

Jimmy Kent Israel

February 15, 1945 - August 28, 2015

James Kent "Jimmy Kent" Israel, age 70, Haleyville, AL. passed away Friday August 28, 2015 at Shelby Baptist Medical Center in Birmingham due to complications that arose during a scheduled, vascular surgery.

His visitation will be on Monday August 31, 2015 at the First Baptist Church in Haleyville from 10:00AM - 1:00PM, with his funeral to follow at 1:00PM, with Bro. Nathan Carroll and Dr. Jim Cooley officiating. Burial in Winston Memorial Cemetery.

Jimmy Kent was born on February 15, 1945 in Haleyville, Alabama. He lived in Haleyville, where he began participating in church, social and sporting events as a very young boy. Kent was blessed with a deep faith in God, a big, kind heart, and much athletic ability. He spent his high school years working, dating Paulette Hughes,, and as a leader and quarterback for the Haleyville Lions football team. Just prior to graduating from Haleyville High School, at the personal request of head coach Paul Bryant, Kent signed a Grant-in-Aide scholarship to play football at The University of Alabama. There, he was initiated to the A-Club and learned many, many valuable lessons about grit, gut, sacrifice, perseverance, and never giving up. He would carry these lessons the rest of his days, he would teach them to his children and their friends, and would use them to help encourage and inspire countless others. Jimmy Kent married Paulette on July 23, 1967 (He kept this a secret only from

Coach Bryant!) and spent his last year of eligibility as a graduate assistant coach. He coached football for one year at Tuscaloosa High School. He was then approached by John Posey, Jr. and Don Tidwell, who were interested in employing ex-Alabama football players. He accepted the position, and he and Paulette returned to Haleyville for Kent to begin a career in the mobile home business. Jimmy Kent remained with Tidwell Industries for 16 years, leaving his position as a Vice-President in 1985. That year, he and Paulette and Royce and Joanne Benefield opened P.R. Hughes Trading Company where Kent remained for the next 30 years.

"Giving Back" was very important to Kent. He was dedicated to serving and supporting his church and his community. Since returning to Haleyville, he has been a member of the Lion's Club, coached Little League football, supported organizations that benefit the football team, as well as, supporting all other Haleyville sport teams and the band, served on the Industrial Board, the Haleyville Water and Sewer Board, and served on the Haleyville City Schools Board of Education for 12 years. Kent kept his eye out for superb athletes in Haleyville and was dedicated to helping them receive scholarships. He called Mal Moore at Alabama and his prior teammates who coached and/or were the Athletic Directors at various colleges to insure that a scout came to watch these athletes play and make contact with them. Most important to Kent, however, was his church where he taught Sunday School for 20 years and served as Deacon at First Baptist Church in Haleyville.

Jimmy Kent prioritized his life in this order; God, family, friends, work, everything else. He was deeply dedicated to the Great Commission. He was deeply dedicated to his family and to his "chosen" family that is made up of his friends, Paulette's friends, and his children's friends, whom he loved much more deeply than many of them will ever realize. He loved God, people, jokes, laughter, kindness and yes football. However, for the last ten years, what brought him the most pleasure were his grandchildren, Emma and Jon Kent.

Just the sound of their voices excited him, flooded his face with a smile and made his green eyes sparkle. They were his very happy place..

Jimmy Kent was preceded in death by his father, James Allen Israel.

He is survived by his wife, Paulette Hughes Israel; mother, Louise Nation Israel; his daughters, Emily Savhann Israel and Amanda Israel Parson, her husband Billy Ray; his grandchildren, Emma Hughes and Jonathan Kent; his siblings, Allen (Pat), Tommy (Ann) and Phyllis (Ellis); his brother and sister in law, Royce and Joanne Benefield; his nieces and nephews, Mary Kathryn Benefield Waters, Blake Israel, Andy and Adam Israel, Katie Stout Hankel, Kim Stout Livesay and Kassie Stout Dyson; his great nephew, Peyton Donald Waters, IV.

IN LIEU OF FLOWERS:

contributions made to the Jimmy Kent Israel Memorial Fund c/o Will Walker or Keith Brown at Traders and Farmers Bank will be greatly appreciated. The address is: P.O. Drawer 550 Haleyville, AL. 35565 and the phone number is 205-486-5263. This fund will be used to support students, athletes and the causes dear to Kent's heart.

you may leave online condolences at www.pinkardfh.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Pinkard Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Jimmy Kent Israel*



Pinkard Funeral Home - August 30, 2015 at 03:42 PM

JJ

Such a sweet soul. We will miss you.

Janice Jackson - August 31, 2015 at 08:21 AM

LM

Paulette, Allen, Tommy, Phyllis, JoAnne, Mrs. Israel and family, Please accept our most heartfelt sympathy. I cannot make the services today, but know all of you are in our thoughts and prayers.

