



## Franklin Atom Starnes

March 3, 1946 - October 22, 2021

Franklin “FRANK” Atom Starnes, 75, of Jonesville, VA, passed away on Friday, October 22, 2021.

He was born on March 3, 1946 in Atlanta, GA to the late Roy and Viola Starnes. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his nephew, Chad Edward Starnes.

Frank was a native of Atlanta, GA, but moved to Johnson City, TN where he graduated from Science Hill High School in 1964. He received an honorable medical discharge from the US Navy and soon after married Linda Shull, a Washington County, TN native. He attended ETSU but later became a fireman while living in Roanoke, VA. Out of this profession grew a passion for service, and he moved his family – now including his daughter, Angela, to Jonesville, VA in efforts to begin his own business. He successfully served the Tri-State region for over 40 years with his company, Fire and Safety Supply.

Often known as the “Man In Red,” Frank not only volunteered as a firefighter for the Jonesville Fire Department, but also served the community as an inspirational little league baseball coach, a committed band booster, and a dedicated Boy Scout leader – earning The Silver Beaver Award for his distinguished years of service to youth. He was a member of Jonesville First Baptist, where for many years, he served as a deacon and leader of the Royal

Ambassadors, a discipleship club for boys.

Frank loved to mentor young men and to give them opportunities to find their potential and learn essential life skills.

He was a devoted husband, loving father and committed friend – but his greatest joy was being a Grandfather. His grandson, John-Franklin, who was named in his honor, and his granddaughter Olivia stole his heart, made him laugh, and made him proud.

Frank is survived by his wife, Linda Starnes; daughter, Angela C. Swain and husband Matthew, of Kansas City, MO; grandchildren, John-Franklin Swain and Olivia Anne Swain, of Kansas City; brother, Edward Patrick Starnes and wife Connie, of Chattanooga, TN; nephew, Christopher J. Shull, of Johnson City, TN; great-nephew, Turner J. Shull, of Johnson City; along with many honorary sons and friends.

A celebration of his life will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 28, at Jonesville First Baptist Church with Dr. Matthew Swain and Angela Swain officiating. The family will receive friends following the service. Committal services with military honors will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday October 29, at Mountain Home National Cemetery. Anyone wishing to attend is asked to meet at the cemetery in the new section, located at 215 Heroes Drive, Mountain Home, TN, 37684.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

OCT **28**. 6:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Jonesville  
Jonesville, VA

## Graveside service

OCT **29**. 2:00 PM.

Mountain Home National Cemetery  
Mountain Home, TN

# Tribute Wall



“ *Franklin Atom Starnes*

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October 05, 2023 at 07:31 PM



“ *Linda,*

*Time and geography had gotten in the way as the years have gone so swiftly by and I have made my life in Arizona for now more than half my life. Somewhere back there many years ago, I did see and talk with Frank for a short moment. Oddly enough not more than a couple of days before I heard of Frank's passing that he came to mind and I tried to remind myself it was long overdue for me to seek Frank out once again. I'm sorry now I did not do that.*

*I must share one grand memory with Frank. Some time in the 60's (I think it was after high school), Frank and I had this great idea to build and launch a small houseboat. And that we did. Built in the Starnes driveway over several fun days and hauled to Boone Lake in the middle of the night. We continued to work on our project there, but then in the end we both abandoned our dream. But we did create quite a memory. Those were good times.*

*Obviously, what a great life Frank had that touched many. A good man.*

*Don Parrish*

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**Don Parrish** - November 03, 2021 at 03:36 PM

SH

“ Linda, We are thinking of you, your daughter, and all the family during this sad time.

Sammie & Bob Horton - October 28, 2021 at 12:13 PM

MJ

“ My deepest condolences to Linda, Angela, and the rest of the family. Frank was a special man with a very special family.  
Melanie Jorgensen

Melanie Jorgensen - October 28, 2021 at 07:44 AM

DA

“ Cowboy boots, big cowboy hat and black caddy with a trunk load of Billy Graham films. I remember Franks big laugh and love of the Lord. Since the late 60's, we have maintain some contact and each time it was as if time hadn't past. I loved him and will miss the opportunity to hear him laugh one more time.  
To Linda and April. Life will be different, but so much fuller for having Frank in your life.  
I can just hear God telling Frank to slow down. You have forever to enjoy time with me.  
Blessings  
Dan Agee

Dan Agee - October 27, 2021 at 09:52 PM



“ Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Franklin Atom Starnes.



