



## Elder James McKinley Chamblee

November 25, 1937 - January 6, 2026

Elder James McKinley Chamblee of Ahoskie, NC, affectionately called "Pop Bay," answered the Master's call on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, at his residence. A native of Bertie County, NC, he was born on November 25, 1937 to the late Elwood Chamblee and Gladys Rankins Chamblee.

He leaves to cherish his memories: his devoted wife, Janie Fennell Chamblee of the home; one son, Allan Chamblee (Constance) of Raleigh, NC; three daughters, Linda Flythe, Cynthia Gray, both of Covington, GA and Debbie Ray (Haywood) of Raleigh, NC; five grandchildren; two great grandchildren; his brother, Clarence Chamblee (Mary) of Ahoskie, NC; three brothers-in-law, Linwood Howard of Aulander, NC, Thomas Fennell and Wesley Fennell both of Murfreesboro, NC; special brother-in-law, Mack Curtis Fennell (Brenda) of Durham, NC; four sisters in law Margaret Chamblee, Christine Mitchell and Bessie Williams (Ray) all of Ahoskie, NC; and Irene Tyler of Hampton, VA; special cousin-in-law, Lula Sessoms of Baltimore, MD; and a special and faithful nephew, Christopher Chamblee (Keisha) of Ahoskie, NC who was always there to support and assist him; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

# Previous Events

## Service

JAN 17. 12:00 PM (ET)

Soul Saving Station Evangelist Church  
337 Ahoskie-Cofield Rd  
Ahoskie, NC 27910  
(252) 332-6940

# Tribute Wall



“ 20 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Hunter's Funeral Home - January 17 at 09:15 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Elder James McKinley Chamblee.



January 16 at 01:13 PM



“ Raleigh MEPS planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Elder James McKinley Chamblee.

Raleigh MEPS - January 16 at 01:13 PM

AB

“ AHS Classmates and Friends c/o M.R. Brit purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Elder James McKinley Chamblee.



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**AHS Classmates and Friends c/o M.R. Brit** - January 16 at 11:52 AM

TT

“ Tarsha S., Sean C., Mike H., Susan T. purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Elder James McKinley Chamblee.



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**Tarsha S., Sean C., Mike H., Susan T.** - January 16 at 11:10 AM

TT

“ Tarsha S., Sean C., Mike H., Susan T. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Elder James McKinley Chamblee.

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**Tarsha S., Sean C., Mike H., Susan T.** - January 16 at 11:10 AM

TF

“ The Late Ronald Chamblee's Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Elder James McKinley Chamblee.



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**The Late Ronald Chamblee's Family** - January 16 at 09:09 AM

NF

“ Nguyen/Sessoms family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Elder James McKinley Chamblee.



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**Nguyen/Sessoms family** - January 16 at 01:51 AM

PS

“ Peter S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Elder James McKinley Chamblee.

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**Peter S.** - January 16 at 01:44 AM

CK

“ Carmen and Kristen planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Elder James McKinley Chamblee.

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**Carmen and Kristen** - January 14 at 04:22 PM

CK

“ Carmen and Kristen purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Elder James McKinley Chamblee.



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**Carmen and Kristen** - January 14 at 04:22 PM



“ My condolences to the family during this most difficult time. To Cynthia and family may God’s Grace and Mercy be with you and comfort you in the days to come. Cynthia your work family at Northside Hospital Atlanta Care Coordination Department continues to be available for any support you may need during this time.



Patricia Brown - January 13 at 05:35 PM

TS

“ I’ll always remember my Uncle PopBay with fondness and much love. I always experienced his gentle nature and kindness, and I think of him and my father sharing laughs and conversations together, now forever.

