



Jim Hawkins

February 4, 1944 - May 26, 2025

It is with a mixture of sorrow and profound joy that we share the passing of James F. Hawkins, who entered into the arms of his Savior on May 26, 2025, at the age of 81. He is now rejoicing in heaven. Jim was born on February 4, 1944, in Ashtabula, Ohio, to his loving parents, Clarence and Hallie Hawkins.

Jim graduated from Roosevelt-Wilson High School in 1963. The following year, he married the love of his life, Karen Sue Barker, in Nutter Fort, West Virginia, embarking on a devoted partnership that would last for over 60 years.

A proud veteran, Jim served his country with honor in the U.S. Air Force from 1966 to 1970, contributing his skills to the Civil Engineering unit. After his military service, Jim and Karen made North Fort Myers, Florida, their home in 1970. Jim dedicated the next 30 years to Sears as a highly respected Service Technician, a role from which he eventually retired.

Jim's deep and abiding faith in Jesus Christ was the cornerstone of his life. He served as a Deacon for many years at First Baptist Church of N. Ft. Myers and Northside Baptist Church, offering guidance and support to his congregations. In 2023, Jim and Karen moved to Fanning Springs, where his spiritual journey continued as he became an active and cherished member of Cross City First Baptist Church. His life was a testament to his unwavering love for the Lord.

Beyond his professional and spiritual commitments, Jim had a profound impact on his community through his passion for Little League Baseball. He coached for many years, mentoring hundreds of young players, instilling in them not only the skills of the game but also invaluable life lessons. Jim found immense joy in the outdoors, with a deep love for hunting, fishing, and camping. His summers were often spent in his beloved West Virginia mountains, sharing cherished moments with Karen.

Jim is survived by his devoted wife, Karen; his son, Brian Hawkins, and daughter-in-law, Julie Hawkins; his daughter, Leslie Edverson, and son-in-law, Sean Edverson. He leaves behind five beloved grandchildren: Brett, Amanda, Drew, Micah, and Seth. Jim is also survived by his sister, Sheri Burnett, and brother-in-law, Sid Burnett.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at Noon on Saturday, May 31, 2025, at Cross City First Baptist Church, located at 16024 SE Highway 19, Cross City, FL 32628 with Rev. Ed Eldridge officiating.

Visitation will begin at 11:30 AM at the church.

Following the service, a reception will be held in the fellowship hall from 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM, providing an opportunity for family and friends to share memories and offer condolences.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made to the Cross City First Baptist Church 'Building Fund'.

For those wishing to send flowers, arrangements can be made through Forever 54 in Cross City, FL, at 352-498-5454.

Arrangements have been placed under the care of 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

Tribute Wall

SW

“ Among all the men I have known thru the years and Godly examples of what the Christian life is, your father (Jim) was one of the few I admired and appreciated his example of marriage, fatherhood and being a husband..besides my parents. He made an impression on me when I was a young kid at NFM Baptist. It has stuck with me thru the years and I thank God for that. I could talk all day about him, along with your mother. My mom and dad loved being friends of your parents. I was always welcome in your home and felt safe, as one of their own children. He was the Godly influence I needed early in life.

Scott Ward - May 28, 2025 at 07:56 PM

PR

“ Paulette and Rick Robinson purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Jim Hawkins.



Paulette and Rick Robinson - May 28, 2025 at 03:05 PM

PR

“ Paulette and Rick Robinson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jim Hawkins.

Paulette and Rick Robinson - May 28, 2025 at 03:05 PM

RR

“ *Paulette and Rick have memories of attending Karen and Jim’s marriage in 1964. It was beautiful. We send our love and prayers to Karen and the extended family.*

Rick and Paulette Robinson - May 28, 2025 at 03:00 PM

KM

“ *Brian and Julie, please know that we are thinking of you and your family at this time of loss. From his obituary, it is evident that Mr. Jim lived a life honoring the Lord and sharing love, knowledge and wisdom with those who happened to cross his path. He will certainly be missed. May you feel the presence and comfort of the Lord in a special way in the days ahead.*

Love and prayers,

Kathy Mims

Kathryn Mims - May 28, 2025 at 01:30 PM

HR

“ *My deepest sympathy and prayers.*

Henrietta Reigel - May 28, 2025 at 01:19 PM