



## James W. "Jim" Jenkins

February 17, 1937 - April 3, 2023

James W. "Jim" Jenkins met his Savior on April 3, 2023, at the age of 86, and surely was greeted with the words, "Well done, good and faithful servant." Jim was born on February 17, 1937, in Tickfaw, LA, where he lived the majority of his life. After earning a B.S. in Dairy Science at Southeastern Louisiana University, Jim worked an eclectic number of jobs over the years. Eventually discovering his passion for blacksmithing, Jim founded Jenkins Blacksmith Shop and proudly displayed the motto "Jesus Is Lord" on his business cards. He specialized in historical-based blacksmithing for which he was known throughout Louisiana. His beautiful hand-forged gates, hinges, and decorative hardware can be found in restoration projects in the New Orleans French Quarter, government buildings, and plantation homes throughout Louisiana. For twenty-five years Jim demonstrated blacksmithing at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival. He also operated a blacksmith shop at the 1984 World's Fair in New Orleans. As a member of the Gulf Coast Blacksmith Association, Jim often took his skills to various festivals around the state of Louisiana.

Jim was a man of remarkable intellectual curiosity, as verified by the hundreds of books in his library on every subject imaginable. He was known throughout Tangipahoa Parish for making sugar cane syrup using an antique horse-drawn mill and a cooking pan he built himself. He amassed a remarkable collection of antique tools and horse-drawn farm equipment, grew a large garden each year, and enjoyed hunting and traveling with his sons and his friends. In 1976

Jim drove a horse-drawn covered wagon representing Tangipahoa Parish from Baker, LA to Valley Forge, PA, where wagons from each of the fifty states converged to celebrate the bicentennial of the United States of America.

With all of Jim's remarkable accomplishments, what he most enjoyed were his family and his friends. If he loved you, you knew it. You knew he was FOR you, and he was praying for you. He demonstrated this love through serving others, especially as a lifetime member and Deacon Emeritus at Natalbany Baptist Church and as he attended the weekly service and bible study at the Crossbrand Cowboy Church, where he forged many friendships. Sharing his faith was important to Jim. If you knew him for any amount of time, you could expect his favorite question: "Do you know Jesus?" His love for others transcended the possibility of awkwardness, as he wanted to ensure everyone he encountered understood the good news of Jesus Christ.

Jim is survived by his wife of sixty-seven years, Maxine Rogers Jenkins, whom Jim often described as "the best thing that ever happened to me," children James A. Jenkins (Terry); Gwen Jenkins Vial (Donald); Roger Jenkins (Debi); David Jenkins (Debbie); and daughter-in-law Myra Jenkins Sharpe, grandsons Brian Vial (Christie); Ben Vial (Amber); Bryce Jenkins (Kailey); Dakota Jenkins; and Cade Jenkins (Brie), granddaughters Brittany Jenkins; Claire Vial Mauer (Matt); McKenna Jenkins Bregman (Martijn); Jessie Jenkins Kirkpatrick (Josh); Rylie Jenkins; and step-granddaughter Amanda Higginbotham (Chad), great grandchildren Hannah and Clay Vial; Emilie, Elena, and James Vial; Marley and Margot Mauer; Briley Jenkins; and step-great grandchildren Savannah and Dawson Kelly. Jim also is survived by his treasured siblings and lifelong friends, his brother Guy Jenkins (Norma) and his sister Sue Jenkins Hamilton (Bob).

He was preceded in death by his parents Dorris and Irma Nesom Jenkins; beloved son Ronald "Ronnie" Jenkins; infant granddaughter Sarah Ann Jenkins, and step-granddaughter Elizabeth Morel Dunnington.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Nehemiah Fund at Natalbany Baptist Church.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the visitation and funeral service at Natalbany Baptist Church, 48024 Parsonage Rd, Natalbany, LA 70451, on Saturday, April 8, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. until the start of the Funeral Service at 1:00 p.m. Pastors Danny Carter and Randy Smith will officiate with interment to follow in Mt. Stevens Cemetery.

