



## Lester Raymond "Chip" James

May 18, 1938 - December 4, 2020

Lester Raymond James (Chip), passed away peacefully on December 4, 2020, after a long struggle with Alzheimer's disease. His loving and forever wife of 64 years, Nancy James (nee Dodd, was his sole care provider and was by his side when he passed.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Dora Miller James and his father John James. He was also preceded by his six brothers, Robert, Thurman (Bud), Lenny, Ernest, Wesley, Richard, and his sister Mary Lee.

In addition to his wife, Nancy James, he is survived by his beloved daughters, Sherry (Rich) Anderson, Tammy (Michael) Bandy, and his wonderful son Alan James; his grandchildren, Shawna, Cody, Nicolas, Josh, Bryce, Jason, Justin, Jeremy, Jamie, Brianna, and Jayvin; twelve great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Lester was born in Broseley, Missouri, on May 18, 1938. He built his family in Naperville, Illinois, then moved, and would have Sunday dinner with the grandkids in Minooka, Illinois, before finally retiring to Mt. Vernon, Illinois.

Lester was first and foremost a devoted husband and father. He was a hard worker, giving over 50 years with the Local 597 Pipefitters Union, and was known by all the pipefitters as "Chip". He was an avid golfer and loved to enjoy the sport with his friends and grandkids. He loved to sing and play the guitar, and to bring a smile to anyone who would listen. Lester was a faithful member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Lester enjoyed life and wanted everyone else to enjoy it. He will be remembered as being quick

to laugh, a ready smile on his face, and a love for motivating and helping others. He will be deeply missed by his family and friends.

In accordance with his wishes, cremation rites have been accorded, and a Zoom Memorial Service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or to SSM Hospice, and will be accepted by mail to the Osborn Funeral Home, P.O. Box 130, Dix, Illinois 62830. Online condolences may be made at [www.osbornfuneral.com](http://www.osbornfuneral.com), or on the Osborn Funeral Home Facebook page.

# Tribute Wall

JB

“ Papa would constantly be trying to make jokes and involve everyone around him. He always pretended to know less than he actually did so that we would think he was like us growing up. But we all saw how hardworking he was, how he always tried to do for himself first, but was never afraid to get help when he needed it.

Justin Bandy - December 13, 2020 at 02:24 PM

DA

“ Les was a strong man with a heart of gold he will be missed. Diane and I want to convey our love for the James family as you are in our prayers. We have fond memories of Nancy and Les and will remember their love for family and friends. May Gods love be with them as they will be together forever. Love always Diane and Tony Aloisio

Diane and Tony Aloisio - December 08, 2020 at 02:42 PM

SH

“ Les was a wonderful man with a quick wit and always smiling. He and Charlie could talk for hours about nothing and everything. God bless you, Nancy.

Sharon Hale - December 08, 2020 at 06:13 AM

RD

“ Randy Dodd purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Lester Raymond "Chip" James.



Randy Dodd - December 07, 2020 at 09:51 PM

BD

“ *My Uncle Lester would tickle me until I couldn't breath. He was a good soul, hard worker, great provider, was crazy about my Aunt Nancy, his wife. Loved his children, was faithful to his Christian belief. Your home now Uncle Lester, and your mind soul and body is made perfect in Christ. I will see you soon.*



---

**Barbara Dodd** - December 07, 2020 at 05:30 PM

CF

*My Uncle Lester was one of a kind for sure he played with us kids and showed no favoritism he tickled us all unmercifully I will always remember his will to learn the guitar*

---

**Carlene Dodd Farler** - December 12, 2020 at 12:00 AM

HS

“ *What a wonderful man and great friend . . . have many memories of Lester; especially the canoe trips to Michigan with the Scouts, and our many Church gatherings.. Our hearts go out to Tammy and the entire family and may the Lord's peace be upon them at this time. Harvey & Sharon Shriver.*

---

**Harvey Shriver** - December 07, 2020 at 05:28 PM