



James Ray Chambers

OCT 10, 1937 - OCT 17, 2023



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On October 10, 1937, Russell C. and Iroline Blevins Chambers became the proud parents of a son, James Ray Chambers. He was followed closely by a sister, Sheryl Lee and later another sister, Janet Sue, joined the family.

Jim spent his early years growing up on the Chambers Farm located along Pony Farm Road east of Leon. He attended elementary school in a one room school house a mile east of his home and then graduated with the Class of 1956 from the Leon High School.

Knowing that his parents could not afford to send both he and his sister Sheryl to college at the same time, he left for Wyoming the day after graduating from high school. He lived with his Uncle Russell and Aunt Alma in Casper and they helped him gain employment in the booming oil field industry with the W.C. Norris Mfg. Co.

He worked as a salesman in the oil fields and traveled throughout the western states selling supplies to the many working oil rigs. To this day, he credits his boss, Leroy Mitchell, with much of his success in life. He often said that if he had only kept all of the silver dollars he got as change while out west, he would have been a rich man today.

While in Casper, he met and then married Carolyn Joines in 1958. During the marriage, Jim was promoted by the oil company and transferred to Williston, North Dakota. He continued working in the oil fields often traveling into Canada. Sons James Kent and Jeffrey William blessed this marriage.

In 1967, after the oil company closed, Jim and his family returned to make their home in Leon, Iowa. Jim was self-employed as a custom corn sheller, became a farm fertilizer/insecticide applicator, worked as a grain elevator manager, and became an owner/operator trucker. His first truck was an old, red Mack that hauled many bushels of both corn across the Midwest and beans to the Mississippi River.



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It wasn't long before he chose the big Kenworth as his favorite truck to drive. On July 4, 1974, Jim married Roberta under a huge oak tree in the Kingdom of Calloway, Missouri. He welcomed Roberta's two children, Token and Dustria to his family. Jim and Roberta have made their home in Corydon, Iowa ever since.

They joyously welcomed a son, Jared Russell Chambers in 1977. With a crew of wonderful drivers which included his oldest son Kent, Jim continued as owner of a trucking company for several years, running multiple Kenworth's, Peterbilt's and other trucks throughout the United States. Jim's love of Kenworth trucks led him to ordering a new, two-tone blue W-900A back in 1977.

This truck was his pride and joy and it showed, as not everyone was allowed to drive it. Even Kent wasn't allowed to drive it until the "new" was well worn off of it! Then in the early 1980's, a small project in their back yard led to his eventual ownership of dozers, backhoes and other heavy equipment.

Today, you can drive around southern Iowa and see the many projects he worked on throughout the years - from farm ponds and terraces to large school and hospital expansions, new home sites along with water & sewer main projects. He "retired" in 2005 but continued to boss Jared and his crew around for several more years.

Jim was extremely proud of and loved his family more than you'll ever know. But, it was extremely hard for him to show how much he cared and he often left his kids doubting. Jim and Roberta's family includes: Jared and his wife, Pam, have one son, Jett Russell, of Corydon.

Kent and his wife Barb live in Lowell, Arkansas and have four children, Amy, Tony, Angela, and Tiffany. Amy, from Lowell, Arkansas has Christopher, Kenli, Lexie, and Brendon. Tony resides in Lowell, Arkansas. Angela and her husband Chad, from York, Nebraska, have three children, Eden, Jake, and Eli.

Tiffany is married to Cameron and they live in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Jeff and his wife BJ have one child, Alyssa. She has two children Christopher and Tru. They all reside in Bakersfield, California. Token and his wife Tammie, have one child, Trish. They reside on a farm near Louisburg, Kansas.

Dusti and her husband Daren of Corydon have four children, Teela, Trevor, Winston, and Raquel. Teela and her husband Tyler live in Melcher and have four children, Elizabeth, Memphis, Luxie,



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and Waylon. Trevor and his wife Maddison of Corydon have two children, Trice & Moxen.

Winston is serving in the United States Air Force, based in Joint Andrews Base at Fort Washington, Maryland. Dr. Raquel lives in Des Moines. Jim's sister, Janet, resides in Leon, Iowa. Jim and Roberta also have their beloved bulldog, Nala.

When this big family of over 40 got together, it was quite an event. Jim's private grin lasted for weeks.. Every time you hear Frank Sinatra sing "He did it his way", remember Jim.

On October 17, 2023, Jim left his earthly home in his two-tone blue Kenworth loaded with his D-7 Cat and his bulldog, Oliver, riding shotgun with him. Jesus was looking for a 'cat skinner' to get some dirt work done. Private burial services will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be made to the Corydon Fire Department



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GB

Ginger Moore Burton posted:

So so sorry!!!

