



Jitter Lee James

October 30, 1927 - November 18, 2017

Ernest Lee “Jitter” James died on November 18, 2017.

Jitter was born on October 30, 1927 to Melvin and Hazel James near Winganon, Oklahoma and attended schools in Childers.

Jitter married Sandra Smith on October 1, 1993 in Miami, Oklahoma. They made their home in Dewey and have continued to live there.

Jitter worked as a carpenter with the US Army during the Korean War, and then all of his adult life. He was a Moose Clown for many years, and later joined the American Legion Clowns. He continued with his clown act until his health did not allow him to clown any longer. If you were lucky enough to run into Jitter, he would always make you smile with a joke or an off-handed remark.

Jitter was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers and one sister.

Jitter is survived by his wife, Sandy, of the home, two daughters, Terri James of Bartlesville and Vikki Whittlesey and husband Rick of Johnson, NE, and five step-children, Paul Smith and wife, Debbie, and Gary Smith and wife, Marcy, both of Copan, Tammy Townsley and husband Roger of Houston, TX, Craig Smith and wife Judy, and Brad Smith and companion Betty Boyd, both of Dewey. Grandchildren include Justin Spear, Kevin Spear, Heather Berry, Hollie Stansifer, Paige Stansifer, Jeff Askew, Gabriel Cochran, Basil Smith, Ryan Townsley, Tyler Townsley, Jacey Waltrip, Cody Smith and Joely Patterson, 31 great grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild.

A memorial will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Comforting Hands Hospice, 1366 SE Washington Blvd., Bartlesville, OK 74006 or The Journey Home, 3406 SE Kentucky, Bartlesville, OK 74006.

Cremation arrangements by Stumpff Funeral Home & Crematory.

Tribute Wall



“ *Jitter Lee James*

October 23, 2023 at 04:40 AM



“ *Jitter Lee James*

October 06, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ *I can't think of the words that tell what you ment to us. You will not be forgotten. God bless you.*

Robert Byfield - November 29, 2017 at 06:41 AM



“ *Sandy, our condolences to you and the family. So sorry that we're in Texas and didn't know of Jitter's passing until today. You know that Jitter had a special place in our hearts. He got Delmar started in clowning, something they both loved. So glad we got to visit with him on his 90th birthday. Love you, Sharon & Delmar Lankford*

Sharon Lankford - November 26, 2017 at 08:33 PM

DM

“ I barely knew jitter when my mother was hospitalized for an extended stay. I would set with her through long sleepless nights and then every morning there was jitter with a smile and a hot breakfast. His cheerful way warmed my heart as the hot meal warmed my belly. I had the honor of serving him his meal at his last birthday party. It was not enough to repay all his kindness. The meal was lovingly prepared by the girls as a team effort and I got the honor of filling a plate and to bring it to him. Such a small thing but once again he warmed my heart with his response. The world is a lesser place without him.

dewayne mason - November 20, 2017 at 09:37 PM

GM

Charlie and I have know Jitters for over 50 years. I was a waitress at the hilltop cafe and waited on him many many times. That's when our friendship started and we maintained it for many years. I loved watching him being a clown he was so inspiring to many. He was always very kind and had such a loving heart. We love you Jitters and you will be missed by many.

Gail Mason - November 21, 2017 at 12:03 PM