



HIS Story

OBITUARY:

JAMES L. NEWSOME WAS BORN ON MARCH 22, 1937, TO ODIE MAE AND EDDIE NEWSOME IN PINOLA, MISSISSIPPI. HE WAS THE FOURTH CHILD OF TEN CHILDREN. HE SPENT HIS EARLY YEARS WORKING ON THE FAMILY LAND AND ATTENDING SHADY GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH. IN 1957, JAMES MARRIED THE LOVE OF HIS LIFE, NELLIE RUTH (REDDICK) NEWSOME. THEIR UNION WAS BLESSED WITH EIGHT CHILDREN.

A LIFE OF LABOR AND LOVE:

JAMES WAS A HARDWORKING MAN WHO WORE MANY HATS THROUGHOUT HIS LIFE. HE WORKED AS A DECKHAND FOR OFFSHORE RIGS, A TIMBER SELLER, A TRUCK DRIVER, A MECHANIC, AND A FACTORY WORKER. DESPITE HIS MANY JOBS, HE ALWAYS FOUND TIME FOR FAMILY AND FAITH. HE LATER JOINED MT. ZION CHURCH, WHERE HE SERVED AS AN USHER FOR MANY YEARS.

HOBBIES AND INTERESTS:

JAMES ENJOYED HUNTING AND FISHING. WATCHING WRESTLING WAS HIS FAVORITE PASTIME. HE CHERISHED BEING WITH FAMILY AND HAD A SPECIAL BOND WITH HIS GRANDCHILDREN, WHO AFFECTIONATELY CALLED HIM "GRANDPA." JUST DAYS BEFORE HIS PASSING, HE TOLD HIS WIFE NELLIE AND SON JAMES DONALD THAT HE WAS "GOING HOME." ON DECEMBER 22, 2025, GOD CALLED, AND JAMES ANSWERED THE CALL TO "COME HOME."

SURVIVED BY:

WIFE: NELLIE RUTH NEWSOME

SONS & DAUGHTERS: JARVIS (FLORENCE) NEWSOME OF ALEXANDRIA, VA; AUDREY BONITA (CHARLES SR.) ROYAL OF NEW ORLEANS, LA; JAMES DONALD (JACKEE) NEWSOME OF MENDENHALL, MS; ARIK LEE (ANGIE) NEWSOME OF MCADAMS, MS; MARICA DENISE (LATE TOMMY) CELESTINE OF JONESBORO, AR; TRACIE LEE (KAREN) NEWSOME OF MARION, AR; AND KIMBERLY ANN (MATTHEW) LLOYD OF JONESBORO, AR.