October 27, 2021 at 08:48 PM

CO

“ C.L. Overman lit a candle in memory of Franklin Atom Starnes



C.L. Overman - October 27, 2021 at 08:28 PM

WM

“ Wilma Williams McNew lit a candle in memory of Franklin Atom Starnes



Wilma Williams McNew - October 27, 2021 at 02:15 PM

JW

“ Janet Harris Wafle lit a candle in memory of Franklin Atom Starnes



Janet Harris Wafle - October 26, 2021 at 11:22 PM

MF

“ Margaret Starnes Finch lit a candle in memory of Franklin Atom Starnes



Margaret Starnes Finch - October 26, 2021 at 09:41 PM

RS

“ Ron Satterfield sent a virtual gift in memory of Franklin Atom Starnes



Ron Satterfield - October 26, 2021 at 09:11 PM

RS

“ As a member of Frank's graduating class of 1964, I am saddened to learn that he has passed. My condolences to the the family.

Ron Satterfield - October 26, 2021 at 09:11 PM

C1

“ Carol Pierce Thornburg, Class Of 1964 lit a candle in memory of Franklin Atom Starnes



Carol Pierce Thornburg, Class of 1964 - October 26, 2021 at 09:04 PM

JC

“ Jo Anne And Jim Clevinger lit a candle in memory of Franklin Atom Starnes



Jo Anne and Jim Clevinger - October 26, 2021 at 08:52 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Franklin Atom Starnes.* ”



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October 26, 2021 at 07:16 PM



“ *Larry Carriger lit a candle in memory of Franklin Atom Starnes* ”



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**Larry Carriger** - October 26, 2021 at 06:52 PM



“ *Prayers for the family. He will be truly missed.* ”

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**Wilma Counts** - October 26, 2021 at 03:16 PM



“ *Dennis And Gail Greer lit a candle in memory of Franklin Atom Starnes* ”



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**Dennis and Gail Greer** - October 26, 2021 at 11:45 AM

JS

“ I loved working with Frank. When he would come by our plant in Greeneville he always had an update for me about his family especially the grandkids. He will be missed and he was loved. Can't wait to see him again.

Joshua Swatzell - October 26, 2021 at 11:43 AM

DM

“ Dale And Diane Morris lit a candle in memory of Franklin Atom Starnes



Dale and Diane Morris - October 26, 2021 at 10:22 AM

JM

“ Prayers for the family. Frank will be missed.

John Moretz - October 26, 2021 at 10:01 AM

PL

“ Phil and Susan Latham purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Franklin Atom Starnes.



Phil and Susan Latham - October 26, 2021 at 09:56 AM

KW

“ He will be missed! He was so devoted to the youth of the church! Linda and Angela, prayers for you during this time. I know he is rejoicing in Heaven!!

Kathy Wolfe - October 26, 2021 at 09:24 AM

EW

“ *Sending sympathy and condolences to Linda and family. Frank will be sorely missed by his family and community. He devoted so much time in his life in service to others, especially the youth. RIP, Frank, and thank you for all you did in service to others.*



Ernestine Wright - October 26, 2021 at 02:09 AM



“ *Jill Graham lit a candle in memory of Franklin Atom Starnes*



Jill Graham - October 25, 2021 at 07:49 PM

JK

“ *Prayers for you Linda & Angela & family. Judy King*

judy king - October 25, 2021 at 06:32 PM

SN

“ *Linda, Angel and family, so sorry to hear about Frank. Always enjoyed our conversations at the bank. Our years at church together go way back also. Your family will continue to be in my thoughts and prayers. Love you all.*

Sandy Newman - October 25, 2021 at 02:58 PM

PD

“ *Linda, Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.  
Onice & Joe Cook  
Pam Davis*

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**pamela davis** - October 25, 2021 at 02:20 PM

JB

“ *John And Angie Broadhuhn lit a candle in  
memory of Franklin Atom Starnes*



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**John and Angie Broadhuhn** - October 25, 2021 at 02:02 PM