



James "Jimmy" Wade Keel

NOV 1, 1942 - JUN 10, 2024



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A Celebration of Life service will be held on Friday, June the 14th at 5:00pm at Flint Hill Church. The family receive friends from 3:00pm until 5:00pm at Flint Hill.

James Wade Keel "Jimmy" stepped into heavenly glory on June 10th, 2024. He is survived by his loving wife of 53 years Martha Keel, his twin daughters, Shelley Sims (Cory), Kelley Fuller (Jimmy), his four grandchildren, Bailey Sims Williams (Joshua), Gracen Sims Carter (Daniel), Gavin Fuller, Marlie Fuller, and his three great grandchildren Maren Keel Williams, Zane Daniel Carter, and Callahan Joshua Williams, also siblings, Johnny Keel Sr. Rayford "Shot" Keel (Brenda) and Julia Ann "Sue" Bess (Harold). He is preceded in death by his parents, Carey Judson Keel Sr., Lurlene Dean Keel, his brothers and sister: Carey Judson Keel Jr., Harold Dean Keel, Vera Keel Veazey, George Edward Keel, Bobby Joe Keel, Earl Wayne Keel, and grandson Jon Hudson Sims.

Jimmy was a member of Flint Hill Church for 23 years. He served 6 years in the United States Army Reserve. Jimmy was a textile technician for Russell Mills and a well-known farmer within the area. He cultivated a large customer base in Tallapoosa County through his vegetable business, "Papa's Produce", and gave away more than he sold. Jimmy believed all people, especially senior citizens, deserved access to fresh, locally grown food and that was his passion.

He developed a passion for serving his community in a larger capacity. He ran for city council of Alexander City and was elected, serving as the district 6 councilman for 4 years. He enjoyed developing community relationships and discussing issues that pertained to the quality of life of senior citizens in Alexander City.

He was also an incredible fisherman. He was the owner of Fishhook Bait and Tackle, where his wife and daughters also helped with the family business. He fished every lake in the state of Alabama, held records for some of the largest bass ever pulled



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from Lake Martin, and loved teaching his grandchildren and great grandchildren how to fish.

If you knew Jimmy you knew 2 things; he was an incredibly hard worker, and he was going to do things his way, on his terms. He had a zest for life and a grit like no other. He didn't let aging, or a multitude of health issues or accidents stand in his way. He was truly a cat with nine lives. His family is incredibly blessed to have had a pillar of a man like him in their lives. His absence will certainly leave a hole, but we know he knew the Lord, and we will see him again.

It should be noted that his family was afforded 23 additional years with a beloved father, grandfather, and great grandfather through someone's selfless decision to give the gift of life through organ donation. He was a liver transplant recipient over 23 years ago, and he was an advocate for organ donation his entire life. He chose to be a donor in an attempt to pay it forward. He would encourage anyone who felt led to make the decision to be an organ donor to also give the gift of life. He certainly used the gift he was given to the fullest. In leu of flowers the family asks that memorial contributions be made in his memory to Legacy of Hope: Alabama's Organ & Tissue Donation Alliance or to Flint Hill Church.



Tribute Wall

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CS

Carol Jimmy Stewart lit a candle in honor of James "Jimmy".

So sorry we didn't know about this til days after his service. We have certainly been blessed by God to know Mr. Jimmy. He was a knowledgeable and kind Christian man that radiated the love of Jesus. We are also blessed to know his family for whom we will be praying for through this difficult process-especially Mrs. Martha, Shelley & her whole family-Josh & Bailey & babies, & Kelley & her whole family too. Hold onto the fact that you have had him these "extra" years & that you will see him again. Our love & prayers are with you all...



June 17 at 7:00 PM

KF

Kelley Fuller posted:

Thank you so much for your kind words. I know he appreciated your friendship.

June 14 at 7:00 PM

KF

Kelley Fuller posted:

Thank you so much for your kind words Beth. We love you.

June 14 at 7:00 PM

KF

Kelley Fuller posted:

Thank you so much Buffy. He always spoke fondly of you and thought a lot of you. Thank you for being so kind to him. He could be a little rough around the edges at times but he meant well. Thank you for your prayers.

June 14 at 7:00 PM

KF

Kelley Fuller posted:

Thank you. I'm sure he has already caught several now with friends in heaven.

June 14 at 7:00 PM

KF

Kelley Fuller posted:

Thank you for your kind words. He loved Alexander City and Lake Martin.

June 14 at 7:00 PM



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KF

Kelley Fuller posted:

He had a lot of stories to tell. Thank you for your kind words.

June 14 at 7:00 PM

KF

Kelley Fuller posted:

Thank you for your prayers.

June 14 at 7:00 PM

KF

Kelley Fuller posted:

Thank you for your kind words. We sure will miss him.

June 14 at 7:00 PM

KF

Kelley Fuller posted:

Thank you. The flowers were beautiful.

