



James A. Horton

April 21, 1943 - April 11, 2026

James Allen Horton, age 82, passed away peacefully on April 11, 2026, in Tupelo, Mississippi. He was born April 21, 1943, in Sheffield, Alabama.

James is survived by his devoted wife, Rose; his son, Jim (Kami) Horton of Chattanooga, Tennessee; his grandchildren, Kadie Horton (Zeke Robinson) of Nashville, Tennessee, and Eli Horton of Chattanooga, Tennessee; and his great-granddaughter, Karmen. He was preceded in death by his parents, Percy and Eleanor Horton, and his sisters, Barbara Strange and Faye Chastain. He also leaves behind brothers- and sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews, and many dear friends.

James attended Mars Hill Bible School, Freed-Hardeman College, and Abilene Christian University. As a younger man, he proudly served in the National Guard.

James deeply loved his family. He was devoted to Rose, and they were truly best friends. His face always lit up when she entered the room. He was a loving father to Jim and adored his grandchildren, Kadie and Eli, who lovingly called him "Poppy." His family was one of his greatest joys.

He enjoyed simple pleasures like watching Gunsmoke and other Westerns, working outdoors, and spending time in the yard with Rose. A jack of all

trades, James was always ready to lend a helping hand. He also loved drawing and was known as a world-class doodler. James enjoyed humor and often shared stories of playful pranks.

Serving the Lord was the most important part of James' life. He faithfully ministered to congregations in Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, and Texas. He wrote countless bulletin articles and had a special love for young people, striving to make everyone feel welcomed, valued, and respected.

James will be remembered for his gentle spirit, faithful service, love for his family, and unwavering dedication to the Lord. His legacy lives on in the many lives he touched through his ministry, kindness, and example of faithful living.

The family has been deeply touched by the compassionate care provided by NMHS Hospice. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the following:

NMHS Healthcare Foundation
In Honor of James Horton
1016 Gloster Street
Tupelo, MS 38804

Cemetery Details

Tri-Cities Memorial Gardens

2601 Florence Blvd
Florence , AL 35630

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 16. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Ripley Church of Christ
1300 Hall Dr
Ripley, MS 38663-1094
(662) 837-9011

Service

APR 16. 2:00 PM.

Ripley Church of Christ
1300 Hall Drive
Ripley , MS

Tribute Wall

SG

“ I am so sorry to hear of his passing. I'd like to say that he was one of the nicest people and I learned so much when he taught the word of God. He made it so easy to understand and kept your interest. He was a blessing to so many people and will now have his rewards in Heaven.

Shannon Gamblin - April 18 at 09:52 AM

JM

“ James was a good friend and classmate. I have really admired his work sharing the gospel. His spirituality set a great example for all of us whose lives he touched. Our sympathy to Rose and all the family.
Jerry Mitchell

Jerry Mitchell - April 16 at 09:20 PM



“ James was a fellow classmate at Mars Hill Bible School. He was a kind and spiritually-minded man. Our love to his sweet wife, Rose.
Milton and Laurel Sewell

Laurel Sewell - April 15 at 05:42 PM

DP

“ Dan & Bev Pratt planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James A. Horton.

Dan & Bev Pratt - April 14 at 10:48 PM

DP

“ *Dan & Bev Pratt purchased the Rose Impression Casket Spray for the family of James A. Horton.*



Dan & Bev Pratt - April 14 at 10:48 PM

JS

“ *A dear high school and family friend. My father, James Blankinship from Sheffield, Al, saw great potential in James, even as a teenager. The world lost a good man.*

Jean Smelser - April 14 at 07:20 PM

JP

“ *James and Rose have served Jesus faithfully for many years. James served as preacher at the Ripley Church of Christ. He was a prolific writer, even after retirement. Many will be in heaven because of God's grace, the teachings of this team, and the obedience of hearers. He will be remembered long and fondly. Rose will continue their work. Hebrews 11:4.*

James Pilgrim - April 13 at 02:37 PM

JB

“ *I have very fond memories of my teenage years with Brother Horton and Ms. Rose at the Ripley church of Christ. He was always so much fun to be around - my prayers are with his family - you have my deepest sympathy. Joy Lynn Cook Brown*

Joy Lynn Cook Brown - April 13 at 02:17 PM

PE

“ I remember James and Rose fondly, spent many happy times with them. Those days at Gloster Street as our preacher and friend were such happy days. Rose I am praying for you and Jimmy .

Peggy Engel - April 13 at 10:48 AM

DC

“ Even though I don't have many memories of him, I will always remember HIM. As the minister of Gloster Street Church of Christ in 1972, he baptized me on Easter morning. ❤️

Donna Castles - April 13 at 10:04 AM