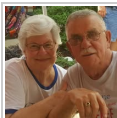
Lyle D. and Shirley Mitchell

Lyle D. Mitchell - August 31, 2015 at 09:32 AM

BD

Jimmy Kent was a great man I worked for him and he always had a smile and encouraging word for everyone. He would always have a smile in the worst situation and could make you laugh at your mistakes. He was truly a great mentor to a lot of people. He will be truly missed.

Brenda Butler Daniel - August 31, 2015 at 10:55 AM



He will leave a large space in family and friends with many memories to cherish. Love and prayers to Paulette and family

Sonja Berry - August 31, 2015 at 11:25 AM

SB

Will be missed! He was truly a person who loved Haleyville!

Sandra Burleson - August 31, 2015 at 11:46 AM

GT

A beautiful tribute to a man who loved his family and contributed to his community so much.

Gary & Linda Thomas - August 31, 2015 at 04:29 PM

CW

The Memorial Service was so upbeat and so Jimmy Kent! He will so be missed by his many friends, family, church and community. God bless each of you.

Carol Whitt - August 31, 2015 at 05:29 PM

AM

What a beautiful tribute! Prayers for peace for the family

Alex Mann - August 31, 2015 at 09:12 PM

BW

My condolences for Paulette and family.

Betty Taylor Whiteside - September 01, 2015 at 09:16 AM

DM

*I am so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in my prayers. Cherish your memories.
Donna Mueler*

donna mueller - September 03, 2015 at 09:32 AM

BH

It was a pleasure knowing Jimmy Kent all through our early school years!

Barbara Ann Hall - September 05, 2015 at 08:42 AM

RH

“ *Many prayers sent to the family & friends...
God Bless you all, such a good man!*



Rhonda - September 10, 2015 at 04:16 AM

FJ

“ *Have you all in my thoughts and prayers.*

Felecia James - September 04, 2015 at 07:46 PM

PM

“ *Psulette Thrasher Mitchum lit a candle in
memory of Jimmy Kent Israel*



Psulette Thrasher Mitchum - September 03, 2015 at 02:31 PM

BP

“ *So sorry to hear of Jimmy's death. He has always been a part of
Arkansas Florists Family and will be missed showing participating at
the annual convention Trade Show.
Please accept my deepest sympathy. Bill Plummer, Sec/Tres.*

Bill Plummer - September 02, 2015 at 08:10 AM

PP

“ *Love and prayers from old friends. We are so sorry for your loss.
Pride & Richard Parr*

Pride Parr - September 01, 2015 at 09:12 PM



“ *Scotty Burleson lit a candle in memory of Jimmy Kent Israel*



Scotty Burleson - September 01, 2015 at 03:54 PM



I'm thankful for the opportunity that I had to work for P.R. Hughes Trading Company and Jimmy Kent, Paulette, Royce and Joanne. They loved their employees and were so giving. Jimmy Kent was easy going and very good natured and could tell some good stories or clean jokes. My thoughts and prayers are with the family and trust in God to Comfort You With His Peace.

In Christian Love,

Scotty Kent Burleson

Scotty Burleson - September 01, 2015 at 04:03 PM

TD

“ *Our condolences and prayers for all of the family!*

Tyson Davis - September 01, 2015 at 07:40 AM

RB

“ *Thinking of your family in this time of sorrow. So sorry for your loss.*

richard burge - August 31, 2015 at 11:57 PM

AM

“ Alex Mann lit a candle in memory of Jimmy Kent Israel



Alex Mann - August 31, 2015 at 09:00 PM

KH

“ Kent Haughton lit a candle in memory of Jimmy Kent Israel



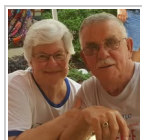
Kent Haughton - August 31, 2015 at 03:47 PM

JM

“ Jon Minor lit a candle in memory of Jimmy Kent Israel



Jon Minor - August 31, 2015 at 11:40 AM



“ Sonja Berry lit a candle in memory of Jimmy Kent Israel



Sonja Berry - August 31, 2015 at 11:12 AM

WA

“ So sorry to learn of Jimmy Kent's passing but rejoice that he is in Heaven today. We will miss him on September 19 when we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the 1965 national championship team. He was blessed with a great name... "Jimmy Kent Israel" and made the world a better place because of his faith in Jesus Christ and the life he lived serving others. "Precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his saints"...Ps. 116:15. Wayne Atcheson, Charlotte, NC

Wayne Atcheson - August 31, 2015 at 10:54 AM

BB

“ Jimmy always had a smile on his face! So very sorry for your loss! Prayers going up for the family.... Jonathan and Belinda Bennett

Belinda Bennett - August 31, 2015 at 10:44 AM

LS

“ Lillian Sigler lit a candle in memory of Jimmy Kent Israel



Lillian Sigler - August 31, 2015 at 09:08 AM

BB

Prayers for your Family! Jimmy always had a smile on his face. Your in my thoughts and prayers. --- Jonathan and Belinda Bennett

