



James T. Elkins

May 29, 1924 - October 6, 2010

Age 86 of Nashville. Born May 29, 1924 in Nashville, TN to parents Vester Pearl and James Lloyd Elkins. Preceded in death by his parents, his first love of his life, wife, Bonnie Jean; son, Tommy "T. Tommy"; and brother, Charles "BABE" Elkins. Survived by the second love of his life, soul mate, and loving wife, Ruth Elkins; son, Russell; daughter, Michelle (John) Langlois; brother, Harold (Sara) Elkins of Old Hickory; sister, Janice (Paul) DesMarteau of Mt. Juliet; grandchildren, Jessica Elkins, Scarlett (David) Anderson, and James Petre, III; great-grandchildren, Sarah Ozment, Evan Eden, Sunni Rae Eden, and Ethan Wyatt Anderson; two furry four legged kids, Coco and Chanel, whom he loved and gave him lots of happiness in his later years; many nieces and nephews. He attended Cohn School in West Nashville and then joined the US Navy in 1941. After leaving the Navy he married Bonnie Jean Grubbs in Franklin, KY in 1946, right after the war. They drove up in their black Chevy convertible that he bought from "Jim Reed". In May of 1948 their first child, James Russell, was born. Then a couple of years later, in November, came their second child, William Thomas. Then in 1964 their third child, a little girl named Jean Michelle, was born. At the time he was running a gas station and working on the N & C Railroad. Jimmy was known at one time for selling cars at 8th and McGavock. In one year he sold 720 cars all by himself and was called the new car boot-legger! Later he became the owner of J & J Market in East Nashville. His wife, Jean became ill with breast cancer and lost her battle in March of 1971. One week after he lost his wife, he also lost his Mama.

Then in August he lost his Dad. Five years to the day that he buried his father, his youngest son, Tommy was killed. At one point in his life he worked as a court officer for Judge Gale Robinson, Sr. and Judge Summers. Later he opened Fairview Liquors in Fairview, TN. In 1974 he became involved with the Continental Condominiums in Panama City Beach, FL and served on their Board of Directors for 25 years. Sometime during the early 70's he purchased some land in TN where he built the Drive In Market and Liquor Store. He was a standing member of the Madison Elks and the American Legion Post 82. Jimmy enjoyed playing golf and watching football, basketball, baseball, Nascar, and wrestling. He loved golf so much that he even had a putting green in his front yard. He helped start the TWO RIVERS SENIOR GOLF CLUB. He was a founding member of the famous SO WHAT CLUB. He was once a member of Dalewood Baptist Church but died a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Madison. Visitation at Phillips-Robinson Funeral Home Friday from 4-8pm, Saturday and Sunday from 12-8pm, and Monday from 1pm until the time of service at 2pm at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 1225 Gallatin Rd. Madison, TN 37115, Fr Ed Steiner and Fr Joe McMahon officiating. Interment at Spring Hill Cemetery. Pallbearers: Tami Leonardo, Jim Tyree, Grover "Sonny" Locke, Jim Johnson, Tom Cone, James A. Petre, III, Paul Demautaux, Randy Coleman, and John Steinhouse. Honorary Pallbearers: current and former Board of Directors of Continental Condominiums of PCB, FL, all "So What Club" members, past and present Davidson County Judges, John A. Hobbs, Bob Frensley, Joe Hobbs, Charlie Cardwell, Past Metro Fire Chief Martin Coleman. In lieu of flowers please make memorials to the Susan G. Koman Breast Cancer Fund, American Stroke Association, St. Joseph Catholic Church, or Safe Haven Maltese Rescue, rescuemalteses@yahoo.com. A special thanks to Dr. Daryl Nichols, Dr. Ken Rankin, Lisa, RN, and staff at Skyline Hospital Neuro ICU.

Tribute Wall



“ *James T. Elkins*

October 14, 2022 at 08:02 PM



“ *Sincere sympathy to all of Jimmy's family...be proud of his legacy and cherish the memories!*

Cindy Loeb - December 18, 2010 at 03:51 PM



“ *Ruthi, I am so sorry that I could not be there with you in one of the most difficult times in your life. Too bad we live so far apart. My prayers and thoughts are with you. You know that you can call me anytime, day or night, if you feel the need to talk to someone.*

Janet Sekon - December 17, 2010 at 11:23 PM



“ *Jimmy, you will be missed. You and Ruthie are in our prayers. John and Carissa*

John E Warady Jr - November 16, 2010 at 08:35 PM



“ *I Work At His Dermatologist Office And Became His Friend And I Didn't Get To See Him Often But When I Did It Was As If I Always Knew Him. We Will Miss Him Terribly. Love Gail*

GAIL STRONG - November 11, 2010 at 11:29 PM

CC

“ Jimmy was always so nice and kind to me. He had a wonderful smile and made you feel like he was your friend.
My love and condolences go out to Ruth and all his family.

