

Obituary

James Earl "Jim" Vawter, a beloved figure in his community and cherished family member, passed away on March 9, 2025, at the age of 94. James was born on January 13, 1931, and dedicated 45 years of his life to being a baker at Mrs. Baird's Bakery, where his craft brought joy to many.

Throughout his life, James was known for his warm heart and deep affection for his family, especially his grandchildren. He found immense pleasure in attending livestock shows and participated in numerous outdoor activities, such as bottle feeding baby goats. His grandchildren will always remember the joy he brought into their lives, spoiling them with trips to Braum's and sharing sweet moments over ice cream. He was that beloved grandparent who never hesitated to lend a hand with chores, making their lives just a little brighter.

James was a man of many passions. He was a member of the Church of Christ. A lover of games, he spent countless afternoons playing dominos, 42, Rack-O, and checkers, bringing friends and family together in laughter and friendly competition. His loyalty to the Texas Rangers was legendary, and he could often be found cheering for his team, embodying the spirit of sportsmanship. He also had a penchant for gambling, frequently visiting Winstar for the thrill it provided. He continued to drive until he was 90 years of age. In addition to his many hobbies, he had a green thumb that allowed him to teach others how to garden, passing down his passion and knowledge to those around him.

James is survived by his loving daughter Betty Smith and her husband Charlie, his sons Mark Vawter and wife Charlene, Troy Vawter and wife Janie, David Vawter and wife Theresa, his devoted daughter-in-law Brenda Vawter, as well as 16 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great grandchild.

He will be lovingly remembered by his family and friends who hold dear the countless memories created alongside him. His legacy is not merely in the life he lived, but in the hearts he has touched, the laughter he inspired, and the love he shared.

James was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Mary Lee Vawter; his mother, Roxie Ann Vawter; his father, Oscar Lee Vawter; his daughter, Barbara Vawter; his son, Jimmy Vawter; his sons-in-law, Sean Murphy and Don Massingill. Each of them remains in the hearts of those who loved them, sharing in the stories of a life well-lived, a life vibrant with love, joy, and cherished moments.

Visitation will be held on March 13, 2025, from 12:00 PM until 1:30 PM at Lawson Funeral Home in Meridian, Texas. A graveside service will follow on March 13, 2025, at 2:00 PM at Mitchell Cemetery in Iredell, Texas.

James Earl Vawter leaves behind a legacy of love, laughter, and family, serving as a reminder of the profound impact one person can have in the hearts of many. May his spirit continue to inspire and touch the lives of all who knew him.

Arrangements were entrusted to Lawson Funeral Home, Meridian, Texas 254-435-2792.

Services In Care Of
Lawson Funeral Home
Meridian, Texas

In Loving Memory



James Earl "Jim" Vawter

January 13, 1931 ~ March 9, 2025

23 PSALM

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD;
I SHALL NOT WANT.
HE MAKETH ME TO LIE DOWN
IN GREEN PASTURES;
HE LEADETH ME BESIDE STILL WATERS.
HE RESTORETH MY SOUL;
HE LEADETH ME IN THE PATHS
OF RIGHTEOUSNESS FOR HIS NAME'S SAKE;
YEA, THOUGH I WALK THROUGH THE VALLEY
OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH,
I WILL FEAR NO EVIL;
FOR THOU ART WITH ME;
THY ROD AND THY STAFF
THEY COMFORT ME;
THOU PREPAREST A TABLE BEFORE ME
IN THE PRESENCE OF MINE ENEMIES;
THOU ANOINTEST MY HEAD WITH OIL,
MY CUP RUNNETH OVER.
SURELY GOODNESS AND MERCY
SHALL FOLLOW ME ALL THE DAYS OF MY LIFE,
AND I WILL DWELL IN THE HOUSE
OF THE LORD, FOREVER.

In Memory Of
James Earl "Jim" Vawter

Date of Birth
January 13, 1931

Date of Death
March 9, 2025

Services

2:00 PM, March 13, 2025

Mitchell Cemetery
Iredell, Texas

Officiating
Family Members

Bearers
Grandchildren of PaPa

Interment
Mitchell Cemetery