



James Ross Thompson

February 28, 1939 - January 30, 2025

James "Ross" Thompson, age 85, passed away on January 30, 2025, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. He was born on February 28, 1939 in Macon, Missouri to Charles and Marjorie (Newkirk) Thompson on the family farm.

Ross earned a Bachelor's Degree in Education from Northeast Missouri State Teacher's College and a Master of Divinity Degree from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Ross married Laveta Jones on August 20, 1961. Ross pastored in Missouri until he and Laveta were appointed as missionaries with the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. They served as missionaries in Colombia and Ecuador for 30 years. After retirement from the IMB, Ross continued in ministry, supply preaching and then pastoring for another ten years. He and Laveta recently moved to Okmulgee to be closer to family.

Because of his friendly nature, Ross never met a stranger and quickly drew people into conversation. He liked to hunt and fish and was an avid horseman. He enjoyed farming and being outdoors. However, his true passion in life was sharing God's love and the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Ross is preceded in death by his parents, an infant sister, Dorthy Sue, sister, Mary Baker, and brother, John Thompson. He is survived by his wife Laveta Thompson, daughter Teresa Rowland and husband Bill of Okmulgee, Oklahoma, son Charles Thompson, and wife Amy of Urbana, Maryland, brother David Thompson and wife Marie, grandchildren Philip Rowland and

wife Angela, Dayla Rowland, Colin Thompson, Will Thompson, and great-grandchildren Micaiah Rowland, Emmett Rowland, Joseph Rowland, and Hananiah Rowland.

Funeral services for Ross will be held 11:00 AM, February 6, 2025, at Atlanta Baptist Church in Atlanta, Missouri. Viewing will be prior to the service starting at 10:00 AM, February 6, 2025, at the Atlanta Baptist Church. Officiating the service will be Rev Chance Glenn and Rev. Bill Rowland. Burial will follow in Woodlawn Cemetery in Macon, Missouri.

The family suggests in lieu of flowers donations can be made to The International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, (www.imb.org/generosity/give-now). By mail: 3806 Monument Ave. Richmond, VA 23230-3932

Or to Atlanta Baptist Church, 319 N. Atterberry St., Atlanta, MO 63530

Arrangements have been entrusted to the McClendon-Winters Funeral Home of Okmulgee. Memories, condolences, photos and videos may be shared with the family on Ross' Tribute Page of our website. www.mcclendon-winters.com

Previous Events

Viewing

FEB 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church Atlanta
319 North Atterberry Street
Atlanta, MO 62530

Celebration of Life

FEB 6. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church Atlanta
319 North Atterberry Street
Atlanta, MO 62530

Burial

FEB 6 (CT)

Woodlawn Cemetery
Macon, MO 63552

Tribute Wall



“ McClendon-Winters Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of James Ross Thompson



McClendon-Winters Funeral Home - February 04, 2025 at 12:27 PM

DS

Touching

David, Marie & Sherri - February 05, 2025 at 03:31 AM

DH

“ When we think of our friend and missionary co-worker Ross Thompson, we have seen friendship in action. Ross and Laveta have been true friends. We began our missionary service together in Colombia and ended up in Ecuador maintaining this true friendship. When the Harpers had a need that the Thompson's could supply, they did so without expecting a return favor. There was always an openness to be there for each other. Then, as we think of the challenges they faced as they were called to take the Gospel to rural places where it is difficult to maintain a normal life-style, Ross and Laveta were able to live where few of us were willing to serve. Thanks be unto the Lord for Ross and Laveta serving in the hard places! The Harper family, Harry, Donna, Brian, Deren and Beth.

Donna Harper - February 06, 2025 at 11:56 AM



“ 87 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



McClendon-Winters Funeral Home - February 04, 2025 at 12:25 PM

JM

“ *Uncle Ross was one of a kind. His caring heart and sense of humor are a couple of things I miss terribly. I'm so grateful that we know he in heaven with The Lord now. Our loss is heavens gain. But I miss those offers to pierce my ears and nose with his leather punch. My love to Aunt Laveta (big hug)*

Jeanette McCumber - February 02, 2025 at 11:18 PM

TE



Teresa - February 03, 2025 at 08:03 AM

SR

miss tersa i am so sorry for your loss

sarah robins - February 04, 2025 at 01:45 PM

TK

“ *Me. Ross was one of a kind and a blessing to have as a resident. He always made me smile when I asked him how his lunch was and he would reply” It was good while it lasted”. You will be forever in my heart and missed dearly. Mrs. LaVetta I’m so sorry for you and you families loss you will be in my thoughts and prayers forever.*

Tiffany Kisse - February 01, 2025 at 09:53 PM



“ *Prayers for comfortf for this precious, family!
Mr Ross is HOME !!!*



Linda Chambers - February 01, 2025 at 10:33 AM