



James "Jim" William Eaker

December 24, 1921 - February 5, 2022

James "Jim" William Eaker, 100, of Pleasant Hill, Missouri passed away on Saturday, February 5, 2022, at the Bud and Donna Somers Hospice House in Sebring, Florida with his daughter, Lisa, at his bedside. He was born December 24, 1921, in Lutesville, Missouri to Glen and Furlie (James) Eaker. They were sharecroppers in Bollinger County, Missouri. The family moved every year and Jim went to seven different grade schools. He attended high school in Jackson, Missouri and quit after completing the 10th grade to help support the family.

In July of 1942 he was drafted into the Army and served in Germany with the 311th Infantry Anti-Tank Company. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge at Remagen, Germany, one of the bloodiest battles of World War II. He served until 1946. He was married to Mary Alice Daugherty on December 13, 1943, in Durham, North Carolina, just prior to being deployed to Germany. She preceded him in death in 2008.

After service he learned the carpenter trade using the GI Bill and soon struck out on his own. He built mostly custom residential homes in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. His company name was James Eaker Contractor, Inc.

Jim loved sports of all kinds, but his passion was fishing. He and his long-time fishing partner, Arlie Smith, built a fishing house at Sardis Lake, Mississippi.

Together, they fished Lake Sardis in Mississippi, and Lake Okeechobee in Florida for over 40 years. He was a member of Lynwood Baptist Church in Cape Girardeau and provided crappie fillets for their twice-yearly fish fries. In his later years he fished with his daughter, Lisa, on Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri and Lake Istokpoga in Sebring, Florida.

Jim is survived by his daughter Lisa and son-in-law, Jim Watkins of Pleasant Hill, Missouri. Five grandchildren, Shawna Watkins (Mark), Jameson Watkins (Carla), David Wright (Dolly), Josh Watkins (Kayla) and Joel Watkins. Six Great Grandchildren, Jaden Riley, Lilya Wright, Owen Wright, Gage Watkins, Jack Watkins, and Asa Watkins.

Visitation will be from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. on Friday February 11, 2022, at Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel in Cape Girardeau.

A graveside funeral service will be at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, February 12, 2022, at Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery in Cape Girardeau with the Rev. Mark Anderson officiating.

Burial will be at Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery in Cape Girardeau.

The family requests no flowers. Memorial contributions can be made to Southeast Missouri Food Bank, www.semofoodbank.org. Online condolences may be made at www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery

2315 Highway 61 North
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
(573) 334-1909
<https://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 11. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Graveside Service

FEB 12. 10:00 AM (CT)

Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery
2315 Highway 61 North
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Tribute Wall

GM

“ *Jim and Lisa and to all of your family, it was such a privilege to have met and had a chance to get to know your dad! He was such a nice person and would have loved the chance to get to know him better! We are soo sorry for your loss of him!*

Gerri Meeuwsen - February 09, 2022 at 03:39 PM

LI

Thank you Gerri, We appreciate your friendship!

lisa - February 21, 2022 at 11:16 AM

CH

“ *Lisa, we extend our sympathy to you and your family. Your parents were a lovely couple who always had time for a neighborly word as we were coming and going in the 17 years we lived just up the hill on Oak Hills Drive. They are a part of our memories of that special time in our lives while raising our daughters. May your memories sustain you.*

Jim and Cyndy Hall

Cyndy Hall - February 09, 2022 at 07:16 AM

LI

Thank you Cyndy.

lisa - February 21, 2022 at 11:17 AM

JJ

“ Jim was one of the nicest and coolest individuals I ever met. He was always easy to talk to and had a contagious smile. I met Jim while helping Jim and Lisa Watkins build a deck and gazebo at their home. I was so impressed with him and his carpentry skills and also how strong he was. We had to carry a pile of 2 x 12 x 14 lumber around the house about 40 feet to the back of the house. So I got busy and picked up one of the boards and carried it on my shoulder down the hill to the drop off point. Carrying one was about as much as I could do but when I turned around there was ole Jim with one on each shoulder. Now I was 2 inches taller and outweighed him by 20 pounds and was 20 years younger. I can't remember exactly when that was but around 25 years ago. I was shocked. During that time I was working with Jim he also taught me several neat carpentry tricks. When I left that day, my thoughts were, “ this guy is the real deal”. I thought of him as a genuinely good person to be friends with then and I still feel that way today. Rest in peace my good man, rest in peace.

John Jerashen - February 08, 2022 at 05:01 PM

LI

Thanks John. Love to hear the memories!

lisa - February 21, 2022 at 11:18 AM