



## James Lane Harris

December 27, 1952 - February 3, 2021

James Lane Harris, 68, a Ramblin' Wreck from Georgia Tech and a helluva engineer, and a member of Bruner's Grove Methodist Church, passed from this life on Tuesday evening, February 2, 2021 at his home in Bybee, TN. He was surrounded by his beloved family.

Known to most as "Jim" and to his closest family as "Griz," Jim was born on December 27, 1952 in Bluefield, WV. Much of his childhood was spent baling hay and tending to livestock. He briefly attempted playing baseball while attending Tazewell High School but stayed too busy on the family farm. He was a 1970 graduate of South Dade Senior High School in Homestead, FL where he played football. He was deeply protective of his younger sisters, but delighted in tormenting and embarrassing them. While working towards a 1974 graduation from the Georgia Institute of Technology Jim regularly got his "oil changed" at The Varsity and enjoyed bits of mischief with his Kappa Sigma brothers. During the summer of '72, he met the love of his life over a horse saddle. They were married for 47 years, raising three children, and moving all around the country in support of his career in textiles engineering and management. Jim was the kind of Dad who wanted his children to be well prepared for the world. He spent many hours teaching them everything from turning wrenches on engines to proper concrete composition to the finer points of rock'n'roll. He rarely missed one of his kids' extracurricular events, always with a camera recording as he cheered them on. He encouraged them into international travel and new experiences. When his children married, their

spouses also became members of the "best kids on the planet" club. Jim liked to say he had an unofficial BS degree in BS. He loved horsepower, traveling, telling stories, and finding the smoothest Long Island Iced Tea. Nothing was done until it was drawn out on a napkin and over-engineered, and he always went big or went home. He especially loved to spend time with his family and friends, but his true pride and joy was his granddaughters. He leaves us with a legacy of a generous servant's heart. Jim is preceded in death by his parents, James Lee "Bub" Harris and Barbara Lane Tabor Harris, sister Jerry Harris Buchanan, and brothers-in-law Marvin S Harold and Stuart "Winn" Buchanan. He is survived by his wife, Geraldine "Gerry" Thompson Harris, and children Toni Harris, Jimmy Harris and his wife Christie, and Amanda and her husband Michael Lane; his two granddaughters Ruby Harris and Amara Lane; and siblings Jane Harold, Crystal Daugherty and Crystal's husband, Kenny. A celebration of life will be held at the Bruner's Grove United Methodist Church fellowship hall, 2416 Knob Creek Rd, Bybee, TN 37713 on Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 6:00 pm. For those who wish to send flowers, please request delivery after 12:00 pm to the fellowship hall. In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to the church at PO Box 33, Bybee, TN 37713. At Jim Harris' request, a second celebration will be held at a later date (to be determined) in his hometown of Tazewell, Virginia.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

FEB 10. 6:00 PM (ET)

Bruner's Grove United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall  
2416 Knob Creek Road  
Bybee, TN 37713

# Tribute Wall



“ *James Lane Harris*

November 17, 2022 at 06:00 PM



“ *I met Jimmy Lane at Georgia Tech in 1971. I was proud to have been in his wedding along with Randy & Steve. The ham sandwiches that his Dad made for us were as sweet as Jimmy Lane's personality. We both enjoyed a week-end that we traveled to Ellaville GA to visit my Grandmother's farm. It was with great sadness that I read of his passing. I had searched the internet for years to find him, only to have been a year too late.*

*Bruce Gattis*

**Bruce Gattis** - May 08, 2022 at 11:54 PM



“ *Gerry, Amanda, Toni, Bud.....*

*I knew your Dad from our earliest days at Ga Tech. For four years he was my friend, my confidant, and "hang around" buddy. We later became fraternity brothers and that tightened our bond even more. I called him "Hatchet" ( a story for another day) and although we kind of lost touch in following years.....I always felt like he was close by!*

*I will miss him, yet take great pride in knowing what a wonderful family he leaves behind, and what a quality father I'm sure he was. Take care, and know I love you all.*

*Randy Bailey*

**Randall Bailey** - July 24, 2021 at 10:13 AM



*Randy, it has been almost 50 years since we were all in Jimmy Lanes wedding. You can reach out to me at [brucegattis@gmail.com](mailto:brucegattis@gmail.com)*

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**Bruce Gattis** - May 08, 2022 at 11:57 PM

GA

“ *Just learned of Jim's passing. I felt a profound sadness. We met at Filter Specialist in Michigan City, Indiana and remained friends for many, many years. Jim was a friend of the highest caliber. I was lucky to have known Jim, rest in peace.  
Your friend Gunther.*

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**gunther asterlin** - February 18, 2021 at 06:03 PM

JB

“ *So sorry to learn of Jim's passing. He was a good man, who loved his family and friends. Please know you all are in my prayers.*

