



Robert Estes

March 8, 1942 - December 29, 2025

Robert Estes, age 83, of Jonesville, VA, peacefully passed away on December 29, 2025, at his home surrounded by the people and farm view he loved.

He was born on March 8, 1942, in Cawood, KY, a son of the late Luther and Nola Estes.

Throughout life, he was known for many things—kindness, generosity, and hard work among them. Sixty-five years ago, Robert bought a backhoe and created what would become Estes Bros Construction, which has made a lasting impact in his community and beyond. By employing hundreds throughout the years, finding ways to better community projects and roads, and always giving back to Lee County, his impact will be felt for years to come. Outside of work, he enjoyed traveling and had many adventures throughout the US, in South America and the Amazon, and could often be found exploring off-road in his Jeep. He was also known for raising bison for many years, as well as other exotic animals such as zebra, camels, and kangaroo. Robert treasured time spent with family and friends.

Robert is survived by his wife of 63 years, Julaine Estes, of Jonesville VA; his children: Sheri Jenkins and fiancé, Adam, of Kingsport TN, Greg Estes, of Jonesville, VA, and Kandi Loyer, of Jonesville, VA; his grandchildren, Austin

(wife, Tressa), Grayson (wife, Chelsie), Parker (husband, Aaron), Luke, and Grace; and great-grandchildren: Collins and Larson.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Luther Roy.

The family will receive friends from 5 until 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 1, 2026, at Friendship Baptist Church in Jonesville. The funeral service will follow at 7:00 p.m. with Doug Clem and Richard Long officiating. Graveside services will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, January 2, at Lee Memorial Gardens in Woodway. Anyone who would like to travel in procession to the cemetery are asked to meet at Friendship Baptist Church by 12:15 p.m. on Friday.

Pallbearers will be Greg Estes, Austin Glass, Luke Estes, Grayson Jenkins, Kevin Sizemore, and Browning Wynn.

Honorary pallbearers will be Richard Cox, Tucker Sizemore, Joshua Hammonds, Winston Witt, and his special friend and business partner of over 43 years, Homer Vandergriff.

Online condolences may be sent by visiting, www.RobinetteFuneralHomes.com. Robinette Funeral Home of Jonesville is serving the Estes family.

Cemetery Details

Lee Memorial Gardens

1986 Hickory Cir Rd
Pennington Gap, VA 24277
(276) 546-2523

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 1. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Friendship Baptist Church
28970 Wilderness Road
Jonesville, VA 24263
<http://www.FriendshipBaptistJonesville.org>

Funeral Service

JAN 1. 7:00 PM (ET)

Friendship Baptist Church
28970 Wilderness Road
Jonesville, VA 24263
<http://www.FriendshipBaptistJonesville.org>

Graveside service

JAN 2. 1:00 PM (ET)

Lee Memorial Gardens
1986 Hickory Cir Rd
Pennington Gap, VA 24277
(276) 546-2523

Tribute Wall

MB

“ *Sorry for your loss Greg*



Misty Benfield - January 03 at 10:40 AM

DW

“ *Sheri, Greg, and Kandi, I am very sorry to hear that Robert has passed. As a lad, I spent part of a summer visiting Jonesville. When Robert came in from work one day and discovered that I had found and (extensively) test-driven his motorcycle, he never said a word. He was a grand gentleman.*

Please give Julaine my love and let us know how you are all doing by and by. I miss hearing from my Ammons relatives.

Duane Wilson - January 01 at 04:24 PM

BC

“ *Brock Mountain Land Company purchased the Rose Remembrance for the family of Robert Estes.*



Brock Mountain Land Company - January 01 at 03:02 PM

MC

“ I worked with Robert and his company many years while working for VDOT. He was always first class and truthful in every way. Always willing to help in any way. People like him are few.

Michael A Carter - January 01 at 01:34 PM

TR

“ My favorite uncle, always had a smile & made me smile. Aunt Julaine, Sheri, Greg & Kandi I am praying for peace & comfort in the days ahead. I love you all.



Tammy Estes Robertson - January 01 at 09:22 AM

TR

“ Tammy Robertson lit a candle in memory of Robert Estes



Tammy Robertson - January 01 at 09:11 AM

BM

“ Bruce Miles lit a candle in memory of Robert Estes



Bruce Miles - January 01 at 07:19 AM

BM

Got to know Robert when Estes Bros. Construction did many mined land reclamation projects for the Division of Mined Land Reclamation for which I was the Construction Coordinator. Robert and company did excellent work and at a quick pace. They worked well with our Inspectors in accomplishing many difficult projects. Robert helped me personally with a failing septic system. He came and used a rock bar to check field bed lines and outflow from the tank. He determined that sludge from the tank was not getting to the field lines. He said that the pipe to the distribution box was stopped up. When I dug it up, not only was the pipe clogged, but the distribution box did not have a lid. Estes Bros. had a lid that they gave me. Robert saved me money with his time and advice. He helped many other people in this way. Thanks Robert and I look forward to seeing you one day again in heaven.

