



## James "Jim" Rankin, Sr

November 23, 1943 - December 6, 2022

James (Jim) D. Rankin, Sr., 79, of Morrilton, passed away on December 6, 2022, after having been a successful businessman, husband, father, and the life of any party for many years. He was born November 23, 1943, in Richmond, California, to Alvin Barton Rankin and Minnie Mae Franklin Rankin. Jim graduated from Morrilton High School in 1961 and Arkansas Tech University in 1965, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in mathematics.

Upon graduation, Jim and his bride, Gloria Thompson Rankin, moved to New Orleans, Louisiana where he worked as a computer programmer for Geophysical Service, Inc. (GSI), a subsidiary of Texas Instruments. Jim took a leave of absence from GSI in 1967 to teach at Morrilton Junior High School. He returned to GSI as a computer analyst assigned to overseas offices in Australia and Singapore.

In 1970, Jim moved his family back to Morrilton and formed Rankin Brothers Construction Co. with his brother, Don. With their father, Alvin, the brothers opened Rankin Builders Supply in 1972. After the partnership dissolved, Jim continued to manage the building supply store for 12 years. Over the years, Jim built apartments, homes, and duplexes. In 1978 he began a new venture with his father and brother when they opened a new motel in Morrilton. After selling that business, Jim and his father built a second motel in Morrilton which Jim operated until selling the business in 1994.

Jim was an avid hunter and bought land near Jerusalem, AR, that he named

the "Far as the Eye can See Ranch." It became the center of many happy memories for friends and family, including annual skeet shoots, legendary poker games, deer hunting, and four-wheeling extravaganzas. Later, Jim took up duck hunting with his son, Jim Jr., and enjoyed it as much as the triple trophies earned in deer hunting.

Jim enjoyed golf, camping, travelling, hiking, and snow skiing (which he didn't begin until he was 49). He was successful at everything he tried and enjoyed each and every day. Perhaps his greatest legacy, though, is the love, strength, and support he gave to his family and friends. This gift lives on through his children, grandchildren, and great grandchild.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, his wife's parents, Leon and Bea Thompson, his son-in-law John Harrelson, and his grandson Jordan Harrelson. He is survived by his wife Gloria Thompson Rankin, daughter Tamera Rankin Harrelson, and son James (Joanna) D. Rankin, Jr., two grandchildren, Adam Harrison and Mitchell Harrelson, great granddaughter Jenna Harrelson, one brother, Don (Jimmie-Dean), one brother-in-law, Louis (Debbie)Thompson, and many nieces, nephews, family members and friends. The family wishes to thank Laura McCoy of Senior Companion, the staff of Brookridge Cove Rehabilitation and Care, and Hospice Home Care for the care and compassion given to Jim during the last months of his life.

Funeral services will be 2:00 p.m. Friday, December 9, 2022, at First United Methodist Church of Morrilton with Pastor Bill Sardin officiating. Burial will be at Elmwood Cemetery in Morrilton. Visitation will be at 1:00 p.m. prior to service time at the church. Arrangements by Harris Funeral Home of Morrilton.

# Cemetery Details

## Elmwood Cemetery

1830 Highway 113  
Morrilton, AR 72110

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 9. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church  
201 S. Chestnut St.  
Morrilton, AR 72110

## Funeral Service

DEC 9. 2:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church  
201 S. Chestnut St.  
Morrilton, AR 72110

# Tribute Wall



“ James "Jim" Rankin, Sr

January 30, 2023 at 02:08 AM



“ Hey Mr Bartender, please don't be so slow! I remember our Friday night get together's along with the gathering at the ranch, with Jim Gloria and friends , love you buddy and miss you . 🥹🙏❤️

Randy Durdin - December 12, 2022 at 09:18 AM



“ Well the world lost another golden man.  
Mr. Rankin was always a steadfast and pleasant part of my childhood (no matter how much trouble Tammy and I got into).  
Saying goodbye for now is always so hard.  
Peace and love to your family.

