



James Sanford Pittman

August 16, 1930 - September 10, 2022

"There are two types of people in this world: Hillbillies....and those who wish they were."

On, September 10, 2022, the world lost its most proud and devout hillbilly, James "Jim" Sanford Pittman, 92, who passed away peacefully in his sleep, surrounded by family and close friends during his last days.

Jim was born on August 16, 1930 in Wise, Virginia, to Edward and Ruby Pittman. He grew up in Kentucky where he spent his youth mastering the art of hillbilly living. Jim graduated from Bell County High School to his principal's relief, in 1951 and enlisted in the Air Force immediately after. Jim served his country for 12 1/2 years, also serving in the Korean War. He earned many honors during his service which included The National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, and Good Conduct Medal.

After his service, Jim went on to work at Chrysler in Michigan, where he worked for almost 37 years while continuing his education. During this time, he met his future wife of 46 years, Emma "Jean"; it was love at first sight. In fact, he knew she would be his wife from the moment he laid eyes on her and those were his first words to her. Reluctantly, she finally went on a date with him, and her life as she knew it was changed; he stole her heart. Jim came

during a critical phase of Jean and her children's lives. They need someone like him who would fill a void with unconditional love and acceptance. They married on June 11, 1976, building their first home in Sterling Heights shortly thereafter. There were many years many memories built in that home.

Jim retired from Chrysler in April of 2002 which he then live out his remaining years by his wife's side at their second home in Macomb Township, Michigan. Jim could often be found during his later years in plaid pajama pants and white tee, relaxing in his lazy boy chair, binge watching the game show network or sports, spoiling the babies (pets) all the while pestering his children and grandchildren.

Jim spent much of his life passing his hillbilly wisdom on to anyone who would, or would not, listen to him. He taught his family many lessons from the less important ones like you can in fact milk a mouse or there is only 1 way to wash an eyeball to the more significant ones like the importance of family. If there is one thing that Jim perfected in life, it was his marriage. Jim and Jean are known for their solid marriage which many people admire and aspire to have some day.

Jim lived a long and fulfilling life. He had very few regrets, like his loyalty to the Detroit Lions or that dreaded bumper sticker on his red GMC. His legacy and wisdom will live on through exactly 15 stories which he has drilled into his surviving children over the years: Don Jr. & Tina Taylor (Bruce Twp., MI), Janie & Dale Ellington (Alamogordo, New Mexico), Philip Taylor (Macomb Township, MI), Keith & Sandy Taylor (Shelby Township, MI), and Michelle & Don May (Garden City, MI). Jim is also survived by his siblings Eddaphine & Tom Wall (Corbin, Kentucky), and ES & Elida Pittman (Williamsburg, Kentucky), 15 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren.

Jim is proceeded in death by his children, Alice Blaylock (Hampton, Virginia),

and Sharon Lucido (Sterling Heights, MI). Also proceeded in death by siblings Sherry Butcher (Corbin, Kentucky), Gary Baker (Clinton Township, MI), and Lou Stafford (Taylorsville, North Carolina).

Family will receive friends and family for a visitation on Sunday, September 18 at Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home 8459 Hall Road (3 Blks E. of Van Dyke) Utica from 3-8pm with a sharing of memories at 6pm.

A funeral service will be hosted at North Warren Free Will Baptist Church 3003 Chicago Road (Btwn. Ryan & Dequindre) Warren on Monday, September 19 at 11am. A Luncheon will be served immediately following the service.

Cemetery Details

Christian Memorial Gardens West

521 E. Hamlin Road
Rochester Hills, MI 48307

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **18**. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wm Sullivan and Son Funeral Home
8459 Hall Road
Utica, MI 48317
(586) 731-2411
utica@sullivanfh.com
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

Sharing of Memories

SEP **18**. 6:00 PM (ET)

Wm Sullivan and Son Funeral Home
8459 Hall Road
Utica, MI 48317
(586) 731-2411
utica@sullivanfh.com
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

Funeral Service

SEP **19**. 11:00 AM (ET)

North Warren Free Will Baptist Church
3003 Chicago Road
Warren, MI 48092

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Fields Thinking of You Combo Tin was purchased for the family of James Sanford Pittman.*



September 17, 2022 at 06:47 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James Sanford Pittman.*



September 16, 2022 at 10:22 PM



“ *Gary and I will remember "Jimmie Joke" and his Hillbillie humor. Our condolences to Jean and the family.*

Margaret Green - September 16, 2022 at 04:29 PM