



## James William Melson

April 23, 1942 - October 22, 2020

James William Melson, 78, of Altus, Arkansas, died Thursday, October 22, 2020 in Fort Smith. He was a Construction worker; was of the Baptist Faith, and member of National Horseshoe Pitchers' Association. He enjoyed refurbishing cast iron park benches, building porch swings, and loved going to flea markets and yard sales. He loved family time and holidays with his children, grandchildren and his great granddaughter. He was born April 23, 1942 in Catalpa, Johnson County, Arkansas to Jasper and Elisabeth Kimbriel Melson. He was preceded in death by his parents; two sisters, Lossie Wood and Sarah Lucy Ritchie; and two brothers, Sammie and J. L. Melson. He is survived by his wife, Loretta Leding Melson of Altus; three sons, James Melson and wife Terrie of Lamar, Arkansas, Gary Melson of Clarksville, Arkansas, and Mark Leding and wife Sarah of Altus; two sisters, Mary Russell of Van Buren and Florence Sloan of Wesley, Arkansas; one brother, Paul Melson of Wesley; six grandchildren, Christian Storm and husband Dusty, Brighton, Kevin, and Aaron Melson, and Evelyn and Anna Beth Leding; and a great granddaughter, River Storm.

Private family memorial service will be held at a later date. Cremation arrangements were made under direction of Shaffer Funeral Home of Ozark.

## Cemetery Details

### St. Mary's Cemetery

Altus, AR 72821

## Previous Events

### Memorial Graveside

DEC 18. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

St. Mary's Cemetery  
Altus, AR 72821

# Tribute Wall



“ *James William Melson*

January 30, 2023 at 02:28 AM



“ *I am Barbara Ann (Melson) Lawrence, oldest child of J.L. Melson. Uncle James was so special to me growing up. Good-looking, fun-loving-and he was always on MY side! Meant so much. Playing horseshoes as a family with him was awesome-he was so good! Truly a special guy...Sending my love and prayers to all my kin.*

**Barbara Lawrence** - August 02, 2021 at 08:06 PM



“ *Our sympathy and prayers for the family. I grew up with James. Loved his family. May the heavenly Father hold him close and bless him with the walk on those golden streets.*  
*Brenda Mooney Eveld*

**Brenda Eveld** - October 26, 2020 at 11:54 PM



“ *Grandpa was a true friend of mine. We worked together and traveled many miles working. I will be praying for the family during this time of loss. I will be remembering all the good times we had together. His friend Steve Bass*

**Steve Bass** - October 26, 2020 at 06:42 PM