Belinda Bennett - August 31, 2015 at 10:42 AM

MS

“ Great teammate--always a team-first guy and one of the most popular players. I have fond memories of the Israel boys. We send heartfelt condolences to all. Mike and Ann Marie Sasser

Mike Sasser - August 31, 2015 at 08:46 AM

DS

“ DON SHANKLES lit a candle in memory of Jimmy Kent Israel



DON SHANKLES - August 31, 2015 at 08:29 AM

GR

“ Dear Paulette, With much sadness in writing this remembrance to you I wanted to go back to the very first time I met Jimmy Kent. It was when we both played in the high school All Stars football game in Tuscaloosa. Jimmy Kent was quarterback for our North squad. He lead us to a solid win! Moving on to Alabama to play for Coach Bryant was both our dreams come true. He was a great friend, player, and from the moving online tribute a great husband, father, and grandfather. I have fond memories of both of you and know how much he will be missed by so many people. With thoughts and prayers for the entire family in the days and weeks to come.

Your Friend, Gene Raburn

Gene Raburn - August 30, 2015 at 07:50 PM



“ 2 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Pinkard Funeral Home - August 30, 2015 at 06:48 PM



“ We will miss you Jimmy kent, God Bless!



Steve an Teresa Benefield - August 30, 2015 at 06:23 PM



“ 47 files added to the album *Life Tributes*

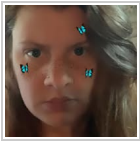


Pinkard Funeral Home - August 30, 2015 at 03:24 PM

TB

“ JIMMY WAS a part of the Alabama Family and he will be missed, the entire ALABAMA FAMILY mourn with the family after learning of his passing. May God Bless a,ll 1the family today and as you go through these next few days. Prayers are being coming your way. Later, Big T, TOMMY BROOKER #81 IN 1961 & Margaret!

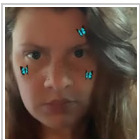
Tommy Brooker - August 30, 2015 at 06:35 AM



“ Tiffany Harlan sent a virtual gift in memory of Jimmy Kent Israel



Tiffany Harlan - August 29, 2015 at 06:12 PM



“ Tiffany Harlan lit a candle in memory of Jimmy Kent Israel



Tiffany Harlan - August 29, 2015 at 06:12 PM

IO

“ Our hearts are hurting but so assured that Jimmy Kent is with the Lord. We will miss seeing and talking on the phone with a wonderful friend. Dean and Irene Owen

Irene Owen - August 29, 2015 at 04:20 PM

BD

“ *Paulette, Em and family. I am so sorry to hear of Jimmy Kent's passing. My memories are that he was a warm, kind and generous man. He will be missed. My prayers are for strength and comfort for you all.*

Becky Davis - August 29, 2015 at 04:08 PM

SE

“ *Many prayers being said for you all. May God blanket you each with the peace and comfort only He can bring. Heaven gained a good man. In Christ's love, Suzanne and Harlee*

Suzanne Bass Elkins - August 29, 2015 at 12:27 PM

JE

Jimmy Kent like his dad before him has been a wonderful mentor and friend. Thank you for sharing him with us. We are praying for you. I love you and I love Jimmy Kent.

jeff - August 29, 2015 at 07:15 PM

LM

Shocked to hear of Jim's passing. Great friend, classmate at HHS. Always with a smile and a positive comment. RIP Jim our prayers are with you and your friends and family.

Lonnie Morris - August 29, 2015 at 07:22 PM

RB

Kent was not loved because of the sport he played, but by the way he lived his life.

Roger Burdge - August 30, 2015 at 08:15 AM

GJ

Condolences to the Family of Jimmy Kent Israel. There have been so many moments of reminiscing with the Havala out over time.

Gary Jack, son of Coach Gerald Jack - August 30, 2015 at 07:51 PM

MM

My deepest sympathy is with the entire Israel family during their time of sorrow. Jimmy Kent was a good SundaySchool teacher and dedicated to his christian faith. You never saw Kent that he did not have a smile on his face. I pray that God will comfort his family and give them the peace they need during this time.

*In his love,
Mary Lou Masters*

Mary Lou Masters - August 30, 2015 at 09:17 PM

SB

Our deepest sympathies to the family...Prayers and thoughts are with you today...Be strong. Your faith will see you through this time of sorrow.

Sandra & Sparky Box

Sandra Box - August 31, 2015 at 10:31 AM

AS

I send my prayers and condolences to Jimmy's family

Alvin Samples

Alvin Samples - August 31, 2015 at 01:10 PM

EC

Our deepest sympathy to the family. He will be missed. Evans and Raymon Caple, Bryant , Arkansas

Evans Caple - September 01, 2015 at 09:12 PM