Roma Lisa Gray

roma gray - December 08, 2022 at 04:16 PM



“ Oh what a day of rejoicing in Heaven. I am sure Pappaw and Mammaw were right there to greet him. I learned so much from him through the years. That zinc he would put on his lip while fishing though. Not another like him. He gave me my favorite nickname, Terrrrreese... Prayers for you all. I love you.

Teresa A Sutton - December 08, 2022 at 10:15 AM

RW

“ Dearest Rankin family.... Our sincerest sympathy to you Tammy and your entire family. God bless you all this Season. Rae-Lene Wolf and John Nichols

Rae-Lene Wolf - December 08, 2022 at 08:43 AM

MD

“ We are so sorry for your loss. We will be praying for you and your family  
The degroot family

Mary degroot - December 08, 2022 at 01:28 AM

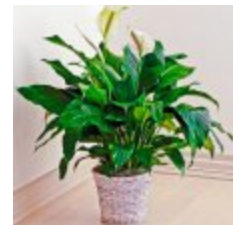
JF

“ Oh my was just really getting to know Jim and his legacy will last be one of integrity and honesty, wish we could of had more time together but I will cherish the time we had such a honor and a privilege for the time we had gloria you are in my prayers and I loved both of you.

Jerry Franklin - December 07, 2022 at 07:07 PM

TS

“ Troy & Sue purchased the Floor Plant for Sympathy for the family of James "Jim" Rankin, Sr.



Troy & Sue - December 07, 2022 at 05:19 PM

AH

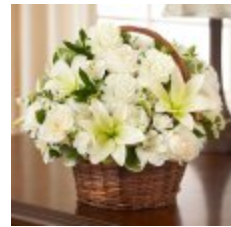
“ Arthur Ray and Kyrene Harrelson purchased the Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White for the family of James "Jim" Rankin, Sr.



Arthur Ray and Kyrene Harrelson - December 07, 2022 at 04:26 PM



“ Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- All White was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Rankin, Sr.



December 07, 2022 at 03:20 PM



“ Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- All White was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Rankin, Sr.



December 07, 2022 at 12:07 PM



“ Blue & White Sympathy Standing Spray was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Rankin, Sr.



December 07, 2022 at 10:38 AM

AR

“ My deepest and most heartfelt sympathy goes out to the Rankin family. I met Jim and Ms. Gloria when they moved back here and Tammy and I became friends in the 2nd grade. What a wonderful family. May God bless and keep you all is my prayer. Love always  
Ava Bull Reed

---

**Ava Reed** - December 07, 2022 at 09:06 AM



“ Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Rankin, Sr.



---

December 06, 2022 at 08:10 PM

BB

“ So very sorry to have heard Jim's obituary today on the radio. Prayers for the family. Jim will be missed by many. I remember well our days working at the sawmill outside of Steamboat Springs, CO. Good times. Jim was the best.  
Bill Brents, Conway

---

**Bill Brents** - December 06, 2022 at 06:47 PM

BV

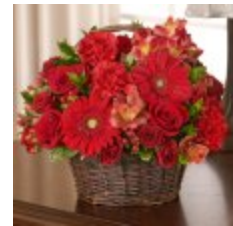
“ My condolences to all the Rankin family on Jim's passing. Jim and all your family have always been so gracious and helpful to me and my family. Jim and Don were no doubt two of the best friends my Dad will ever have, and I benefitted from that relationship each time I was fortunate enough to be part of the group. We will all miss Jim's humor, wit, wise-cracks, and snappy comebacks but most of all his smile and laugh neither of which I will ever forget. For unavoidable reasons I cannot attend the Memorial but I will be there in my heart. Best to you all and may your time of grief be tempered by fond memories of the man that was. Britt Vance

---

**Britt Vance** - December 06, 2022 at 06:15 PM



“ Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- All Red was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Rankin, Sr.



---

December 06, 2022 at 05:02 PM

MM

“ Mr. Rankin(he hated me calling him that) was one of the greatest men you will ever meet.

---

**mark massey** - December 06, 2022 at 04:25 PM