



James Wayne Bates

September 28, 1943 - January 17, 2026

James Wayne Bates was born on September 28, 1943, and passed away on January 17, 2026, at the age of 82.

Mr. Bates proudly served his country as a member of the United States Air Force. He had a deep love for adventure and freedom, enjoying the open road while riding motorcycles and the open sky while flying airplanes. He was also an avid NASCAR fan and enjoyed both participating in and watching racing events.

Mr. Bates was preceded in death by his father, Claude Bates; his mother, Grace Sisco Bates; and his son, James Bates, Jr., son in law Terry Whitaker.

He is survived by his son, Phillip (Jodi) Bates; his daughter, Sherry Whitaker; his brothers, Claude Bates, Jr. and Bob Bates; his sister, Janice Bates, life partner Debbie Miller; his grandchildren, Justin (Shelby) Bates, Katie (Drew) Grimes, Hannah (Brandon) James, Allison Bates, Jamie (Mark) Christian, and Chris (Emily) Whitaker; and his great-grandchildren, Sadie Grimes, Ryan Sage, Reed Grimes, Anna Marie Sage, Hudson Bates, Reilee Christian, Aiden Christian, Leeya Whitaker, and Allie Whitaker.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 22. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

McDonald Funeral Home, Inc. - Hickman County
102 West End Ave.
Centerville, TN 37033
(931) 729-3561

Memorial Service

JAN 22. 3:00 PM (CT)

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102 West End Ave.
Centerville, TN 37033
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Tribute Wall

DM

“ *Denise Miller lit a candle in memory of James Bates* ”



Denise Miller - February 24 at 10:31 PM

DM

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall* ”



Denise Miller - February 24 at 10:27 PM

ST

“ *Go rest High on that beautiful mountain* ”

Shirley Thurman - January 24 at 01:20 PM

ST

“ *Shirley Thurman lit a candle in memory of James Bates* ”



Shirley Thurman - January 24 at 01:12 PM

ES

“ *Elaine Seiber lit a candle in memory of James Bates*



Elaine Seiber - January 24 at 12:07 PM

L1

“ *LCCHS Class of 1961 lit a candle in memory of James Bates*



LCCHS Class of 1961 - January 24 at 11:54 AM

RM

“ *Roy & Sharon McCoy lit a candle in memory of James Bates*



Roy & Sharon McCoy - January 22 at 05:18 PM

DS

“ *So sorry for your loss. Prayers for your family.*



Debbie Semore - January 21 at 10:23 PM

MM

“ *Katie; Drew; Sadie and Reed; Caring thoughts, love and prayers for all of you during this difficult time.*

Mary McNabb - January 21 at 09:53 PM

MM

“ *Mary McNabb lit a candle in memory of James Bates*



Mary McNabb - January 21 at 09:46 PM

RT

“ *Rhonda Taylor lit a candle in memory of James Bates*



Rhonda Taylor - January 21 at 09:19 PM

LJ

“ *Lisa James lit a candle in memory of James Bates*



Lisa James - January 21 at 12:57 PM

RB

“ *Randall-Sandra Barber lit a candle in memory of James Bates*



Randall-Sandra Barber - January 21 at 12:50 PM

ST

“ *Wayne made ordinary moments feel special I'm grateful for those memories and I'm so sorry for your loss. I will certainly miss him at our class Reunion.*

Shirley Thurman - January 21 at 12:22 PM

CL

“ *Carole Loveless lit a candle in memory of James Bates*



Carole Loveless - January 21 at 10:47 AM

PS

“ *Pat Sullivan lit a candle in memory of James Bates*



Pat Sullivan - January 20 at 08:16 PM

KS

“ *Kathy Gossett Scott lit a candle in memory of James Bates*



Kathy Gossett Scott - January 20 at 07:30 PM

KS

“ *To all the Bates family, I am so sorry.*

Kathy Gossett Scott - January 20 at 07:29 PM



“ *Sandi Westover lit a candle in memory of James Bates*



Sandi Westover - January 20 at 07:02 PM

MF

“ *Mark and Melissa Filson lit a candle in memory of James Bates*



Mark and Melissa Filson - January 20 at 04:33 PM

MB

“ *Michael Bates sent a virtual gift in memory of James Bates*



Michael Bates - January 20 at 12:35 PM