



## James Everett Whitaker

November 16, 1942 - November 28, 2022

James Everett Whitaker was born November 16, 1942, in St. Louis, Missouri to Estel and Thelma. He grew up in Salem and went to a small county school before attending Salem High School.

James was united in marriage to the love of his life, Beverly Terrill, on December 22, 1962 and together shared fifty-nine years of marriage and precious memories. James and Beverly were blessed with three children: Jimmy, Jeff, and Regina.

James was a hard worker and started Whitaker & Son logging many years ago. He then began a trucking business, owning his own tractors and trailers. He also enjoyed selling cars and operating heavy equipment. James eventually formed Whitaker Auto Body & Towing which he operated with his family.

James loved being outdoors and enjoyed taking Beverly on 4-wheeler rides. In his spare time, he enjoyed fishing and camping. James was a devoted family man and valued spending time with his family. His grandchildren and great-grandchildren were his pride and joy. James treasured many wonderful memories made with his family and friends.

James was one of Jehovah's Witnesses and attended Kingdom Hall in Salem.

James entered into eternal rest on November 28, 2022 in Salem, Missouri at the age of eighty years. He is survived by his loving wife: Beverly Whitaker of Salem, MO; son: Jimmy Whitaker of Salem, MO; daughter: Regina Yates and husband Danny of Salem, MO; daughter-in-law: Pam Whitaker of Salem, MO; siblings: Irene Stein and husband Louie of Belleville, IL, and Victor Welchel and wife Robin of Sparta, IL; grandchildren: Kari, Dylan, Cody, Tyler, Lydia, Caitlyn, Samantha, and Morgan; a host of great-grandchildren; as well as several nieces, nephews, other relatives, and dear friends.

Preceding him in death, son: Jeff Whitaker; parents: Estel Whitaker and Thelma Welchel; brothers: Freddie Whitaker and Timmy Welchel; sister: Wanda Castaldi; infant sister: Estina Fay Whitaker; and granddaughter: Sara Conway.

James was a great man who treated everyone with kindness. He always had a smile on his face and was willing to help anyone in need. James will be deeply missed and never forgotten.

Funeral Services for James Everett Whitaker were held Friday, December 2, 2022 in the Wilson Mortuary Salem Chapel with Elder Rick Huggins and Michael Lindstrom officiating. Song selections played were "Just Around The Corner", "Never Alone", and "He Will Call". Serving as Pallbearers were Robbie Ellerman, Brian Ellerman, Eddie Wofford, Billy Miller, Dylan Burke, and Dana Rickerd. Honorary Pallbearers were Billy Williams and Danny Yates. Burial was in the New Hope Cemetery. Arrangements were under the direction of Wilson Mortuary of Salem, Missouri.

Online Condolences may be entered at [www.wilsonmortuary.com](http://www.wilsonmortuary.com)



# Cemetery Details

**New Hope Cemetery**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

DEC 1. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

### Funeral Service

DEC 2. 11:00 AM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Videos Album*



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**Wilson Mortuary** - December 02, 2022 at 04:31 PM



“ 88 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Wilson Mortuary** - December 01, 2022 at 01:10 PM

DS

“ As someone who had the privilege of spending some time with James, I can share that he always brought happiness wherever he went. His smile and laughter lit up the room and lifted the spirit of anyone around him. He will be missed... Love and prayers to his loving family.

*Dennis and Cindy Southards*

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**Dennis Southards** - December 01, 2022 at 12:51 PM

GM

“ I will always remember James with a smile on his face. He was a good man and friend. Bev, I'm so sorry, try to keep his smile in your heart.

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**Gail Mcelfresh** - November 30, 2022 at 09:53 PM

DH

“ sorry for your loss, prayers for peace and comfort for you all.

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**Deb Hogan** - November 30, 2022 at 08:58 AM

BC

“ Beverly, we lit a candle in memory of James but obviously, we did something wrong. Our prayers are with you!

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**Betty Carmack** - November 30, 2022 at 12:51 AM



“ Beverly, Regina, Jimmy & all family members. I am so sorry to hear of the death of your love one. Just visited in the hospital on Nov. 18th. Keeping you in my prayers, praying the God's Grace will cover you at this time. James was always such a good friend to me. Will miss him along with you,

*Friend Leo in At, Louis*

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**Leo Daugherty** - November 29, 2022 at 04:44 PM