



Jim Jacobs

April 15, 1947 - July 27, 2024

James O'Neal (Jim) Jacobs, longtime resident of Forney, passed away peacefully on July 27, 2024, at his home with his family at his side.

Jim was born April 15, 1947, in Dallas, TX to James Edward and Hazel Marie Jacobs and upon entering Heaven, Jim was gladly welcomed by his Lord and Savior, whom he served so faithfully and his parents along with his sister, Cindy Richards.

Upon meeting Jim, every person immediately knew three things: he loved the Lord, he loved his family, and he loved his country. Jim had a servant's heart, a leader's mindset and unwavering beliefs and principles. Throughout his life he was called to serve in various capacities. As a young man, he enlisted in the Army where he served with honor and distinction in Vietnam. Jim was awarded the Bronze Star, numerous infantry and armory medals, and most notably, a Purple Heart. When asked about his time in Vietnam, Jim did not gush about his awards, rather he remembered those who fought alongside him and suffered more greatly than he did. After the war, Jim returned home, completed his college degree at UNT and began his career in the insurance industry.

Jim's walk with God started at a young age. While leading a devotional to his fellow youth group, the then 16-year-old met a beautiful visitor, named Linda.

Jim and Linda had an instant connection, their friendship quickly blossomed into love and on March 16, 1968, they were married in Dallas. In 1969, Jim and Linda moved to Forney where they soon immersed themselves in the community and joined First Baptist Church of Forney. Once again, Jim heeded the call to serve. With Linda by his side, they began establishing relationships with local youth ultimately generating two new classes to serve youth and young couples. Their commitment to ensuring young people had a firm foundation in the love of Jesus had lasting impacts. Several of their “students” over the years shared testimony and stories of just how impactful that time was in their lives. In 1975 Jim was ordained as a Deacon at First Baptist Forney where he continue to serve the Lord at the church he loved.

Jim’s call to civic responsibility afforded him ample opportunity to serve the community he loved. He was elected to the Forney ISD School Board for over 25 years holding many offices, including President, as the Board navigated the education needs of a growing suburban town. Jim also served on the City of Forney Planning and Zoning, was appointed to the Kaufman County Appraisal District and the Kaufman County Veteran Board. Jim was also very active in the American Legion Post #591 where he served in many positions with commander being the latest until his health required him to resign.

When there was spare time, he enjoyed spending time with family friends, fast cars and Harleys. In 1970, Jim began a longtime passion for restoring cars with his first being a 1952 MG TD and then he moved onto several other cars known for their unique beauty and speed. He loved racing his red Shelby Cobra and his blue Shelby Daytona. When asked which car was his favorite, Jim smiled his signature smile and said, “The Harley!” He truly enjoyed the craftsmanship and instant recognizability of the Harley-Davidson bikes and every ride became a treasured memory.

A loving husband, devoted dad, cherished Papa and treasured uncle, mentor

and friend, Jim's gift of love and service to others will be the legacy carried on by everyone who knew him.

Jim is survived by his beloved wife, Linda Jacobs; his son, Matthew Jacobs and wife, Erin; daughter, Bonnie Vinson and husband, Keith; grandchildren: Allie Jacobs, Alec Vinson, Gracie Vinson, Campbell Palmertree and Cy Jacobs; siblings: Laura Delk and husband, Joe; Ruth Law and husband, Joe Don; Velma Byford and husband, Eugene; brother-in-law, Mike Belew as well as several nieces, nephews, extended family, church family and countless friends, each of whom will greatly miss Jim.

A Celebration of his life will be at 11:00am, Wednesday, July 31, 2024, at First Baptist Church of Forney, in the Forum with his family receiving friends beginning at 10:00 am to service time.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Clay Jones Legacy Foundation which was close to Jim's heart at <https://pages.donately.com/clayjoneslegacyfoundation/campaigns>

Previous Events

Family to receive friends

JUL 31. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Forney
1003 College St.
Forney, TX 75126

Celebration of Life

JUL 31. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Forney
1003 College Ave
Forney, TX 75126
(972) 564-3357

Tribute Wall



“ Max Slayton Funerals and Cremations created a Tribute Video in memory of Jim Jacobs



