



James L. Benton

July 28, 1934 - October 31, 2025

James Lewis “Jay” Benton, 91, of Greer, South Carolina, husband of the late Winifred Gravitt Benton, passed away October 31, 2025.

A native of Ochlocknee, Georgia, son of the late Henry Paxton Benton and Elizabeth Miranda Busbee Benton, he was the last surviving sibling of their ten children. Mr. Benton was a United States Army Veteran, a faithful member of Praise Cathedral, and former owner and operator of Winnjay, Inc. He ultimately retired as an insurance agent for Prudential Financial, Inc., having earned the Chartered Life Underwriter (CLU) professional financial and insurance designation. Jay was an avid boiled peanut eater and tomato connoisseur.

Surviving are two sons, Randall J. Benton (Jan) of Columbia, South Carolina and Steve L. Benton (Suzanne) of Greer, South Carolina; three grandchildren, Joseph Paxton Benton (Lauren), Jaymeson Hope Benton and Brandon Lewis Benton (Bailee); and three great-grandchildren, Emmalyn Kate Benton, Ellie Taylor Benton and James Paxton Benton.

He was also predeceased by three brothers, Albert “Pack” Benton, Wesley Benton and Eugene “Gene” Benton; six sisters, Myrtice Bloodworth, Ruby Loyd, Margaret Lairsey, Deoris Vinson, Marie York and Evelyn Roberts. Funeral services will be held 12 Noon Wednesday, November 5, 2025, at Praise Cathedral, conducted by Rev. Jerry Madden. Burial will follow in Hillcrest Memory Gardens with military honors.

Visitation will be held from 10:00 until 11:45 a.m. Wednesday, November 5,

2025, at Praise Cathedral.

The family is at their respective homes.

Memorials may be made to The Salvation Army, 615 Slaters Lane, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Online condolences may be made at www.thewoodmortuary.com.

Cemetery Details

Hillcrest Memory Gardens

14050 East Wade Hampton Boulevard
Greer, SC 29651

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 5. 10:00 AM - 11:45 AM (ET)

Praise Cathedral
3390 Brushy Creek Road
Greer, SC 29650

Service

NOV 5. 12:00 PM (ET)

Praise Cathedral
3390 Brushy Creek Road
Greer, SC 29650

Tribute Wall

EC

“ I just found out about James; I have been out of town. I enjoyed have breakfast with James a lot of mornings. He was a real nice man. He loved to put tomatoes on his biscuits. We will miss him, but we know he is in heaven with the Lord. Ed Chappell

Ed Chappell - November 05, 2025 at 02:11 PM

GD

“ Gloria D. purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of James L. Benton.



Gloria D. - November 04, 2025 at 12:42 PM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of James L. Benton.



November 04, 2025 at 12:10 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James L. Benton.



November 03, 2025 at 11:25 AM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of James L. Benton.*



November 03, 2025 at 09:11 AM



“ *I remember JL singing with the school quartet along with my brother O'Neal Baggett.*

Vanda Cooper - November 03, 2025 at 05:39 AM



“ *Jay was a special friend of mine and Wilmas always giving us tomatoes and trying to grow bigger ones than me .Great guy we loved him dearly,want be the same without him.God bless the family I'd our prayer.*

Wayne Blackwell and Wilma - November 02, 2025 at 01:38 PM



“ *Jim and Winnie were special friends. So sorry for your loss. Our love and prayers for the family. Weldon and Betty Gosnell*

Betty Gosnell - November 02, 2025 at 10:30 AM



“ *Jay and Winnie were very special to me I also enjoyed seeing Jay at church and talking with him. Prayers for the family.*
Judy Albert



Judy Albert - November 01, 2025 at 05:28 PM

GT

He was a special person in my life, as he lived with us in New Ellenton, S.C. while he worked at SRP. He would always bring me and my brother, Maurice something home after work. He picked and played with us as kids and I will miss him dearly.

Gloria Dianne Taylor - November 02, 2025 at 03:30 AM