# Cemetery Details

## Mt. Stevens Cemetery

Tickfaw, LA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 8. 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Natalbany Baptist Church  
48024 Parsonage Road  
Natalbany, LA

## Funeral Service

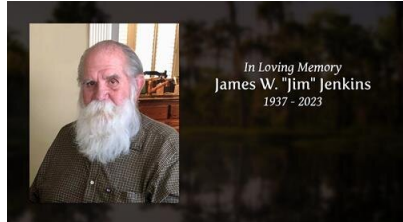
APR 8. 1:00 PM (CT)

Natalbany Baptist Church  
48024 Parsonage Road  
Natalbany, LA

# Tribute Wall



“ *Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of James W. "Jim" Jenkins*



**Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home** - April 07, 2023 at 11:50 AM

CP

*Wonderful memories ! Great job of putting this all together!*

**carol rose poynor** - April 07, 2023 at 05:57 PM

DW

*To: Roger, Debi and y'all families, I didn't know your dad so I can't share memories but I know Debi and you Roger. Y'all are in my prayers and hope your sadness doesn't last for long, because you both know that Jimmy truly is in a better place. He's in his eternal heavenly home with his Savior Jesus Christ and I can honestly say I'm a little bit jealous of that.*

*Sending y'all love 💕 hugs 📄 and prayers 🙏 and for God to shower y'all with His peace.*

**Debbie Waguespack** - April 08, 2023 at 06:16 PM



*Such wonderful memories of the Jenkins family. Roger and I were in the same class at school. Mrs. Maxine was our music teacher. Mr. Jim drove us on our senior class trip.*

*To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. May you all take great comfort in knowing that He stands in the presence of His Savior. And may the Lord of mercy and grace give you the peace that passes all understanding as you navigate these days without him.*

*Rhonda Starns Bourg*

**Rhonda Bourg** - May 13, 2023 at 09:15 PM

RF

“ *Mr. Jim will be sorely missed. May God bless and keep him and his family.*

*Russ & Sandie Forshag*

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**Russell Forshag** - April 09, 2023 at 12:32 AM

BM

“ *My wife Glynn and I extend our deepest sympathy to Maxine, Guy, Sue, and all of Jim's wonderful, extended family. I first met Jim in the mid-50s and have tried to follow his interesting life ever since. I was proud to introduce Glynn to Jim at a Natalbany Baptist Prayer Meeting on July 24, 2019. We know that you will never stop grieving over his loss but pray that the Lord will soon let you sleep in peace, knowing he is in Perfect Peace with Him.*

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**Bobby Martin** - April 08, 2023 at 11:05 AM

GF

“ *Wonderful Christian friend. "I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever!" Praise God*❤️

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**Glynn Fendlason** - April 07, 2023 at 01:17 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of James W. "Jim" Jenkins.*



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April 07, 2023 at 12:01 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of James W. "Jim" Jenkins.*



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April 07, 2023 at 10:30 AM



“ *Mrs. Vial and family,  
Words are hard to express about the loss of Mr. Jenkins. He is now celebrating Easter with Jesus. I sure wish I could have know Mr. Jenkins. We would have gotten along well.  
Write down as many memories as you can to keep his earthly spirit alive for the legacies he leaves behind. Know that I'll be praying for each of you in the days, weeks, and months to come.*



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**Ken Boswell -Former student of Mrs. Vial** - April 07, 2023 at 12:04 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of James W. "Jim" Jenkins.*



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April 06, 2023 at 11:57 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James W. "Jim" Jenkins.*



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April 06, 2023 at 07:28 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of James W. "Jim" Jenkins.*



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April 06, 2023 at 04:49 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of James W. "Jim" Jenkins.*



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April 06, 2023 at 03:57 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of James W. "Jim" Jenkins.*



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April 06, 2023 at 02:14 PM



“ *It is with great sadness that I express my sincere condolences to the Jenkins family. Jim was a man I looked up to and I was always mighty proud to call my friend.*

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**Carl Bennett** - April 06, 2023 at 01:08 PM

JM

*Mr. Jenkins was a good friend I've kown him a long time my  
condolences go out to Mrs. Jenkins and her family I'll miss him may he  
rest in peace!!!!*

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**Joyce Montecino** - April 06, 2023 at 02:09 PM

GB

*Good bye ole Friend Gene Branch*

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**Gene Branch** - April 07, 2023 at 06:09 PM