



James Douglas Welch

April 5, 1962 - June 18, 2025

James Douglas Welch was born April 5, 1962, in Rolla, Missouri. He was the son of Louie Jr. and Shirley (Meade) Welch. James passed away June 18, 2025, in Lake of the Woods, Minnesota, at the age of sixty-three years.

James grew up in Salem and graduated in 1980 from Salem High School. He was united in marriage to Wanda Young in 1989 and to this union he was blessed to share one daughter, Ashley. In 2011, he married the love of his life Barbara. Together they shared 23 wonderful years. He was later blessed with two grandchildren, Holden and Hinleigh. They brightened his world.

James worked hard to provide for his family. Throughout his working career, he was a delivery driver for Schafers Furniture in Salem and as a forklift operator at Mar-Bal in Cuba. He also worked at Brewer Science and First Choice Courier in Rolla.

James was an avid sports fan and especially loved the St. Louis Cardinals. When his daughter was younger, he enjoyed watching her play ball and was her biggest fan. He was a shooting enthusiast and target practiced often.

James is survived by his loving daughter: Ashley Howdahl and husband Josh; grandchildren: Holden and Hinleigh; brother-in-law: Darrell Nash; nieces and nephews: Angelea Smith and husband Billy, Bethany Thompson, Cody

Morton and their families; mother-in-law: Alma Ray; stepson: Jeremy Sanders and wife Jill; step grandchildren: Landry, Stiles, and Wylder Sanders; brother-in-law: Roy Mark Elliston; and sisters-in-law: Shirley Young, Joyce Hamilton, and Rebecca Hollingshead; extended family and dear friends.

Preceding him in death were his loving wife: Barbara Welch; parents: Louie Jr. and Shirley (Meade) Welch; and sister: Helenita Nash.

He cherished every moment spent and memory made with his daughter and grandchildren. James had a big heart and has left an impact on those who knew him; he will be deeply missed but fondly remembered.

Celebration of Life for James Douglas Welch was held Friday, August 22, 2025, in the Wilson Mortuary Salem Chapel with Pastor Charlie Younger officiating. Song selections played were "How Do I Say Goodbye" and "Amazing Grace". Arrangements were under the direction of Wilson Mortuary of Salem, Missouri.

Condolences may be left online at www.wilsonmortuary.com

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **22**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Wilson Mortuary - Salem
1000 West Scenic Rivers Blvd.
Post Office Box 45
Salem, MO 65560
(573) 729-5555
<https://www.wilsonmortuary.com/>

Celebration of Life

AUG **22**. 1:00 PM (CT)

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Tribute Wall



“ 63 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Wilson Mortuary - August 22, 2025 at 09:20 AM