Max Slayton Funerals & Cremations - July 31, 2024 at 10:37 AM

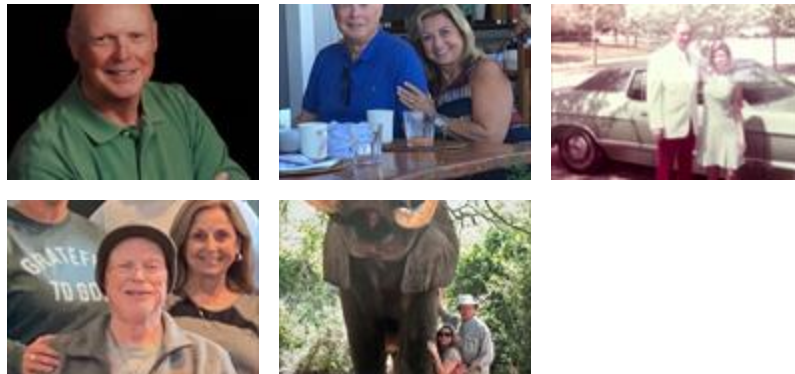


“ Men's Bible Study Class FBC Forney planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jim Jacobs.

Men's Bible Study Class FBC Forney - August 10, 2024 at 02:46 PM



“ 144 files added to the album Memories Album



Max Slayton Funerals & Cremations - July 31, 2024 at 10:36 AM

MW

“ Mary and Lisa Kleypas, and Gordon Wetzel planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jim Jacobs.

Mary and Lisa Kleypas, and Gordon Wetzel - July 30, 2024 at 04:37 PM

MW

“ Mary and Lisa Kleypas, and Gordon Wetzel purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Jim Jacobs.



Mary and Lisa Kleypas, and Gordon Wetzel - July 30, 2024 at 04:33 PM

WT

“ Wendy Thomas purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Jim Jacobs.



Wendy Thomas - July 30, 2024 at 04:22 PM



“ Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Jim Jacobs.



July 30, 2024 at 01:52 PM

CE

“ My Uncle Jimmy was an amazing man. I will always remember him grinning from ear to ear as he told jokes to my Papa and the other gentlemen members of the family at Christmas and Thanksgiving get togethers. He, Papa, and Matt loved going fishing at my dad's. Uncle Jimmy could be stern when necessary, I remember being in trouble by him a few times and I was scared to death, and cried when he got into me.. but I will never forget that amazing grin, and contagious laugh. I have always had the utmost respect for him and I I've always loved him very much. Rest in Peace Uncle Jimmy. I love you.. eternally! See ya... Lord please show him the best window in Heaven he can view his loved ones through. May they be comforted by your love Lord and your promises fulfilled. Amen Aunt Linda, Matt, and Bonnie, I'm praying for y'all, I love you all very much. I'm so sorry for your loss. God bless y'all.

Catherine Edwards - July 30, 2024 at 11:41 AM

BM

“ Betty Morrow purchased the Garden Accent - A heart of gold stopped beating... for the family of Jim Jacobs.



Betty Morrow - July 30, 2024 at 11:23 AM

TN

“ Terry and Marjory Norris planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jim Jacobs.

Terry and Marjory Norris - July 30, 2024 at 09:47 AM

TN

“ Terry and Marjory Norris purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Jim Jacobs.



Terry and Marjory Norris - July 30, 2024 at 09:47 AM

KW

“ Jim was an amazing person and role model. His presence at church and in the community brought joy to everyone. So many of my childhood memories include Jim and the Jacobs family: attending church league softball games, jackrabbit football, and all of the fun we had on Center St. Jim was an amazing person with an undeniable gift for connecting with people. Thoughts and prayers are with Linda, Matt, and Bonnie. We love you and pray that God brings you peace.

Kyle Warren - July 30, 2024 at 08:30 AM

MR

“ We haven't seen Jim in many years, but we were shocked to hear of his passing. He always seemed younger than his years, a country boy with a quick grin and lots of friends. I worked with him at Marsh, and everyone there loved him, as did his clients. We're all sorry to know he's left us and gone to Heaven, but I'm sure they're glad to have him there with them now. Godspeed, Jim.

Mike and Melanie Ross

Mike and Melanie Ross - July 29, 2024 at 06:11 PM

PT

“ *People + Culture Team purchased the Joyful Memory for the family of Jim Jacobs.*



People + Culture Team - July 29, 2024 at 02:41 PM

RR

“ *Ronny and Tami Rexrode purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Jim Jacobs.*



Ronny and Tami Rexrode - July 29, 2024 at 02:38 PM

RR

“ *Ronny and Tami Rexrode planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jim Jacobs.*

Ronny and Tami Rexrode - July 29, 2024 at 02:38 PM