



James Franklin Bailey

June 18, 1933 - March 26, 2018

Bluefield, WV - James F Bailey., 84 of Lebanon St. Bluefield, WV, 24701, passed away peacefully early on Monday, March 26, 2018, surrounded by his loving family.

Jim, was born on June 18, 1933 to Thomas and Grace Bailey in Dunbar, WV. Then later moved to Bramwell, WV where he graduated from Bramwell High School in 1951. From there he went to Concord College and later enlisted in the US Marine Corps. He was honorably discharged as a drill sergeant.

Jim, or "Oleboy" as he was so fondly called, soon moved to Bluefield and joined the Bluefield City Police Department where he was a City Police Officer from January, 1958. Jim rose thru the ranks until he retired as a Lieutenant in August 1, 1984. After his retirement, he joined the US Marshall Service where he worked for fourteen years at the Federal Court House under the direction of The Honorable Judge Elizabeth Hallanan and The Honorable Judge David Faber.

Jim began his masonic career as a mason, which he was a past master and then went on to become a lifelong Shriner with the Beni Kedem Temple. Jim drove many children to the Children's Shriners Hospital during his Shriner career. Jim was a lifelong member of the Bluefield Elks Lodge #269.

Jim is survived by his wife of 25 years, Nancy Isabella Bailey, three children with his first wife, Barbara F. Bailey, his son, James F. (Jimmy) Bailey, II, and wife Cathy of Bluefield. His daughter, Kimberly Croy and husband Brian, of Charleston, SC and his youngest daughter, Norma Jean (Cissy) Bailey, of

Bluefield. Jim has four grandchildren that he adored, Brandon Croy, and wife Ashley, of Charleston, SC, Jennie Ann Bailey, Claire Bailey, both of Bluefield and Alexie Grace Croy of Charleston, SC. He has 2 step-children, Matt Pixley and wife Cindy from Fredericksburg, VA, Mary Humphreys and husband, Keith from Roanoke, VA. He also has two wonderful step-grandchildren, Tyler and Clair Humphreys. Also surviving are his brother Lt. Col. Garnett R.

Bailey(Ret.) and wife Rita of Fairfax, VA along with his nieces, Suzie Sterrett, husband Jeff from Williamsburg, VA and Becky Bailey Guenther.

Jim had many things to be proud but one he was especially proud of was that of his grandson Brandon who followed in his footsteps to become a police officer, first here in Bluefield and then on to Mount Pleasant, SC. Jim enjoyed life by spending his time camping and boating at Claytor Lake and riding his many motorcycles. Jim had a passion for cars and motorcycles and you could always find him by his "OleBoy" license plate. Later in life he would spend it by reading many western novels and watching "Gunsmoke."

The family would like to thank his "Main-Man", Reverend Jerome Michael Barnes for his care and devotion to Jim. He loved Mike dearly. He was the reason Jim accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior.

The celebration of Jim's life will be Thursday, March 29, at Mercer Funeral Home from 5:00 pm with Rev. Rev. Jerome Michael Barnes officiating. Friends may visit with the family following services until to 7:00 pm.

In lieu of flowers, those that wish to do so may donate to Bluefield Shriners Transportation Fund P.O. Box 53, Bluefield, WV 24701

Those wishing to share memories or condolence messages with the family may do so by visiting www.MercerFuneralHome.com

Mercer Funeral Home of Bluefield is serving the Bailey family.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAR 29. 5:15 PM (ET)

Mercer Funeral Home Chapel
1231 West Cumberland Road
Bluefield, WV 24701

Tribute Wall



“ *James Franklin Bailey*

October 05, 2023 at 06:08 PM



“ *Kimberly Croy lit a candle in memory of James Franklin Bailey*



Kimberly Croy - April 03, 2018 at 06:38 AM



*To Kim and family
So sorry for your loss may your memories give u comfort*

debbie cruise carlyle - April 03, 2018 at 09:59 PM



“ *Norma, Kim, and Jimmy,
So sorry to hear about your father, but he is in a better place now.
We lost our mom in January so I know times will be tough for a
while. You all are in our thoughts and prayers.*

Greg Spry - March 31, 2018 at 09:18 AM

KY

“ Jimmy, Kim, Norma,

My heart is saddened by yet the loss of another fellow officer. I share your grief and pray for God to give you the strength to go forward with your lives and cherish the memories you shared. Jim would want that

If Jane or I can help in any way do not fail to call.

Kenny & Jane Young

Kenny Young - March 29, 2018 at 03:05 PM

EH

“ Jimmy, Kim, and Norma,

I am so very sorry for the loss of your Dad. I enjoyed his warm, friendly personality. He will be missed. May your many wonderful memories be a source of comfort during this difficult time in your lives.

Sincerely, Elaine (Robinette) Hinchler

Elaine (Robinette) Hinchler - March 29, 2018 at 12:24 PM

BB

“ Jimmy was my first cousin, son of my mother’s sister, Grace, and I have wonderful memories of him from my childhood. He was about the age of my brother, Carroll, and he used to visit us in Nathalie, Virginia, which was the home of the Martins, my mother being Evelyn and dad, Malcolm. The home was built by my grandfather, Emerson Martin, and my uncle, Jeter Martin. We haven’t seen him at the cousin’s reunion in the last few years due to his illness, but he was always remembered by all at these events. Jimmy was a great man, gregarious like his father, and respectful like his mother. My brother and I send our condolences and respect for his honorable life.

Bill Bradley

Bill Bradley - March 28, 2018 at 06:14 PM

KL

“ We are so very sorry for the loss of your father Jimmy and family. Prayers for you all.... L

Love,

Kathy, Nicole and Taylor

Kathy Lee - March 28, 2018 at 11:53 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of James Franklin Bailey.



March 28, 2018 at 07:44 AM



“ So sorry for your loss. To many memories to share been with me all my life. . Except for the smile Jim always had with a kind word. Thoughts n prayers to the family. Eva (Moricle) Brown

Eva Brown - March 28, 2018 at 04:32 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James Franklin Bailey.



March 27, 2018 at 10:44 PM



“ My condolences to the family. Thinking of you all at this time, my love to Brandon, Kim, and Norma. May you find peace and comfort and prayers for safe travels to your home here in SC.

Anita Blizzard - March 27, 2018 at 10:26 PM



“ Bluefield lost another great one.

F Monaco - March 27, 2018 at 08:45 PM



“ Praying to Kim and the entire family. May he RIP.



Teresa Derenge - March 27, 2018 at 08:33 PM



“ *May the love of God surround you and your family during this difficult time,
May you come to know that the love of God is with you always,*

May your memories of James Franklin Bailey, give you peace, comfort and strength...

Rest now in the arms of our Lord your mission on earth is complete. I thank you for your service to our Country and my Freedom. You will not be forgotten..

*My thoughts
and prayers to the family of*

US Marine Veteran, James Franklin Bailey, is “A True American Hero” God Bless†

† Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13 †

Cheryl Skinner, Tri-state Military Museum - March 27, 2018 at 01:52 PM



“ *Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Franklin Bailey.*



March 27, 2018 at 01:22 PM

KH

“ *This makes me so very sad, I loved this man, he helped me through so many difficult times. It won't be the same with out him. I love each and everyone of you Bailey's and my thoughts and prayers are with you all!*

Karen Hoops-Simon - March 26, 2018 at 02:53 PM