



James "Jimmy" A. Lewis

January 31, 1945 - October 13, 2020

James "Jimmy" A. Lewis - Nashville

James A. Lewis passed away Oct. 13, 2020, at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, another life lost to complications from COVID-19. Such was his spirit, he was the sort of fellow you thought would live forever. Jimmy, as he was known, was something of a legend in these parts, a successful entrepreneur and philanthropist who supported such causes as his church, Scottsboro United Methodist, Scottsboro Community Center, Room In The Inn homeless shelter and others.

He packed a lot of life into his 75 years.

Jimmy was born on Jan. 31, 1945, in Paris, Texas, son of Malcolm and Mildred Lewis. He grew up in Nashville, the place he was proud to call home. He married his high school sweetheart, Hilda M. Lewis, and over 56 years, they shared a zest for life with their three children and then two precious grandchildren. The family's farm brimmed with love and laughter.

Jimmy loved the coin-operated amusement business and Lewis Market and Gas Station. If you played pinball or bought a pack of cigarettes around Nashville, he was likely behind it. One of his nicknames was "Jukebox Jimmy." He also developed real estate and built several restaurants, including Boundr'y and South Street. One of his favorite commercial projects was the Young Executive Office Building named for country music legend Faron Young. Such a full life: Jimmy was devoted to his family and church, enjoyed life on the farm, hosted a huge Christmas party for friends and colleagues,

and enjoyed flying with his son, Bryan, and good friend, Bobby Joslin. He is survived by his wife, Hilda; three children – James Bryan Lewis and his wife, Tana, Bradford Jason Lewis and his wife, Renee, and Ginger M. Lewis, all of Nashville; and two grandchildren – C.J. Dollarhide and Sadye Jo-Marie Lewis.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Malcolm and Mildred Lewis.

A service to celebrate his life will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, at the Jimmy and Hilda Lewis farm. This will be an outdoor event with space to socially distance. Casual attire is encouraged. Honorary pallbearers are Charlie King, Charlie Brown, Moses Lobetti, Hon. Robert Echols (retired federal judge), David Hornbuckle, Carl “Sonny” Dollarhide, Billy Douglas, Peter Marcello, Bobby Joslin, Tom Sturdivant, Dr. Robert Pilkinton, Aubrey Harwell (Esq.), Tom Cone Sr., William “Bill” Freeman, Steve Smith (a.k.a. “Honky Tonk Godfather”), Ludy Wallace, Rev. Enoch Fuzz, Kevin Hatfield, Paul T. Housch (Esq.), James “Jim” Boyd, Mike Young, Michael Young, Roger Hamlett and Chief Joe Casey.

So blessed was Jimmy, he had too many friends to mention them all here.

Rather than flowers, a gift in his memory can be made to Nashville Humane Society, 213 Ocoola Ave., Nashville, Tenn. 37209. To make a memorial gift to Vanderbilt University Medical Center, please make out a check payable to the Center and mail it to Vanderbilt University Medical Center Development, Gift and Donor Services, 3322 West End Ave., Suite 900, Nashville, Tenn. 37203.

Gifts will support Kidney Transplant Research – Dr. Langone. Please include a note with the check or indicate on the memo line that the gift is made in memory of James A. Lewis. To make a gift by phone, please call (800) 288-0028. Gifts can also be made online at www.VanderbiltHealth.org/giving. Please select the checkbox next to “Dedicate my donation in honor or in memory of someone.”

Phillips-Robinson Funeral Home in Nashville is taking care of the family.

Online condolences can be shared at www.phillipsrobinson.com.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

OCT 17. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Lewis Farm
4467 Pecan Valley Road
Nashville, TN 37218

Tribute Wall



“ James "Jimmy" A. Lewis

October 14, 2022 at 08:02 PM



“ We were so shocked and saddened to hear of Jimmy's passing. Alan met Jimmy when he practiced law at Charlie Ray's office at 3rd Ave North. He always enjoyed being with Jimmy at the get togethers at Charlie's house. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time.

Alan and Diane Wise

Alan and Diane Wise - October 22, 2020 at 05:18 PM



“ Please accept my Condolences, HILDA, BRYAN and GINGER, and the rest of the family. JIMMY was a very good friend we talked often on the phone and at the lunches. GOD bless JIMMY and the family. RIP JIMMY.

C. WAYNE WOMACK

C. WAYNE WOMACK - October 17, 2020 at 03:20 PM



“ Man a lot of great memories with Mr. Lewis and his family. You will be missed and thank you for looking out for my mom all those years at the farm... We love you and will always consider your family ours... Love Michael, Kelly, Holly and Aubrey Knox...

Michael Knox - October 17, 2020 at 12:56 PM



“ *Please accept our condolences for your loss. We loved Jimmy and were blessed to know him.*
Doyle and Judy Petty

Doyle Petty - October 17, 2020 at 09:11 AM

CH

“ *Friend, confidant and kindred force of nature spirit. You will be greatly missed!*

Councilman Jonathan Hall - October 17, 2020 at 12:42 AM

PG

“ *So sorry for your loss. It was such a shock. I know he will greatly missed by everyone. Jimmy is in a better place. 🙏🙏🙏 Prayers for family. We had great times together. Love y'all*
Patsy & Grady George 🙏🙏🙏

patsy & Grady - October 16, 2020 at 08:09 PM

WL

“ *Please accept my condolences...He was s fine man with a strong belief in his friends...He will be missed...*

William Ligon - October 16, 2020 at 12:20 AM

MT

“ I was introduced to Jimmy by my brother in law Peter. I understood he was a man to be respected. He was a kind and generous man. It was easy to tell that Jimmy loved his family and was very protective of them. He would often call me to tell jokes. We would have a hardy laugh together. I felt Jimmy was young at heart and had lots of energy. This is what makes his loss hard to understand. I know this time will be difficult for his family and those close to him but his time will be remembered for forever. RIP Jimmy bGod Bless.



Michael Talluto

Michael Talluto - October 15, 2020 at 11:28 PM

SJ

“ I grew up where going into the Lewis store where my Mom always shopped as everyone who lived in the same small town where everyone knew everyone!
Jimmy was always involved in all things as everyone grew as a close up community.

We went to school and Church together and everyone always knew that he and Hilda would always be together forever!

He and my Dad Tommy Nethery were good friends and My Dad loved Jimmy!

Day's before my Dad passed Jimmy came to The house and sat with him for some time, it meant so much to my Dad and my family.

Jimmy was always a good guy and a life long friend.

Hilda and kids my heart is so sad for each of you 🙏 Sandy Nethery Jones

Sandy Nethery Jones - October 15, 2020 at 08:54 PM

VM

“ Will miss his Wonderful smile! RIP Mr Jimmy. Prays to his family

Vickie Myers - October 15, 2020 at 07:50 PM

BE

Rest In Peace My Friend

Benny Edmondson - October 22, 2020 at 02:43 AM

YC

“ your friends and family at Scottsboro Methodist Ch purchased the Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White for the family of James "Jimmy" A. Lewis.



your friends and family at Scottsboro Methodist Ch - October 15, 2020 at 05:07 PM



“ Marlies Pleshaw lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" A. Lewis



Marlies Pleshaw - October 15, 2020 at 04:38 PM



“ Peaceful Wishes was purchased for the family of James "Jimmy" A. Lewis.



October 15, 2020 at 12:15 PM



“ *Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers was purchased for the family of James "Jimmy" A. Lewis.*



October 15, 2020 at 12:13 AM