



James Edward Goins

September 16, 1944 - February 2, 2025

James Edward Goins passed away Sunday, February 2, 2025, at the age of 80, at his residence in Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

Jim was the beloved husband of 37 years to Karen (nee Allmon); father to Kent Goins; stepfather to Damian and Joda (Anna) Wolfe; and grandfather to Hudson, Luke, and Bennett Wolfe. Jim is also survived by his sisters Verma Ruth Tucker, Ann Goins-Shelton, and Judy Lines, and Brother John Thomas, along with many extended family members and friends who will miss him dearly.

Jim was born September 16, 1944, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and grew up in Collinsville. After attending Oklahoma State University to pursue a degree in Agriculture, Jim completed his officer's training and flight program for the United States Navy. He served on the aircraft carrier, USS Lexington, off Pensacola, Florida, before returning to civilian life, where he built a career working for UpJohn Veterinary Pharmaceuticals and dental labs in Tulsa, Oklahoma and Kona, Hawaii.

While in Hawaii, Jim married his wife, Karen, and together they had many beautiful adventures, including grand ones like their months-long road trip to Alaska and back in a fifth-wheel trailer, and simpler ones like time spent around a table, telling stories and laughing until they could hardly breathe.

While life gave Jim many opportunities to see the world, for military service, work, and for his own wonderment and enjoyment, upon retirement there was no where he wanted to be more than back home in Oklahoma, where he could spend his days with his wife, his cows, and his dogs.

Jim realized his dream of good country living, settling on a ranch outside of Bartlesville, where the cows could come right up to the living room window to check the score on all those Oklahoma State sporting events that were always on the television.

His grandchildren enjoyed their time with Grandpa Jimmy, sitting on his lap to steer the Kubota, fishing for bass in the lake behind his house, and riding the "buggy" (UTV) around the pasture checking on the calves and their mamas.

Jim loved Jesus and he tried to show that the most in the intensity of his work and the depth of his relationships. Jim was a gifted conversationalist and every interaction with him was marked by his clever wit, funny turns of phrase, and distinct giggle. He was a man of principle, honesty, and integrity. He was a mentor and a friend to so many.

Family will receive friends at Grace Community Church for a celebration of life on Saturday, March 15 at 10:30 am.

In Lieu of flowers, Donations can be made to the Animal Shelter of your Choice

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAR 15. 10:30 AM (CT)

Grace Community Church
1500 SE Kings Dr
Bartlesville, OK 74006

Tribute Wall

“ Jim (Buddy) Goins

Love of God, family, country, and the land—these are the things I will always associate with my longtime friend, Buddy. We met nearly 50 years ago through his sister, Ann, who introduced him simply as Buddy, the name by which we have always known him.

Buddy has been a part of so many moments in our lives, including one of the most harrowing—when our oldest son, Matthew, nearly drowned at the age of three. Without Buddy’s presence and help in the rescue, we might have lost him that day. I often thank God for His protection and provision, and I will always be grateful for Buddy’s role in that moment.

During our move from Indianapolis to Tulsa, Buddy and Karen graciously opened their home to our family without hesitation. I know we were not the only ones to experience their generosity—countless others have been blessed by their kindness. Their willingness to help, rooted in a shared love of the Lord, made their friendship all the more precious.

Lukewarm was never a word used to describe Buddy; he approached everything he cared about with unwavering passion. This was especially true for his OSU Cowboys, whose every game—every sport he followed with devotion, and just as true for the Dallas Cowboys—though in the opposite direction, as his disdain for them was just as strong.

In recent years, Buddy’s kindness extended to our youngest grandsons, sharing with them his love for his land and cattle. Connor, then just four years old, later passed along Buddy’s wisdom: “You don’t chase cows—they are way faster and stronger than you. They will head-butt you!” To this day, every creek they see reminds them of Buddy—a lasting imprint of a man who took the time to share his world with young minds.

One of my last memories of Buddy is something he said to my husband during a particularly difficult time: "My door is always open to you." Those words perfectly reflect who he was—accepting, gracious, and available for those he cared about.

I rejoice that God allowed us to be touched by his friendship and eagerly await the time we are reunited for eternity in heaven.

Laura Elmore - March 13, 2025 at 11:09 AM

TG

“ *The Shepherd Group purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of James Edward Goins.*



The Shepherd Group - March 10, 2025 at 08:40 AM

TG

“ *The Shepherd Group planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Edward Goins.*

The Shepherd Group - March 10, 2025 at 08:40 AM