



James "Trapper" Watson

August 29, 1951 - September 22, 2021

James "Trapper" Monroe Watson, 70, of Horseshoe Beach, Florida passed away September 22, 2021.

Mr. Watson was born August 29, 1951 to the late John and Emily Watson in Stuart, Florida, but had spent most of his life in the Dixie County area. He was a member of the Horseshoe Beach First Baptist Church, the Rock Level Hunting Club, the Florida Trappers Association, and the Second Amendment Supporters Group. Mr. Watson loved the outdoors, would always try to help others, he was an old school cowboy, liked to reload ammo, liked to go shooting, and was a jack of all trades.

Mr. Watson is survived by his wife who he was with for over 30 years Lorene Watson, his daughters Tracy Harding, Lawanda Castro, Jennifer Thomas, Lori Watkins, and Laura Watson, his brothers David Watson, Skitter Watson, Tom Watson, and Raymond King, Jr, his sisters Fannie Watson, Carla Lambert, Lisa Martin, and Jackie Giaimo, 14 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren, and other extended family members. He was preceded in death by his sons James Monroe Watson Jr, Jesse Malcom Watson, and Larry Harding.

Funeral services for Mr. Watson will be held 4:00 PM Tuesday, September 28, 2021 at the Rick Gooding Funeral Home Cross City Chapel, with Bro. John Sherrill and Bro. Tim Bear officiating. The family will receive friends at the

funeral home one hour prior to the service.

Arrangements have been placed under the care of the Rick Gooding Funeral Home Cross City Chapel, with locations in Cross City 352-498-5400 and Chiefland 352-493-0050. Please sign the online guest book at rickgoodingfuneralhomes.com

Previous Events

Funeral Service

SEP **28**. 4:00 AM (ET)

Rick Gooding Funeral Home Cross City Chapel
16984 SE Hwy 19
Cross City, FL 32628

Visitation

SEP **28**. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Rick Gooding Funeral Home Cross City
16984 SE Hwy 19
Cross City, FL 32628
(352) 498-5400

Tribute Wall



“ Rick Gooding Funeral Homes created a Webcast in memory of James "Trapper" Watson



Rick Gooding Funeral Homes - September 28, 2021 at 03:40 PM

PW

What a beautiful my service.. May he rest in peace...

Phillip waits - September 28, 2021 at 04:39 PM


Leslie
Fafard

When I worked at Island Foods in Cross City, James and Rene came in often. James would show me the latest knife he made or what he had gotten in his traps that day. I have a knife he made and gifted me. A more avid outdoors man than James I haven't met yet. What he brought home Rene could cook.

Leslie Fafard - September 30, 2021 at 07:42 AM

AD

i miss my grandfather so much i will give every thing to have just one more day with him

adriancox - March 02, 2022 at 11:02 AM

SW

We think of him often miss going to camp and hang out listening to the many stories told of hog hunting trying to get David to get different guns for hunting with

Sheila Jaime and David Watson - November 27, 2022 at 11:07 AM



I miss my papa

Lexi - July 17, 2025 at 08:29 AM



Papa wish I could talk to you when life gets rough but I know you are reading the from Haven I'm 14 now wish you where here

Lexi - July 17, 2025 at 08:31 AM



“ James "Trapper" Watson

October 08, 2023 at 10:03 PM



“ James "Trapper" Watson

January 30, 2023 at 01:26 AM



“ Rose & Toyota Hayes lit a candle in memory of James "Trapper" Watson



Rose & Toyota Hayes - September 30, 2021 at 08:49 PM

“ About 35 years ago, I met a hunter in the Tide Swamp Management Area during bow season.

I was relatively new to archery hunting, and it was pretty apparent to this fellow, I needed his help.

This larger than life character named James Watson took me under his wing so to speak, and he taught me pretty much everything I know today about bow hunting in Florida.

Over the years we remained close friends, and distant neighbors. actually, we were much more like family.

At least once a week we were drinking coffee at his kitchen table, riding in the woods, sitting in his reloading shop, or tracking game.

****James was so looking forward to this 2021-22 archery and hunting season; God had other plans.****

Evidence of James Watson's life can easily be found most everywhere in my house...

from stuff my gun safe, in my cabinets, to my vehicles, tree stands, even attached to my duty belt.

From his period leather work, lead bullet casting, unique handmade knives, metal fabrication, wood work, or all the innovative little gadgets he so brilliantly designed in order to make life a little better. They are all cherished reminders that will always keep James in my heart.

James Watson truly was an old soul, a renaissance man, as well as cowboy at heart and in real life.

He could have been a millionaire, but he valued making other people's life richer more than he valued money.

To his wonderful family, @tracy.yarrell.23 @lorene.watson1 plus, everyone who knew and loved James, He truly loved and cherished you all.

James was more than my friend, he was my mentor, advice giver, story teller, and my brother.

God certainly gained a most efficient and talented Angel when he called James home.

Go Rest High on that Mountain James.

A great man, loyal friend, outstanding father, grandfather, and family man.

You will be missed, but you will never be forgotten.

C.p. Hart

Claude Hart - September 29, 2021 at 01:35 PM

HL

“*James & Lorene were two of the first people that I met through the Florida Trapper's Association, James would give you the shirt off of his back! He was a good hearted soul, down to earth and would share pretty much anything he had including trapping knowledge. He served as Director in the Florida Trapper's Association did demonstration and help any way he could in any capacity needed! He did leather work and made quite a few holsters for friends. James & Lorene invited for dinner at a trapping event and we talk for quite some time and I knew he & Lorene both truly love their kids & grandkids! In the seven years that I have had the pleasure of knowing him I and many others have been blessed to have known him! Our hope is in Christ Jesus and we will have alot more time in heaven to tell trapping stories and praise our God! You will be missed James.*



Harry Lindenmuth - September 27, 2021 at 07:40 PM