June 14 at 7:00 PM

DB

Deborah Ballard lit a candle in honor of James "Jimmy".

June 13 at 7:00 PM



SR

Shelton, Reseda lit a candle in honor of James "Jimmy".

June 12 at 7:00 PM



AB

Ann G Bradford lit a candle in honor of James "Jimmy".

June 12 at 7:00 PM





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PA

Pamela posted:

RIP Jimmy Keel, you were always so nice to us and we sure do miss your vegetables & the fun conversations & laughter we had! You are heavens newest angel and you will definitely be missed down here! Heaven is so much brighter now with you there! Ill never forget you knocking on my door with that smile of yours and bragging about buying your wife a golf cart & wouldn't give it to me lol!

June 12 at 7:00 PM

DB

Delbra Barker lit a candle in honor of James "Jimmy".



June 11 at 7:00 PM

DC

Dana Stringer And Debra Capistran posted:

Deepest condolences and prayers for peace.

June 11 at 7:00 PM

RH

Rodney Huett lit a candle in honor of James "Jimmy".



June 11 at 7:00 PM



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Evangelist Teresa Harrell Moten posted:

Such a honest and caring man of God, who loved his wife, family, neighbors and friends!Councilman KEEL stood up for right, and did not back down even if no one else would make a right stand!He cared so much about Dist. 6 and all Council districts that he was not elected too! Bro. Keel would visit locations and report to his districts concerns as well as progression in his district 6 area!God was with him all the way, and he came back to the table and finished to the end after near death experiences to stand in his integrity as a leader for our Township, Alexander City, Alabama!Mr. And Mrs. KEEL were genuinely in love, and the two of them worked hand in hand with God to continually serve our community!No Sis. KEEL was not on City Council; However, she was the UBER DRIVER making sure that her love of her life got to Council meetings on time, as the ASSISTANT, Councilman Bobby Tapley would be sure Councilman KEEL got his seat at the Council table! Fact of matter, Council Tapley moved to last seat, so Councilman KEEL could be upfront and not have to try to get to Dist. 6 Chair!Mrs. KEEL is in our heart, and when we sit in Municipal Council Chambers, and no longer see Bro. Keel, We already Know that he has crossed over to the victorious side of glory to be with our Lord! Although we may not see the Former ♥ UBER Driver Sis. KEEL in OUTSIDE PARKING LOT, WE will know God is taking care of Mrs. James KEEL (LOVE OF MR. KEEL'S LIFE) on this earth!BLESSINGS!Evangelist Teresa Harrell MotenMinistry in Motion

June 11 at 7:00 PM



Connie Lashley lit a candle in honor of James "Jimmy".



June 11 at 7:00 PM



Glenda And Paul lit a candle in honor of James "Jimmy".



June 11 at 7:00 PM



Jimmy Sanford posted:

Jimmy Keel will surely be missed,always kind and friendly, Thoughts and Prayers for his family.RIP Jimmy

June 11 at 7:00 PM



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NC

Nancy Crew lit a candle in honor of James "Jimmy".



June 11 at 7:00 PM

DS

David Stroud posted:

Always enjoyed hearing the stories he could tell about fishing and life in general, Alex City lost the best councilman they ever had , RIP my friend 🙏🏻🙏🏻

June 11 at 7:00 PM

SC

Sherra Shockley Claunch lit a candle in honor of James "Jimmy".

What a tremendous loss our city and community is suffering with the passing of this great man. In the council meetings he usually always voted the way I believe, and I was always so grateful to him! To all of his precious loved ones, I want you to know you are in my thoughts and prayers. May you find comfort in the loving arms of Jesus as you face the days ahead. God bless you as you grieve the loss of your wonderful loved one. I care!



June 11 at 7:00 PM

DA

Darrell Avery lit a candle in honor of James "Jimmy".



June 11 at 7:00 PM

RT

Richard Thornton lit a candle in honor of James "Jimmy".

My condolences and deepest sympathy to all family and friends of Jimmy. He was a great man and a dang good fisherman. He will be missed. RIP my friend.



June 11 at 7:00 PM



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BU

Buffy posted:

Words can not express how devastating I am with the lost of Mr. Keel. He was an outstanding council member & I thank God that I had an opportunity to work with him. Please know that he was a fighter & he will never be forgotten. I love yall & will pray for yall daily. May God grant you peace.

June 11 at 7:00 PM

BS

Beth Shaw posted:

My love to you and your entire family. Jimmy was a great Christian man who loved God, his family and God's beautiful earth that he tended so well. He was also the best city councilman that we ever had. Praying that God will wrap his loving arms around you during this very difficult time and bring you peace. It is comforting to know that we will be with our loved ones again some day in heaven. Until then you all have my love and prayers. 🙏❤️ Beth Shaw

June 11 at 7:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring James "Jimmy" by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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