Aunt Janie, Al, Debbie, Cindy, and Linda, In wishing you much love and comfort at this time. I love y’all. Love, Tobiet



Tobiet Sessoms - January 13 at 09:37 AM

JO

“ Johnny Outlaw lit a candle in memory of Elder James McKinley Chamblee



Johnny Outlaw - January 12 at 09:01 PM

HE

“ *Helen Eason lit a candle in memory of Elder James McKinley Chamblee*



Helen Eason - January 12 at 08:29 PM

JN

*Sending prayers of condolences. So sorry for your lost. S.I.H.P Mr. Chamblee. Get your rest.*

Jean Chamblee, Family, Charlotte, NC - January 13 at 10:45 AM

HE

“ *To my family: Uncle Pop Bay was a wonderful person. He will be missed. May God continue to bless you Aunt Janie and all his children and grandchildren. Praying for your strength and comfort during this time of bereavement. Love you all.*

Helen Eason - January 12 at 08:29 PM

HL

“ *Helen Eason Long lit a candle in memory of Elder James McKinley Chamblee*



Helen Eason Long - January 12 at 08:21 PM

JH

“ James Harrell lit a candle in memory of Elder James McKinley Chamblee



James Harrell - January 12 at 10:42 AM

OS

“ He was a true man who raised a wonderful family. He's with his God and will always be remembered as a beloved cousin and friend.



Orice Sessoms - January 12 at 10:40 AM

LS

“ Lula, Tobiet & Orice Sessoms purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Elder James McKinley Chamblee.



Lula, Tobiet & Orice Sessoms - January 12 at 10:15 AM

EH

“ EDDIE HODGES sent a virtual gift in memory of Elder James McKinley Chamblee



EDDIE HODGES - January 11 at 02:25 PM

EH

“ *EDDIE HODGES lit a candle in memory of Elder James McKinley Chamblee*



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**EDDIE HODGES** - January 11 at 02:25 PM

LM

“ *Please accept our condolences , prayers and love at this very difficult time. May God provide you with strength and comfort for the days ahead.*



*Love, Lisa Simmons Mikell & family*

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**Lisa S Mikell** - January 11 at 02:14 PM

NK

“ *Natascha Genova and Natalia Kilpatrick purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Elder James McKinley Chamblee.*



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**Natascha Genova and Natalia Kilpatrick** - January 11 at 09:28 AM

CW

“ *Carol Watford lit a candle in memory of Elder James McKinley Chamblee*



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**Carol Watford** - January 10 at 08:48 PM

TS

“ We extend our heartfelt condolences and Prayers to Mrs. Chamblee, Sis. Debbie and Brother Haywood Ray, siblings and all of your family. We Pray that God's Peace will comfort, strengthen and sustain you during this time and the days to come as you remember the beautiful memories and love you shared with your husband, father and all he was to each of you. You all took SUCH GOOD CARE of your Father and you Honored God by honoring your father in caring for him as he once cared for you.



" I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the Faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the Righteous Judge, shall give me at that day : and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing.

Family, take comfort that your loved one is in the presence of our Almighty and Loving God.

He fought a good fight and has now gone from labor to REWARD.

God Bless you all,  
Tony and Gladys Smith, Raleigh, NC

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Tony and Gladys Smith - January 10 at 07:52 PM

JH

“ James McKinley Chamblee lived eighty-eight  
years with purpose,  
With laughter in his voice  
And love in every gesture.



A father, grandfather,  
Great-grandfather,  
Uncle, brother, and friend—  
So many roles,  
Every one of them lived with grace.

He was loving, caring, wise—  
Guided not only by experience,  
But by faith.

God-fearing and steady,  
He walked with the Lord,  
Leaning on strength that did not fail.

He was a perfect example  
Of how a life can shine  
When it is rooted in love,  
And grounded in God.

He taught without preaching,  
Led without demanding,  
And blessed without boasting.

Our GOAT—  
The greatest of all time—  
Not for trophies or the spotlight,  
But for the way he lifted others,  
And the way he made people feel seen.

We will miss him dearly,  
Yet we do not grieve without hope.

*For love does not end,  
And life in God is eternal.*

*Though he has gone ahead of us,  
He remains near—  
In our memories,  
In our stories,  
In our laughter,  
And in the faith he passed down.*

*We give thanks for his journey,  
For the time we were given,  
And for the promise  
That we will meet again.*

*He will be remembered, cherished, and loved—  
Not only for what he did,  
But for who he was.*

*Well done, good and faithful servant.*

*We love you.  
We will miss you.  
We will cherish every memory  
And every moment we were blessed to have.*

*Your grands and great grands!!!*

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**Jessyca Harvey** - January 10 at 05:12 PM

EM

“ *Sending my most heartfelt sympathy to you and your family. My heart goes out to you and I wish you nothing but Comfort and Strength.*  
*From the McGlohone Family*



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**Emma McGlohone** - January 10 at 09:43 AM

JH

“ James McKinley Chamblee lived eighty-eight  
years with purpose,  
With laughter in his voice  
And love in every gesture.