Bruce Miles - January 01 at 07:36 AM

TM

“ *Teresa Moore lit a candle in memory of Robert Estes*



Teresa moore - December 31, 2025 at 06:56 PM

KW

“ *We are saddened to hear about Robert's passing. I am thankful for Robert and Julaine and their kindness to our family. Praying for all of you as you grieve. May the Lord bring you comfort and peace.*
Kevin Wilson

Kevin Wilson - December 31, 2025 at 04:09 PM

DB

“ *Donnie &loretta Blanken lit a candle in memory of Robert Estes*



donnie &loretta blanken - December 31, 2025 at 03:59 PM

DF

“ *Duane and Kevin Wilson and families purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Robert Estes.*



Duane and Kevin Wilson and families - December 31, 2025 at 03:51 PM

DF

“ *Duane and Kevin Wilson and families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert Estes.*

Duane and Kevin Wilson and families - December 31, 2025 at 03:51 PM

RS

“ *Russell & Lora Sutherland purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Robert Estes.*



Russell & Lora Sutherland - December 31, 2025 at 03:36 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Robert Estes.



December 31, 2025 at 02:05 PM



“ Barry Wilder and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert Estes.

Barry Wilder and Family - December 31, 2025 at 02:05 PM



“ Town of Pennington Gap purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Robert Estes.



Town of Pennington Gap - December 31, 2025 at 08:27 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Robert Estes.



December 30, 2025 at 04:36 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert Estes.



December 30, 2025 at 04:24 PM



“ Stephanie and Todd Haymore planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert Estes.

Stephanie and Todd Haymore - December 30, 2025 at 04:24 PM



“ Red Poinsettia was purchased for the family of Robert Estes.



December 30, 2025 at 03:16 PM



“ Wilma Williams McNew lit a candle in memory of Robert Estes



Wilma Williams McNew - December 30, 2025 at 01:50 PM



“ Jack Jones lit a candle in memory of Robert Estes



Jack Jones - December 30, 2025 at 01:11 PM

MW

“ Marvin and Lynette Willis purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Robert Estes.



Marvin and Lynette Willis - December 30, 2025 at 01:06 PM

MW

“ Marvin and Lynette Willis planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert Estes.

Marvin and Lynette Willis - December 30, 2025 at 01:06 PM

LI

“ Little B Enterprises, Inc. purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Robert Estes.



Little B Enterprises, Inc. - December 30, 2025 at 12:41 PM

LI

“ Little B Enterprises, Inc. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert Estes.

Little B Enterprises, Inc. - December 30, 2025 at 12:41 PM

TF

“ The Paul Elswick Family purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Robert Estes.



The Paul Elswick Family - December 30, 2025 at 12:03 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Robert Estes.



December 30, 2025 at 11:02 AM

JH

“ Julaine and I were classmates at Pennington High and i remember that Robert (from our rival Jonesville!) was the love of her life.
Jane Collins Hilt

Jane Hilt - December 30, 2025 at 10:59 AM

DE

“ I am truly sorry to hear of Robert's passing. Bruce called and told me this morning. Greg, know that I am thinking of you and your family. May the LORD comfort each and ever one of the family and each of those in the Estes organization as only he can . Robert ,You, Homer and each foreman were always good to me. I developed a great respect for Robert and Estes Cons't Co. You were always good to me and always did excellent work. I still appreciate you and have a favorite place in my heart for all the favorite memories at work. Many condolences to all the family the people that knew and loved Robert.

David Ellison

David Ellison - December 30, 2025 at 10:42 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Robert Estes.



December 30, 2025 at 10:18 AM

BT

“ Bobby and Phyllis Tuck planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert Estes.

Bobby and Phyllis Tuck - December 30, 2025 at 10:18 AM

PE

“ Greg, i am so sorry to hear of the passing of your father. When you're in a jam few people show up, but your Dad always did for me. He was great to me except the time he stole my truck from in front of the bank in Duffield. He will be missed.

Paul Elswick - December 30, 2025 at 09:37 AM

SH

“ Sheri, I am so sorry to hear about your dad. I enjoyed your stories of your trips with him and his adventures. I'm glad I had the pleasure meeting him when he came to get a haircut. My prayers for your family in the days and weeks to come. I know you will miss him, you have wonderful memories with him. Love you my friend.

Shelby Humphrey - December 30, 2025 at 09:11 AM

TM

“ Tony & Tonya Morelock lit a candle in memory of Robert Estes



Tony & Tonya Morelock - December 30, 2025 at 08:17 AM

PD

“ So sorry to hear of Robert's passing
I worked at Estes Brothers for three years and
Robert always treated his workers like family
RIP Robert , you'll truly be missed
Patrick Doyle



Patrick Doyle - December 30, 2025 at 07:59 AM

JK

“ *Judy King*



judy king - December 30, 2025 at 06:59 AM

EW

“ *I am very sorry to learn of Robert's passing. He was one of a kind. Sympathy and condolences to Julaine and his family.*



Ernestine Wright - December 29, 2025 at 11:56 PM

RM

“ *Robert and I become friends over twenty years and he taught me what tenacity was and gave me inspiration persuing it. Robert and I become lifelong friends when I bought a breeding threesome if Buffalo and they got out in Clintwood and roamed the town and mountainside for a month. Robert finally sent the famed Buffalo panels to me because he had a big heart and felt sorry for our situation. He always gave me advice and his sense of humor was contagious He was a perfect example of a man who taught us all how to live. He loved his family dearly And I will always consider one of my Appalachian hero's. Rest in peace my dear friend and I'll keep the memories*

Rick Mullins - December 29, 2025 at 10:58 PM

JC

“Joyce Ann Clark lit a candle in memory of Robert Estes



Joyce Ann Clark - December 29, 2025 at 10:42 PM

PR

“Priscilla lit a candle in memory of Robert Estes



Priscilla - December 29, 2025 at 09:54 PM