



James Craig Lee

NOV 4, 1951 - NOV 24, 2023



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Bixby-South
Tulsa Funeral Service
& Crematory

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James Lee Obituary

James Craig Lee, a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, left this world on Friday evening, November 24, 2023 - leaving his loved ones and friends with a legacy of love, laughter, and cherished memories.

Born November 4, 1951 and raised in Beggs, Oklahoma, Jim's journey through life was marked by a passion for faith, and a commitment to family and community. The son of Betty Lee McDaris and James Ira Lee, he grew up within a large circle of family and friends in this close-knit community. His love for God began at First Baptist Church of Beggs and extended to his active participation in Falls Creek during his youth, fostering friendships and a strong foundation of faith that would guide him throughout his life.

After graduating high school, Jim pursued higher education at East Central University in Ada, OK. While there, Jim was a member and leader at the Baptist Student Union on campus where he formed friendships that continue to this day. He celebrated with these friends and their families for many summers at his home in Tulsa, OK.

Jim and Laura met working for his Uncle Bill at Fiesta Pools in Tulsa. They were united in marriage on May 19, 1974, at Trinity Baptist Church in Oklahoma City. His first gift to her was a bouquet of yellow roses, a tradition that continued throughout their forty-nine years of marriage.

Professionally, James's career took him on extensive travels across Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri, and Illinois. As Vice President of Field Operations at Key Management, he found fulfillment in connecting with people across the region. He enjoyed the open road, the freedom of driving, listening to music, and the beauty of the country.

Gardening and taking care of his yard were his special talents as well as singing "Good Morning to You" at the crack of dawn to his children. He also enjoyed simple pleasures, like working jigsaw



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puzzles and driving. If you ever rode in his car, you would be sure to be listening to 50's music or Gospel music and he was especially fond of the Gaither Family.

Family road trips were a big part of his children's summers and anything less than 10-hour days, he considered a "Sunday drive". He and Laura visited all 50 states and many National Parks, including his favorite Glacier National Park. Closer to home, he loved Silver Dollar City and sharing this experience with his kids and grandkids.

Jim and Laura traveled extensively both in the US and abroad, but without a doubt their favorite place was the Cayman Islands. Like a second home, they visited often, sometimes with friends, sometimes with family, and sometimes by themselves.

A man of faith, Jim and Laura were members of South Tulsa Baptist Church. Jim served as a deacon and children's Sunday School teacher. He was a volunteer for Meals on Wheels, the Care Center at South Tulsa Baptist Church, and served as a leader for his son's Cub Scout Troop.

Jim's warm and social nature endeared him to all who knew him. Fondly known as "Daddy Jim" to his grandchildren, he delighted in dressing up as Santa Claus and reading "The Night Before Christmas" every Christmas Eve. One of his greatest honors was serving as Best Man at his son's wedding. A lifelong Sooner fan, he spent many Saturdays at Memorial Stadium. His infectious laughter echoed through the years, even if he couldn't always recall a joke's punchline!

The one thing Jim would want you to remember about him is how proud he is of his children.

Jim is survived by his loving family, his wife Laura; children: Brandon James Lee and wife, Allison, Carrie Rebecca Lee Browning and husband, Andrew, and Adrian Gayle Lee; his grandchildren: Lauren Margaret Lee, Caroline Elizabeth Lee, David James Lee, Amelia Georgia Browning, and Magnus Richard Browning. He is also remembered by his sisters Gail Harvey, Gwen Ollis and husband, Joe, as well as Shirley Steiner and companion, Charlie Cartledge; and a host of nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends.

The family requests that memorial contributions be directed to South Tulsa Baptist Church Care Center. May he rest in eternal peace, surrounded by the love he so freely gave to others.

A memorial service honoring Jim will be held at 11 AM Saturday, January 6, 2024 in the Chapel of South Tulsa Baptist Church. A livestream link will be available at South Tulsa Baptist Church -



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Watch Live (snappages.site)

"Now sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee",
"How great Thou art! How great Thou art!"

To send flowers
to the family or plant a tree
in memory of James Craig Lee, please visit our floral store.

[Read More](#)



Tribute Wall

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Bixby Funeral Service shared a **Video**.



April 22 at 7:28 AM



Expression Of Sympathy posted:

Designer's choice bouquet was purchased for the family of James Craig Lee. Send Flowers

April 22 at 7:28 AM



Love, Nykki, Tony, Hudson And Norah Lunen posted:

Designer's choice bouquet was purchased for the family of James Craig Lee by Love, Nykki, Tony, Hudson and Norah Lunen. Send Flowers Wishing you peace to bring comfort and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts. We will continue to keep you all in our thoughts. Love, Nykki, Tony, Hudson and Norah Lunen

April 22 at 7:28 AM



Shirley Lee Steiner posted:

Laura and Family Jim was a devoted family man. He loved each and every one of you, and always wanted the best for you. I will cherish Jims and my phone conversations they would always be about his grandchildren and children, catching me up on all of the latest news. I will miss that dearly.. I am so glad you, Laura and Jims was able to visit us here in Ohio. When i ask Jim what he wanted to do, His answer was what we do here. We went to the Wayne County Fair, for a train ride in the Cuyahoga Valley national Park and my very favorite a ferry ride and a stay on Middle Bass Island. Jim was the best Brother ever.. I am so thankful for his devotion for our mother in her last years of life. Now they both are walking the streets of Gold. RIP Big Brother I will always cherish the memories.. Laura, i will continue to pray for God's peace and comfort as you continue to understand Jim's passing.. Love you all Shirley

January 24 at 10:44 AM



Cathie Wilson posted:

One of my fondest memories of Jim was when he and Joe Morgan and Grant showed up at Jenks SE to pick up Callie, Jill and the twins with cone heads in Laura's convertible. They got such a kick out of embarrassing the girls!

January 4 at 9:30 AM



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Cathy Fox posted:

Life takes us in different directions but family is always family no matter what. So many memories and fun times growing up cousins. Love and prayers for God's angels of comfort to bring strength and courage for the difficult days ahead for Laura, Brandon, Allison, and their families.

December 1 at 12:37 PM



Delda Fox posted:

Even though Jimmie was my cousin, I can't say I knew him very well, but the summer he worked at Fiesta Pools I worked there also. It is one of my most memorable summers. I will always remember his laughter, singing and stories he shared. It was so much fun watching him meet Laura and act like a goofy love struck boy. So thankful for that one little snippet in time that gave me an opportunity to see what a wonderful, fun person this guy was.

December 1 at 11:50 AM



Media

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Bixby Funeral Service shared a **Video**.

April 22 at 7:28 AM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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