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Great-grandfather,  
Uncle, brother, and friend—  
So many roles,  
Every one of them lived with grace.

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*Well done, good and faithful servant.*

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We will miss you.  
We will cherish every memory  
And every moment we were blessed to have.*

*Your grands and great grands!!*

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**Jessyca Harvey** - January 09 at 09:38 PM

GE

“ *Geace' lit a candle in memory of Elder James McKinley Chamblee*



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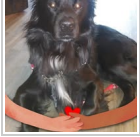
**Geace'** - January 09 at 09:13 AM



*Thank you for lighting a memory candle. It really means a lot to us.*

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**Linda Chamblee-Flythe** - January 09 at 05:20 PM



“ *Forever in Our Hearts to Our Dad*



*You were our first hero, our safe-haven, and our comforter when needed.*

*You taught us that strength is not from a loud voice but a deep and steady one.*

*You taught us that kindness is never wasted, to be honest in all we do.*

*You taught us the value of laughter and how it heals on the heaviest days.*

*We'll miss your warm smile and the wisdom of your words.*

*We'll miss how you make each moment a special one.*

*We are proud and grateful to be your children in so many ways.*

*We'll carry your heart within ours, honoring the way we live, we*

*love, and how we show compassion,*

*for others, by treating them just as you have taught us to be.*

*We'll love you Forever and For-always holding these memories dear and close in our hearts.*

*The children of James M Chamblee:*

*Linda, Allan, Debbie, & Cynthia*

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**Linda Chamblee-Flythe** - January 08 at 10:01 PM

CW

*Rest easy Cousin James "Popsie. " From God we come and to God we return. May the Ancestral Angels accompany you on your return to God in love and light! You earned your crown in your work on Earth. 🙏💜*



*Carol Watford*

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**Carol Watford** - January 09 at 10:50 PM

OS

*Wonderful words for a wonderful man. God bless you and your family.*

**Orice Sessoms** - January 12 at 10:22 AM

PR

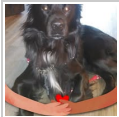
*My condolences to the Chamblee family.*

**Patricia C. Ryan** - January 15 at 11:54 AM

KR

“ *Used to work with him at the ship yard Keith Riddick*

**Keith Riddick** - January 08 at 09:10 PM



*Thank you for sharing your experience of how you knew our father. Your memory, support, and prayer mean a lot to us.*

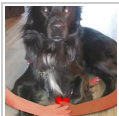
**Linda Chamblee-Flythe** - January 09 at 05:28 PM

KR

“ *Keith Riddick lit a candle in memory of Elder James McKinley Chamblee*



**Keith Riddick** - January 08 at 09:08 PM



*Thank you for lighting a memory candle. It really means a lot to us.*

**Linda Chamblee-Flythe** - January 09 at 05:22 PM

SR

“ Sandra B. Richardson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Elder James McKinley Chamblee.

Sandra B. Richardson - January 08 at 03:10 PM

SR

“ Sandra B. Richardson purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Elder James McKinley Chamblee.



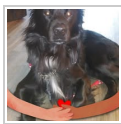
Sandra B. Richardson - January 08 at 03:10 PM

ER

“ My Deepest Sympathy sent with prayers and heartfelt condolences. May the Lord grant you peace and strength during this difficult time.  
Elder Roosevelt Robbins



Elder Roosevelt Robbins - January 08 at 02:08 PM



Elder Roosevelt, Thank you deeply for your prayers and condolences. Your sympathy is a welcomed embrace and warming comfort at this time.

Linda Chamblee-Flythe - January 09 at 05:34 PM

PR

“ *Patricia C. Ryan lit a candle in memory of  
Elder James McKinley Chamblee*



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**Patricia C. Ryan** - January 08 at 12:51 AM



*Thank you, Pat, for your lighting of a memory candle. It means a lot to us.*

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**Linda Chamblee-Flythe** - January 08 at 10:39 PM