



James M. "Jake" Bennett

November 21, 1940 - December 19, 2022

James M. (Jake) Bennett , age 82 of Judsonia was born November 21, 1940 to G.W. and Lorene Bennett; the only son among four daughters. He went home to be with his Lord and Savior on December 19, 2022.

Jake was preceded in death by his parents; by his wife, Paula Davis Bennett; two sons, Damon Bennett and Paul Wayne Bennett and a great-granddaughter, Elaina May Dodds. He is survived by a son, Keith Bennett and his wife Tammy Powell Bennett of Searcy; a daughter, Davissa Bennett Brimer and her husband Brent of Bald Knob; Grandchildren, Kassidy Bennett Cramblett (Matt) ; Madison Bennett Dodds (Brent); Kynlee Brimer Fisher (Austin); and Reese Brimer. Great grandchildren: Brooks Cramblett, Davis Cramblett, Jack Cramblett and Braxton Dodds; his sisters, Reva Henry of Springdale; Linda York (Ron) of Magnolia, Texas; Brenda Roach (Ricky) of Judsonia; and Peggy Miller (Steve) of Judsonia. He is also survived by many relatives and friends.

He grew up on the family farm and attended Judsonia Public Schools graduating in 1958 where he played softball, basketball and ran track. He was particularly interested in the agriculture program at which he excelled. In 1963, he joined the US Army and served in Thailand and Vietnam in the Communications Division running communication lines between the Army and Air Force bases. He came home in 1965 shortly before the Vietnam War

began.

Jake joined Arkansas Power and Light as a lineman and after hours and on weekends he worked on the family farm with his dad raising several hundred acres of soybeans and milo. It was while working that he fell ill and was diagnosed with Guillain Barre' syndrome in September, 1981 which paralyzed his entire body leaving him on a ventilator for months and no way to communicate although after a few months he was able to hear. His illness was the most severe cases of Guillain Barre' syndrome the doctors at White County Hospital had ever seen but he slowly began to move his fingers and blink his eyes as a way of communicating with his medical team and family. After 11 months in the hospital, he was released in August , 1982 with a goal of talking, walking and feeding himself again and driving his truck and he accomplished all of those goals. A book about Jake's illness and his struggle to survive and do what he most enjoyed was documented in "Nearing the Mountain" - the Jake Bennett Story" written by Elizabeth Short in 1988.

Jake was raised a Christian from birth and was a member of the Highway Church of Christ in Judsonia. where he also taught Sunday School. He worked for years after his illness with a local support group for individuals with paralysis. Always smiling and a kind word for everyone he met, he had many friends from all walks of life. He was the epitome of the phrase, "he never met a stranger". He loved his family deeply and was so proud of all of them.

An extraordinary man who loved the outdoors - fishing and hunting; he persevered with determination and a resolve to overcome his disability. He never felt sorry for himself and never stopped trying to be as good as he could be. Against all odds he did walk again and was able to drive his truck and could talk without stopping for a breath! He turned his love of quail hunting into a business where he raised quail for local businesses and friends.

The family wishes to thank Chris Finne, Jan Sears and April Cook and Robert Wilson for their assistance and support the last few weeks.

A celebration of Jake's life will be held on Friday, December 30, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. at the Highway Church of Christ in Judsonia. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Life in Victory Recovery Center, 143 Powder Fork Rd., Bald Knob, Arkansas 72010 or Cash App \$lifeinvictory19

Arrangements are entrusted to Powell Funeral Home, Bald Knob – Judsonia.
www.powellfuneralhome.net.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Service

DEC 30. 2:00 PM (CT)

Highway Church of Christ
128 Highway Church Lane
Judonia, AR 72081

Tribute Wall



“ Powell Funeral Home & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of James M. "Jake" Bennett



Powell Funeral Home & Cremation Services - December 29, 2022 at 04:30 PM



“ So sorry to here of Jake's passing. Fully intended to go to services but it totally skipped my mind, as a lot does anymore. Reva, Brenda, Linda and Peggy, I know you all will miss him as I will a great guy and so fun to be around. God bless you all. Larry Leonard

Larry Leonard - December 31, 2022 at 09:08 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of James M. "Jake" Bennett.



December 28, 2022 at 09:21 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of James M. "Jake" Bennett.



