

## James Carl "Jimmy" Jester

October 28, 1956 - June 19, 2021

Memorial service for James Carl "Jimmy" Jester, age 64, of Hartselle, will be Saturday, June 26, 2021, 2:00 p.m. at Fayetteville Cumberland Presbyterian Church with Rev. Tim Smith officiating. The family will receive friends for two hours prior to service at the church in Fayetteville. In Decatur, the family will receive friends on Friday, June 25, 2021 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Shelton Funeral Home Chapel.

Mr. Jester, who died Saturday, June 19, 2021, at his residence, was born October 28, 1956, in Lincoln County, TN, to Wilson Thomas Jester and Vernell Surina Allen Jester. He was preceded in death by his father, stepfather, Bobby Lewter, and grandparents, Carl and Viola Jester and Virginia DeMore. He was formerly married to Susan Zimmerle Jester.

He was a 1974 graduate of Central High School in Fayetteville, and a member of Fayetteville Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He possessed a great sense of humor and maintained his quick wit until the end.

He worked for Boeing for many years and was proud to be a part of the International Space Station program. He was active in the local union IAM 2766. He thoroughly enjoyed stock car and dirt track racing, and working on cars in his garage with his buddies, Robert Vinzant (recently deceased) and Jimmy Wallace; he was known by many as "J.J." and revered for his

mechanical skills. Watching Luke Riddle race dirt track was a special joy for him. He was active in the Decatur Bass Club.

He is survived by his loving companion of 12 years, Tracy Riddle, of Hartselle; stepson, Luke Riddle (Chelsie) of Hartselle; mother, Vernell Jester Lewter Pressnell (James) of Fayetteville, TN; one brother, Mike Jester of Fayetteville, TN; one sister, Vanatta Gentry (Steve) of Fayetteville, TN; five nephews, Carl Jester (Lindsey), Will Gentry, Dylan Gentry, Jaydon England, and Andrew Sybert; one niece, Nicole Self (Jason); and his four-legged buddy, Elvis.

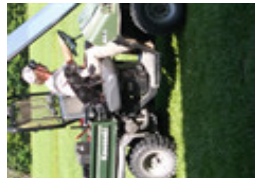
Jimmy's family would like to express their special thanks to Dr. John Irle and staff, Dr. Nauveen Lobo and staff, Dr. Traci McCormick and staff, and to the caregivers and staff of Hospice of the Valley.

In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully requests memorial donations be made to Fayetteville Cumberland Presbyterian Church or Alabama Public Television.

# Tribute Wall



“ 8 files added to the album Tracy Riddle



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**Shelton Funeral Home** - January 14, 2022 at 03:33 PM



“ 37 files added to the album Susan Jester



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**Shelton Funeral Home** - January 14, 2022 at 03:32 PM

MT

“ Jimmy was a wonderful person and such a hard worker! Everyone loved him and enjoyed working with him! My thoughts and prayers are with Tracy and all the family during this difficult time! May you find joy in the many happy memories of JJ. Love, hugs and prayers to all! ❤️



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**Mitzi Taylor** - June 26, 2021 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ Jimmy was one of the 'greats' to have as a friend! He was so kind and unselfish and would help out in any way. I was blessed to have him as a friend. I had the pleasure of cutting Jimmy's hair for 38 years. They don't make them like Jimmy anymore, they broke the mold after him. I will miss him. He will be in my heart forever.



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**Margaret Wyker** - June 25, 2021 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ Jimmy, my sweet brother-in-law, best friend of my husband David since first grade, he taught my two little girls how to waterski, took them boating, fishing, swimming. Mechanically inclined (expert), could garden remembering watching his granny. Built a wall-to-ceiling brick hearth for my mother's house, piped the wood stove, put a roof on the house -in his early 20s. Numerous other useful favors for many people through the years. My mother wanted Jimmy to accompany her while shopping for a house in 1977, for his savvy judgment. One wasn't on "the right side of the tracks" but Mother liked it. Unfortunately during their walk-through there was a child's underwear in the bathroom sink with "contents". Leaving the house, she said, "Jimmy, what do you think?" In his droll way, he said, "Well, Jeanette, I think the house smelled like plain, purely old s\*\*\*." We thought that was the funniest thing we ever heard. (She bought it regardless. She'd answered, "I noticed that too.") At the end of her life he built her a high-quality wheelchair ramp. My mother had wanderlust and had moved residences through the years, sometimes because of her job. The sons-in-law got tired of moving her. Jimmy was a pallbearer at her funeral with the other sons-in-law. At the hearse he said, "We're moving Jeanette one last time." We loved Jimmy; there was nobody like Jimmy. I know he got a loving welcome in heaven: "Well done, my good and faithful servant."



Betty Zimmerle Smith - June 25, 2021 at 12:00 AM



“ lit a candle in memory of James Carl "Jimmy" Jester



June 24, 2021 at 12:00 AM

ET

“ Jimmy, was a cool, lay back fella, who had a funny way of putting things that went on at the Boeing co. in manufacturing...I guess it was his southern accent, I got a kick out hearing, me being from Chicago,..God, rest his soul, and blessings & peace, on his family thst is left behind.



Eric Tyler - June 24, 2021 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ Jimmy was a great guy. We will always remember the good times we shared at work and the hard times during the 2005 strike. He will forever be in our hearts and memories. Brian and Rita Little



Rita Little - June 24, 2021 at 12:00 AM



“ lit a candle in memory of James Carl "Jimmy" Jester



June 23, 2021 at 12:00 AM



“ lit a candle in memory of James Carl "Jimmy" Jester



June 23, 2021 at 12:00 AM

RI

“ Jimmy was an extraordinary person , so gifted on so many levels. I had the privilege of knowing him many years and also working with him. You haven't seen Italy until you see it with JJ. He noticed things nobody else would . A truly complex man capable of simplifying the most complex task. The world has lost a treasure, a thinker with an incredible sense of humor and willingness to help anyone that asked. I'll see you later my friend.



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**Rickey** - June 22, 2021 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Vernell & Family,we are very sorry to hear of Jimmy's passing.May God wraap his arms around each of you during this most difficult time.Love ya Lady and Hugs to the Family. Brenda (ERBurns) and Joe



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**Brenda & Joe Burns** - June 22, 2021 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Good man, good friend. You will be missed JJ



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**Mark Mayes** - June 21, 2021 at 12:00 AM