



I love and miss him so very much 🥺

Kenna Prater-Hancock - June 06, 2025 at 07:37 PM



That was awesome thank you for sharing

Jake Hancock - July 15, 2025 at 09:39 PM



“ *Bobby Rentfro lit a candle in memory of James Lee Hancock*



Bobby Rentfro - February 09, 2025 at 06:24 AM

KA

“ *Kenna & all the Hancock family—I’m so sorry for your loss. Praying for peace, comfort & strength for you all.* ”



Kathy(Black)Holt - February 05, 2025 at 04:37 PM

BF

“ Kenna, I am so sorry for your loss. I know you have a broken heart, and you will miss James Lee dearly.



Growing up, we went on vacation and stayed by Uncle Jack and Aunt Mary's for a day or two. My sister Karen and I always played with James Lee, David, Billy Jo, Ronnie, and the other boys.

It took a long time for the girls to come along in the family. When they came, they came in twos and then singles. The final count was six boys and four girls.

James Lee and David are the oldest, and I feel like I grew up with them even though we lived in Chicago. In some small way, I almost feel like they are my brothers.

It's been a long time since I last saw James Lee. I wish I had taken the time to see him, but I didn't, and I can't change that. It was an opportunity I regretfully missed.

My condolences on the loss of your loved one, James Lee Hancock. To his Mother, Mary, a Blessed Saint, all by herself, his brothers and sisters, his wife Kenna, his children and grandchildren, and everyone in his family.

May God Bless You and Heal your Hearts.

James Lee, I Love You. God Bless You, Rest in Peace

Brenda Fields - February 05, 2025 at 03:09 PM

DB

“ *Diane And Kenny Baker lit a candle in memory of James Lee Hancock*



Diane and Kenny Baker - February 05, 2025 at 12:58 PM

MT

“ *So sorry for your loss, Kenna. Prayers for peace and comfort*



Mary Taylor - February 05, 2025 at 07:31 AM

JS

“ *John Slack sent a virtual gift in memory of James Lee Hancock*



John Slack - February 04, 2025 at 10:48 PM

SJ

“ *Steve & Darla Jones sent a virtual gift in memory of James Lee Hancock*



Steve & Darla Jones - February 04, 2025 at 07:48 PM

RS

“ *Richard & Vickey Swiney lit a candle in memory of James Lee Hancock*



Richard & Vickey Swiney - February 04, 2025 at 06:44 PM

LT

“ *Lori Taylor lit a candle in memory of James Lee Hancock*



Lori Taylor - February 04, 2025 at 06:00 PM

LM

“ *Larry And Carolyn McGill lit a candle in memory of James Lee Hancock*



Larry and Carolyn McGill - February 04, 2025 at 05:20 PM

VB

“ *Vickie Barton lit a candle in memory of James Lee Hancock*



Vickie Barton - February 04, 2025 at 04:34 PM