God bless you all,
Carol Lee

Carol Lee Cooper - November 05, 2010 at 01:05 AM

KM

“ We'll miss you Jimmy.

Kevin Moon - November 03, 2010 at 03:28 AM

EV

“ Hi Sweet Ruthi,
We were so sorry we were not in Nashville for Jimmy's funeral..we were there in thought. We have so many fun memories of you both...one that comes to mind was one of the many surprise birthday parties you had for Jimmy..Jack and I forgot where it was being held...thought it was at your house so we drove over, walked right in
and there sat Jimmy on the couch...thinking we were both nuts, I'm sure! We visited with him long enough for you to take me aside and remind me of our goofy error! We all laughed about it when we ALL got the the actual party!! Jack and I still get a chuckle over it!
You know we are just a phone call away...we love you.
Ellie & Jack

Ellie & Jack Vaughn - November 02, 2010 at 12:10 AM

LR

“ Please know I'm praying for you. love you so much.

Lana Ragon - October 18, 2010 at 04:33 PM

SL

“ Like his brother Babe, Jimmy was a long-time and very special friend. We wish you peace now, Ruth, and the comfort of your happy memories of him. Our condolences to all the family.

Susan & John D Loudermilk - October 18, 2010 at 04:50 AM

PK

“ Ruthi...I'm sorry for your loss. Many fond memories of the times we spent at the Palace, and our homes.
(cars, food and fun was had by all!)
Jimmy had a rich and colorful life. He was blessed to have you in his life for so many years. Keep him in your heart and he will always be with us. Love you girl. Patty

Patty Peoples Kencke - October 16, 2010 at 02:57 PM

CH

“ I was the first person to ever sit in the backseat of "Uncle Jimmy's" Cadillac. I up and drove to Nashville one day from Pittsburgh and Jimmy and Ruthie showed me around town. I have very fond memories from that day and of Jimmy. I will always remember, even in a high winds, his hair remained perfect.

Chachi - October 14, 2010 at 08:28 PM

GG

“ so sorry to hear ruthie of jim s passing we know you ll be strong and we ll pray for you we loved reading jim s obit it was beautiful love
gwen and pete

gwen and pete german - October 14, 2010 at 12:05 AM

GG

“ so sorry to hear ruthie of jim s passing we know you ll be strong and we ll pray for you we loved reading jim s obit it was beautiful love gwen and pete

gwen and pete german - October 14, 2010 at 12:05 AM

LN

“ Just a little note to say we are thinking of you Ruthie and you will be in our prayers. It just seems like yesterday that you were here working at Aunt Eleanors and you were just like my sister.. we have so many memories..Please know that you are welcome to come visit us anytime.... I would love to see you and give ya a big hug... take care and may God Bless you forever and always... Love Ya, Lisa & Greg, Erica & Nate and Hilary... xoxoxx

Lisa Nickels - October 13, 2010 at 11:45 PM

DD

“ Ruthie...
I was so sorry to hear about Jimmy's passing... you have my deepest condolences. I know how much you loved him, just as I loved my JD. It's unbelievable that we lost our true loves within 4 months of each other! You and I always shared a special bond being married to our Jimmys, and now even moreso that we mourn them. My heart goes out to you as I know what a difficult time this is. May God bless you with peace and comfort, now and always.
Donna

Donna Meade Dean - October 12, 2010 at 09:53 PM

GC

“ Ruthie, so very sorry to read about Jimmy. We are in WI right now or you know we would be there for you. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Will talk with you when we get back. Again so very sorry.

Gay & Skip Carpenter - October 11, 2010 at 03:06 PM

SS

“ DEAR RUTHY- IAM SO SORRY HUN FOR YOUR LOSS AND THE BATTLES YOU HAVE GONE THREW THIS YEAR, PLEASE KNOW YOU ARE ALWAYS IN OUR PRAYERS AND I WILL PASS THIS ON TO THIS SIDE OF THE FAMILY.. WERE HERE FOR YOU IF YOU NEED ANYTHING AT ALL

SHEILA SAFIR - October 11, 2010 at 12:43 PM

AS

“ Ruthie,
We are so-o-o sorry to hear about the loss of your sweetie and our friend. He will always have a special place in our hearts. We used to have so much fun together. Especially the golf tournaments. Just thinking about it brings a smile to my face!! Remember all the B-Day partys we had? Oh! what fun they were. Try and remember all the good times you had together!! YOU were his angel. And you took such good care of him. How lucky he was! You made his life so rich and blessed. He really loved you!

