

## His Journey's Just Begun

Ellen Brenneman

Don't think of him as gone away  
his journey's just begun,  
life holds so many facets  
this earth is only one.

Just think of him as resting  
from the sorrows and the tears  
in a place of warmth and comfort  
where there are no days and years.

Think how he must be wishing  
that we could know today  
how nothing but our sadness  
can really pass away.

And think of him as living  
in the hearts of those he touched...  
for nothing loved is ever lost  
and he was loved so much.

## In Gratitude

It is with deepest gratitude that we thank each of you during  
this most difficult time.

The family of James Franklin Wingate, Jr.

*Service of Comfort Provided by:*

**Ebony & White's Funeral Service, Inc.**

1139 E. Pine Street | Lincolnton, NC 28093

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## *A Life Well Lived* James Franklin Wingate, Jr.



Friday, September 19, 2025  
2:00 P.M.

Wingate Family Cemetery  
Iron Station, North Carolina  
Rev. James E. Bullard, Jr., Pastor  
Moore's Chapel Baptist Church  
Lincolnton, North Carolina

## OBITUARY

James Frank Wingate, Jr was born February 12, 1945 and departed his earthy life on September 14, 2025, after a long illness. He was the first born and oldest child of the late Rev. James Wingate and Mrs. Ethel Wingate of Iron Station, NC. Frank grew up in Iron Station and did not stray far from his Lincoln County roots most of his life. He loved everything about where he grew up, including being outdoors, gardening, his friendly neighbors and his rural life.

Frank graduated from Newbold High School, Lincolnton, NC in 1962. He was employed by Mohican Mill and then by Timken Company, Iron Station where he worked for over thirty (30) years, retiring as a mechanic. He was gifted at building things and figuring out how things worked, so he loved his job at this company and the contributions he was able to make to their success. He also used his talents to make wood burning stoves with his brother in the 1970s, known as Wingate Stoves. Frank loved tinkering around with cars and spending time hanging out with the guys at his brother's garage and shop. He enjoyed drag racing and co-sponsored his own race team (with his brother) during this period.

Frank took joy in his casual lifestyle! He was an early "grill master" and enjoyed showing off his cooking skills! His door was always open for a good meal and to watch a sports game, especially football. He was an avid Pittsburgh Steelers fan! His happy personality and smile were contagious, especially when he was watching sports! He also liked baseball and helped sponsor a winning baseball team during his younger years, known as the Wingate Starlights. He successfully coached a women's softball team during this same period.



Frank was a loving son, father and brother. He leaves behind to mourn his passing four children—James F. Wingate, III; Warren Wingate (Catora); Kenneth Wingate (Shonda) and Samantha Jefferies (Richard), as well as four siblings—Charles Wingate (Sandra); Jerome Wingate (Jackie), Phyllis A. Wingate and Carol Renee Farley (Frank). He was preceded by two siblings—Joseph Wingate and Kathleen Wingate. He was the proud grandfather of eleven (11) grandchildren and fourteen (14) great grandchildren. Many other extended family members, including nieces and nephews and his friends will miss his warm smile.

## ORDER OF SERVICE

Old Testament Reading

New Testament Reading

Prayer of Comfort

Remembrances:

Family

Selection

Mr. Herbert Finger

Words of Comfort

Rev. James E. Bullard, Jr.

Closing Prayer

Committal/Interment  
Wingate Family Cemetery  
Iron Station, North Carolina



FOREVER IN OUR  
HEARTS