October 23 at 7:00 PM

RJ

Robert And Risa Johnston posted:

Our deepest sympathies to you, Roberta, and your entire family on Jim's passing. He and Oliver are no doubt already hard at work and our hearts are with you. Robert and Risa

October 22 at 7:00 PM

SR

Stan Rupe posted:

Thoughts and prayers for you and your family. 🙏🙏🙏🙏

October 21 at 7:00 PM

KC

Kent And Barbara Chambers posted:

Thank you, Roberta for taking such good care of Dad and sticking by him. We are grateful that you have Jared and Dusty and families to comfort you. Thank you to everyone for your prayers and condolences.

October 21 at 7:00 PM

PD

Patsy Dudenhoeffer posted:

Sorry for your loss

October 19 at 7:00 PM

KD

Kari Taylor Dodson posted:

Hugs Roberta! ❤️

October 19 at 7:00 PM



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VE

Venita Escher posted:

Your sister. Jan, expressed many for you.

October 19 at 7:00 PM

SA

Steve & Rita Arnold lit a candle in honor of James.



October 18 at 7:00 PM

AC

A Memorial Tree Was Planted For James Ray Chambers posted:

We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Corydon

October 18 at 7:00 PM

LM

Lee Ann Moore posted:

Deepest sympathy to Roberta and her family.

October 18 at 7:00 PM

DM

Donna Morgan posted:

Sympathy & Prayers to Roberta & Family.

October 18 at 7:00 PM

LP

Lee Ann Breuklander-Peck posted:

So sorry Twin! Hugs to you all!

October 18 at 7:00 PM

DS

Diane Olson Schroeder posted:

Sympathy and prayers to Roberta and family...

October 18 at 7:00 PM



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PH

Patricia Huebner posted:

Prayers to the family

October 18 at 7:00 PM

SP

Susan Pyner posted:

Our sympathy to the family.

October 18 at 7:00 PM

DM

Doug . Milner posted:

I worked for Jim and Jared for a short time. HALING DIRT To the Hospital. And running the Sheepfoot roller. Jim was sooner good Man and I loved working for him and Jared! So sorry for your Loss

October 18 at 7:00 PM

MA

Marge Shipley Allen posted:

Our sympathy Roberta and family.

October 18 at 7:00 PM

NV

Nila Veachveach posted:

So very sorry about Jim's passing.Our thoughts and prayers to each family.Buck and Nila Veach

October 18 at 7:00 PM

GH

Gary Henderson posted:

That 2 tone blue W 900 was my first ride in a big truck!! I went to Quincy Ill. With a load of beans with Jim. I am proud to say I gave Jim his last ride in a W900 belonging to his good buddy Dave Smith!! I drove this time! He had as big a smile as I did when he gave me my first ride!! And, it had a caterpillar motor in it!!! Rest easy Jim, your out of hours on your log book!

October 18 at 7:00 PM



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NV

Nila Veach posted:

So very sorry for the loss, Jim was a good man!

October 18 at 7:00 PM

SB



Sue Brock posted:

My sympathy, thoughts and prayers for all of the family! Perry so enjoyed visiting with Jim when he would come in the store! Another good man gone!

October 18 at 7:00 PM

CS

Cindy Lou Whiteley-Stewart posted:

 Sending our heartfelt sympathies & prayers to the family & friends 

October 18 at 7:00 PM

PD

Patricia Devore posted:

Deep condolences to Roberta and family

October 18 at 7:00 PM

NT

Nancy Taylor posted:

Hugs to all !!!!

October 18 at 7:00 PM

TB

Tim Bruce posted:

Prayers for the family and friends for your loss!

October 18 at 7:00 PM

KL

Kimberly Langloss posted:

Thoughts and prayers to Roberta and all of the family.

October 18 at 7:00 PM



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CA

Cheryl Craig Arnold posted:

So sorry, sending prayers

October 18 at 7:00 PM

PS

Penny Sharp posted:

Our sincerest condolences to Roberta and family. 🙏🙏🙏

October 18 at 7:00 PM

DP

Doris Pollock posted:

Extending my sympathy to Roberta and her family.

October 18 at 7:00 PM

DW

Denise Westphal posted:

So sorry for your loss.

October 18 at 7:00 PM

JL

Janet Lenig posted:

Deepest condolences to the family.

October 18 at 7:00 PM

MB

Mike N Brenda Beckner posted:

Our sympathy goes out to Roberta and family.

October 18 at 7:00 PM

SA

Steve & Rita Arnold posted:

We are so sorry to hear of Jim's passing. He was quite a guy. Please know that you are all in our thoughts & prayers.

October 18 at 7:00 PM



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Kathy Ayres posted:

Prayers and condolences to families and friends

October 18 at 7:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring James by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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