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**Jerry Barlar** - February 11, 2021 at 03:07 PM

TM

“ *Amanda, my heartfelt condolences go out to you and your family. The stories you shared of your father were a testament of your love and admiration for him. Keeping you in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Tiffany McNeese*

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**Tiffany McNeese** - February 10, 2021 at 05:45 PM

DS

“ Gerry and family. I'm so sorry to here of Jim's passing. We had communicated several years ago when a Tech professor, Dr. Gentry had passed away. I new of his plane accident but had not known of his illness. Susan and I remember fondly the good old days at Tech and a few weekends in "Possum Hollow!" We live on the Virginia - NC border not too far from your old stomping grounds. You and your family will be in my and Susan's thoughts and prayers! RIP in peace my friend!

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**Doug Shoemaker** - February 10, 2021 at 04:33 PM

DH

“ Amanda I am so sorry to hear of your dad's passing. I am so proud to say I had the privilege of meeting him and staying in touch with him. Last communication I had with him was on Jan 20th. Thank you for sharing him with the students of White House. He made a great impression on them to be thankful and grateful and to never stop fighting. He loved you all dearly. Thankful I got to know him and thankful you all have many wonderful memories to share with your children! Donna Hagan

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**Donna Hagan** - February 10, 2021 at 02:55 PM

GS

“ I will be missing his long Christmas letters.  
Not to mention his e-mails during the year.

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**Gerlinde Swats** - February 10, 2021 at 02:19 PM

BI

“ I'm very sorry to hear about Jim's passing. I came to know Jim after his airplane accident and the lawsuit we filed to hold the negligent air traffic controllers who caused the accident accountable. Unfortunately, as we have seen recently in our country, evil sometimes prevails here on earth, but Jim never gave up fighting. He always had a great attitude and fought the good fight! It was a true honor to know Jim and become his friend. We will all miss him very much!

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**Brad Irwin** - February 10, 2021 at 11:08 AM

BI

“ Brad I. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of James Lane Harris.



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**Brad I.** - February 10, 2021 at 11:08 AM

N7

“ Nathaniel Monroe Class of 70 purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of James Lane Harris.



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**Nathaniel Monroe Class of 70** - February 09, 2021 at 10:02 PM

DW

“ I had the privilege of meeting and working with Jim early in our careers. Jim and Gerry were the type of people you just wanted to know and be around. Jim dealt with adversity with a positive attitude.

*In today's world, good people are hard to find. Jim was one of those people and knowing Jim I suspect he left a legacy that is wide and deep.*

*Go rest on that mountain big guy.*

*Your friend,*

*Dave Whaley*

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**Dave Whaley** - February 09, 2021 at 04:46 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of James Lane Harris.



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February 09, 2021 at 10:57 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James Lane Harris.



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February 09, 2021 at 08:32 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of James Lane Harris.*



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February 09, 2021 at 08:26 AM



“ *RIP Jim. We love you so much. I know you have gone on to heaven and are having a blast reeking havoc up there. I have missed you and the family since you moved away from being our neighbors. I will say the neighborhood has never been the same with out you. We had a lot of good times and laughed a lot. You will always be in my heart and thoughts. I got to see your family grow and grow and grow. I am so proud to have been a friend, which I might say, I never knew we shared the same birthdate though. With all my love, thoughts and prayers to each of you, Gerry, Toni, Amanda and Bud, I LOVE YOU ALL!!!!*

*Karen Wilson*

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**Karen Wilson** - February 08, 2021 at 12:01 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of James Lane Harris.*



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February 08, 2021 at 10:20 AM

LT

“ Love to all! Aunt Judy, Lisa & Teresa purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of James Lane Harris.



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**Love to all! Aunt Judy, Lisa & Teresa** - February 08, 2021 at 09:56 AM

JS

“ So saddened to hear about Jim’s passing. I worked with Jim in superior glove Newfoundland where we became good friends through plenty of frustration and laughter. After we both went our own way through tex and messenger we often would find ourselves into long conversations. But most of all the kids . His grandkids and my sons are very close in age he had so much love for them and his family. I would love hearing about his growing up down in the states. Sending positive thoughts and prayers to the family keep them close to your heart. Rest easy Jim me buddy  
Fr. Justin Sarah max and Isaac

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**justin saunders** - February 07, 2021 at 04:17 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James Lane Harris.



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February 07, 2021 at 07:53 AM

AC

“ To Gerry and the herd, So sorry to hear about Jim. Lots of fun memories from all the spots we seemed to bump into each other around the country, whether in the same company or different ones. Pat and I will miss Jim, Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

*Arthur Cashin - Nashville, TN*

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**Arthur Cashin** - February 07, 2021 at 12:38 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of James Lane Harris.*



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February 06, 2021 at 04:34 PM