December 27, 2022 at 10:57 AM

JL

“ I am trying to remember that
In this journey of life that has been
Given each of us - That

*From the very moment, we come
Into this world, we are waiting for
The moment when God's hand
Reaches down for us...*

We have no idea when that will be

*For those of us that do believe do
Know what a glorious moment that IS...*

*Jake, I do know when God's hand
Reached down He takes only those
Who Believeth in him...*

*It warms my heart to know
Like me, Jake you Believeth in Him...*

To a place called Heaven

Where there is no

*Sickness or Sadness
Only Joy & Laughter*

It's truly Paradise

The walls are built with diamonds

The streets are lined with jade.

*Beyond the pearly gates
is such beauty to behold*

*The sky is clear as crystal
The walks are paved with gold*

A rainbow stretches overhead

Sweet cherubs fill the sky

Angels are singing and church bells ringing

*There is no need for moon or stars
For everything is so bright*

*For all who dwell within this land
Are bathed in "Holy Light. "*

*It is like millions of brilliant prisms in the sun
That beams a color hue over everywhere...*

It's an Amazing place

Where the Lord will show you his hands

The scars where he was nailed to the cross

*To save you from your sins
So you could enter Heaven to
Live your life ever after...*

*Jake, you were meant at the gate with
All your loved ones that had gone
Before you ~*

*What a sight of Happiness, Joy
And celebrating for all of you!!!*

*Jake, will still always be here
Alive in all our Hearts and Memories...*

*Rest in Peace, my friend...
Watch over us,*

Jean Limbaugh

Jean Limbaugh - December 25, 2022 at 11:03 PM

JH

“ *Being his grandson Cody Schmidt’s best man as he got married was one of the happiest days of Jake’s life! He talked about it the whole ride home with my husband. My husband cried at his excitement. ❤️*



Jody Hodgson - December 25, 2022 at 10:18 AM

AL

“ *Loved Uncle Jake his laugh will never be forgotten and his teasing. ❤️*



alanna-kay - December 21, 2022 at 11:34 PM

TP

“ Terri Pate sent a virtual gift in memory of James M. "Jake" Bennett



Terri Pate - December 21, 2022 at 09:24 PM

SM

“ Jake and Paula were special to those of us nurses at White Co who cared for Jake. May Gis be with you all!



Sharon Martin - December 21, 2022 at 02:17 PM

CH

“ Charles lit a candle in memory of James M. "Jake" Bennett



Charles - December 21, 2022 at 01:42 PM

LB

“ Leah Brooks lit a candle in memory of James M. "Jake" Bennett



Leah Brooks - December 21, 2022 at 12:39 PM

FO

“ Fonda lit a candle in memory of James M. "Jake" Bennett



Fonda - December 21, 2022 at 12:23 PM

JW

“ Jason Waton lit a candle in memory of James M. "Jake" Bennett



Jason Waton - December 21, 2022 at 09:43 AM

MJ

“ Michael And Connie Johnston lit a candle in memory of James M. "Jake" Bennett



Michael and Connie Johnston - December 21, 2022 at 09:42 AM

WD

“ Jake never failed to mention this story when I saw him...here's the story. Back in about 1989 while I was a C-130 Loadmaster flying out of LRAFB we took a trip to Eaker AFB in Blytheville to shoot some touch and go's. We did that for a couple of hours and headed back to LRAFB. I had at one time told Jake I would drop a roll of toilet paper out of the plane if I ever got the chance, sorta teasing him. Well the opportunity was about to become a reality. I knew he would be outside doing something so I asked the pilot if we could fly just to the right of that huge hole in the ground ahead, sure he said. I got clearance to open the ramp and door, put on my safety harness and my helmet, (safety first) we descended to about 500 ft. I stood on the ramp toilet paper in hand and just as we passed over I let it roll out. He knew exactly who did that. Right time, right place and a great opportunity.

Wally Davis - December 20, 2022 at 08:20 PM

CC

Love that story

carla Coleman - December 21, 2022 at 08:47 PM

AL

Do you know anytime we went outside we would look up because of that story waiting for more lol.

alanna-kay - December 21, 2022 at 11:36 PM

LL

Love this story an love this obituary, he was a good man through an through an a hard working man, spent many great summers out there, loved an love them all, til we meet again Rest In Peace

Leeann Long - December 22, 2022 at 11:40 AM