We will always be there for you. Call us any time---

LOVE YOU

Ardy and Chris

Oct 10 2010

Phoenix,Az

Ardy Sizemore - October 11, 2010 at 04:34 AM

JJ

“ I Love you SIS and will keep you and Jimmy in my prayers. GOD BLESS

John E. Warady Jr. - October 11, 2010 at 01:55 AM

CS

“ Dearest Ruthie,
I am so sorry about the passing of Jimmy and will miss his funny quips. Those who know you both know that the day you came into his life was truly, the luckiest day of his life. Your love, support and care of him (both physically and emotionally) added so many quality years to his life. Jimmy was so blessed to have you as his wife, Ruthie and never forget that. Give your "little girls" a big hug and kiss from "Auntie Cass" and let them comfort you in your time of grief. I still giggle to myself when I remember how Jimmy was a little more than hesitant when you wanted your first pup. Fast forward to the 2nd pup then soon, Coco and Chanel were HIS girls as well as yours. You are truly an angel here on earth and Jimmy knew it. We love you. Cass and Larry

Cass Buhler & Larry Smith - October 10, 2010 at 07:51 PM

RD

“ Ruthie, in Jesus Name we Pray His peace in Your heart and life.
Feel free to call us as we will be there for You.
God Bless You.
Love, Ralph & Janet DeRose

Ralph J DeRose - October 10, 2010 at 12:28 PM

PT

“ Ruthi, The first time ted and I met you and "Uncle" Jimmy was at continental condo in pcb. You realized I was from the north and being italian I made wedding soup. You never minded that I always called Jimmy "Uncle" and he got such a kick out of it. Staying with you two when we would leave every winter to go to continental were such special times and he got used to the wedding soup I would bring. The love you two always showed toward one another was so warm and wonderful. When coco and chanal came into your lives I think he was completly so happy with his life and for one to live that long is absolutely amazing. We love you both and your faith, strength, and friends will help you through this most difficult time.
ted peggy

peggy & ted - October 10, 2010 at 01:39 AM

SO

“ Ruth, So sorry for your loss. I know the feeling all to well. Bob and I loved Jimmy so much and enjoyed all our time together. I will always remember the fun we had at the beach and at the opry. MY love is with you, and Jimmy is now with Bob.

Sonja - October 09, 2010 at 11:57 PM

MC

“ Ruth, So sorry to hear the news about Jimmy. Know that my thoughts are with you, and I do know what you are going through. Stay strong during the coming days. Keep in touch. Friends Always
Melody

melody campbell - October 09, 2010 at 08:45 PM

FW

“ *Ruthie,*

I'm so sorry for your lost and know what you're going through. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Faye

Faye Wiggins - October 09, 2010 at 04:20 PM

EP

“ *we will miss you jimmy. we had alot of good times at the beach. and i enjoyed staying at your house and sleeping where elvis did. much love to ruthie we will be here for you just call. love evon*

evon pedersen - October 09, 2010 at 04:09 PM

KA

“ *He will always have a special place in our hearts!!*

Ken, sandy, Ashlyn, Payton and Presley Alongi - October 09, 2010 at 02:36 PM

RV

“ *I was so saddened to hear about Jimmy..He will always remain one of the reasons I enjoyed working at Continental for so many years..I am glad that I had a chance to know him...My heart goes out to you Ruthi and Monty and all of the Elkins Family...*

Richard

Richard del Val - October 09, 2010 at 05:15 AM

AP

“ I am so sorry for the family's loss. Ruthi is my cousin and I know how much and how long she has loved Jimmy. He was a good man and very patriotic. I am active duty and he would always bring up his patriotism when I would visit.
He has gone home to be with our Lord.

April - October 09, 2010 at 02:07 AM

LB

“ I am so sorry.....but Jim is in a far better place than we are.

L.J. and "Professor" Bussey

lila jeanne bussey - October 08, 2010 at 09:57 PM

NV

“ Jimmy was a wonderful man who will be missed by many. Ruthie you are in my thoughts and prayers and please let me know if I can help you in any way.

Nicole Vaughn - October 08, 2010 at 08:19 PM

JJ

“ sorry for your loss.

james petre jr - October 08, 2010 at 01:02 PM