



## Joel Thornton

November 16, 1932 - April 3, 2013

Heading: Joel C. Thornton

Dateline: Greer

Joel Cobb Thornton, 80, died April 3, 2013.

A native of Athens, Georgia, son of the late William Joel and Nellie Day Thornton, he retired as Senior Vice President of Fluor Daniel, was a member of the Greer Lion's Club, volunteered for Greer Community Ministries, and was an avid outdoorsman and turkey hunter. Mr. Thornton served in the U.S. Army Reserves and was member of Fairview Baptist Church, where he was a deacon and Sunday School teacher.

Surviving are his wife, Patricia (Pat) Harvil Thornton of the home; a daughter and son-in-law, Christy and George Helmrich of Greer; four sons and daughters-in-law, Mark and Vonda Thornton of Landrum, Jeff and Kathy Thornton of San Anselmo, California, Stan and Tracy Thornton of Greer, and Stuart Thornton of Meridian, Mississippi; three sisters, Martha Camp of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, Sarah Barré of Hockessin, Delaware, and Ann Grinder of High Point, North Carolina; ten grandchildren, Chris Collins, Jason Collins, Jeremy Thornton, Randall Thornton, Bryant Thornton, Thomas Thornton, Sam Thornton, Ben Thornton, Bo Helmrich, and Jessi Helmrich; and four great-grandchildren.

Mr. Thornton was predeceased by a brother, Billy Thornton and two sisters, Totsie Elsdon and Willie Nell Thornton.

Funeral services will be held 4:00 p.m. Saturday at Fairview Baptist Church,

conducted by Rev. Cliff Marshall and Dr. James Crocker. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Ray Lester, Mitch Lester, Ishmael Gonzalez, Thomas Thornton, Sam Thornton, Jason Collins, Chris Collins, and Bo Helmarich. Honorary escort will be the McFadden Sunday School Class and the Greer Lions Club.

Visitation will be held 1:00-3:30 p.m. Saturday at the church.

The family is at the home.

Memorials may be made to Greer Community Ministries, P.O. Box 1373, Greer, SC 29652 or Fairview Baptist Church Building Fund, 1300 Locust Hill Road, Greer, SC 29651.

# Cemetery Details

## Fairview Baptist Church Cemetery

1400 Locust Hill Road  
Greer, SC 29651

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 6. 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM (ET)

Fairview Baptist Church  
1300 Locust Hill Road  
Greer, SC 29651

## Service

APR 6. 4:00 PM (ET)

Fairview Baptist Church  
1300 Locust Hill Road  
Greer, SC 29651

# Tribute Wall

FK

“ Pat, it has been many years since we went to church together at First Baptist Church in Circleville, Ohio but we have so many fond memories of Joel, you and the family. May God grant you all a peace as you grieve the loss of Joel. We will all meet again in Heaven and what a day that will be.

Dan and Freda Kimsey  
Parkersburg, WV

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**Freda Kimsey** - April 13, 2013 at 02:52 PM

SC

“ I was so sorry to hear of Joel's passing. My prayers are with Pat and the family. God is especially close to us as we walk through difficult days. May his grace and comfort sustain you.

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**Steve Crouse** - April 09, 2013 at 02:21 PM

SC

“ Pat & Thornton Family,  
Hilary and I send our prayers in your time of grief. Joel was a friend, mentor and leader to many of us; I will miss our conversation, his laughter and overall positive attitude about life. He made a positive impact on the lives of everyone he touched. Our hearts are heavy today but our minds and bodies are elevated through our friendship with Joel.

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**Scott** - April 09, 2013 at 07:39 AM


CH

“ Thornton family,  
please know of our prayers, thoughts and genuine concern in your  
time of grief...and celebration of a life lived with faith, love and  
integrity. Joel was a very unique individual who touched so many of  
us through his humor and genuine spirit.

with love,  
Chris, Tracy & boys

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chris - April 07, 2013 at 06:51 PM

 Keisha  
Triplett

“ Keisha Triplett lit a candle in memory of Joel  
Thornton



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Keisha Triplett - April 06, 2013 at 08:53 AM

 Keisha  
Triplett

I am sad at his passing, but know that he is now with his Lord.

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Keisha Triplett - April 06, 2013 at 08:54 AM

DB

“ Pat and family, you are in my prayers during  
this very difficult time. May God give you  
comfort in the days ahead. Joel was a highly  
respected man and will be missed dearly.

With deepest sympathy,  
Donna Carlton Burnett



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Donna Carlton Burnett - April 05, 2013 at 01:21 PM

RD

“ *Pat and Family,  
We send our deepest sympathies and regrets.  
We love you all and will keep Pat and the family in our thoughts and  
prayers.  
Rick and Ann Dean*

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**Rick Dean** - April 05, 2013 at 01:19 PM

RS

“ *Pat and Family,  
Joyce and I were saddened this morning when we read about Joel's  
death. Please know that you and all of your family will be in our  
thoughts and prayers as you go through this sad time in your life.*

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**Richard & Joyce Strawhorn** - April 05, 2013 at 11:31 AM

JK

“ *Pat & Family:*

*I was so saddened to hear of Joel's passing. I remember, with  
fondness, the years that I worked as Joel's secretary. He was  
always so kind to me and my family--a real Southern Christian  
gentleman. He really loved the Lord. What a blessed hope we have  
that we will see Joel again one day when we "cross the river." May  
the Lord give you an extra measure of comfort during this difficult  
time.*

*Love in Christ, Julie King*

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**Julie King** - April 05, 2013 at 06:51 AM

CP

“ Dear Pat and family,

*Please accept our condolences on Joel's passing. I had the honor of working with Joel at Daniel and its successors.....words cannot express the admiration I had for him and, importantly, the life lessons he brought to bear on those around him.*

*Sincerely,*

*Chuck & Kathy Pringle*

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**Chuck Pringle** - April 05, 2013 at 06:49 AM