



Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott

May 24, 1950 - December 26, 2025

James Robert "Bob" Abbott, 75, of Hartsville, SC, passed away peacefully on December 26, 2025. Born on May 24, 1950, in Florence, SC, he was a cherished husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend whose legacy of kindness and laughter will forever resonate in the hearts of those who knew him.

A proud graduate of Southside High School in Florence, Bob completed his Bachelor of Arts at Francis Marion College in 1973 and earned a Master of Education from the University of South Carolina in 1979. He dedicated his professional life to education, serving as an English and journalism teacher. In the latter years of his career, he was the Assistant Principal at Hartsville High School until his retirement in 2010. His impact on the lives of countless students and families in the community is a testament to his commitment to nurturing young minds.

Bob was not only an educator but also an accomplished athlete, having played basketball at Southside High School and Francis Marion College. He was a South Carolina state tennis champion and a beloved tennis coach at Hartsville High School. His passion for the sport reflected his vibrant spirit, which was matched only by his unwavering faith as a devoted follower of Jesus Christ.

As a member of St. Luke Global Methodist Church in Hartsville, Bob actively contributed to his community, serving as a Sunday School teacher, choir member, served on numerous mission trips, and Lay Leader. His faith was central to his life, guiding his actions and relationships, and providing comfort and inspiration to those around him.

Bob is survived by his loving wife of 47 years, Carol Jean Abbott; his stepson, Chip Moore (wife, Michelle) of Hartsville, SC; his stepdaughter, Kim Moore (partner, Del Grady) of Hartsville, SC; his sister, Kay Abbott Stewart of Hartsville, SC; his brother, Dennis Abbott (wife, Cheri) of Charlotte, NC; along with three nephews, five grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his father, James Raymond Abbott, Jr., his mother, Carrie Opal Gause Abbott, and his brother, Larry Russell Abbott.

Known for his constant smile and warm hugs, Bob had a unique ability to connect with everyone he met, treating each person with kindness and respect. He loved to bring laughter into everyday situations, embracing the joyous and often odd moments of life. His spirit will live on in the memories shared by family, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

A celebration of Bob's life will be held at St. Luke Global Methodist Church on Tuesday, December 30, 2025, at 1:00 PM, where his contributions and love for his community will be honored. The family will receive friends in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the service. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the St Luke Global Methodist Church building fund.

He will be deeply missed but fondly remembered for the love he shared and the lives he touched.

The Directors of Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home are caring for the

family.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Funeral Service

DEC **30**. 1:00 PM (ET)

St. Luke Methodist Church
302 Dunlap Dr.
Hartsville, SC

Visitation

DEC **30**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

St. Luke Fellowship Hall
302 Dunlap Dr.
Hartsville, SC 29550

Following the service.

Tribute Wall

DS

“ *DELLA S lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott*



DELLA S - January 10 at 02:45 PM

DS

CJ, truly sorry for your loss. Keeping you in prayers.

DELLA S - January 10 at 02:47 PM

LH

“ *Linda Hickman lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott*



Linda Hickman - January 05 at 06:03 PM

TM

“ *I wrote for the school newspaper, High Notes, and Bob served as the faculty advisor. He was a great mentor and the main reason I studied journalism at USC. He made a lasting impact on me and so many other students in Hartsville. Rest well, Mr. Abbott.*



Toni Panoz Martin - December 30, 2025 at 09:11 AM

LB

“ Bob added a little extra allspice to the game of PICKLEBALL! How wonderfully joyful his spirit not only for the game but the ones around him! I enjoyed playing on the courts at TB Thomas recreation with him and it is there I will always feel that warm joyful spirit of my friend Bob! To his beautiful family I know that Gods loving arms are embracing you and will comfort you with love and the golden memories of your life with him 🕊️❤️🙏 God Bless you ALL

Laurie Brown - December 30, 2025 at 08:05 AM

JH

“ Jasnese Hunter lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott



Jasnese Hunter - December 30, 2025 at 12:41 AM

AB

“ Amy Blackburn lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott



Amy Blackburn - December 29, 2025 at 09:14 PM

JG

“ We were very sorry to hear of Bob's passing.
Prayers for the family for comfort.



Jeff Galloway - December 29, 2025 at 08:25 PM

WM

“ Carol Jean, I am so sorry for your loss. Bob
was a very kind person. My prayers are with
you and your family.



Wanda Moore - December 29, 2025 at 06:19 PM

WH

“ Wade Harris lit a candle in memory of Mr.
James Robert "Bob" Abbott



Wade Harris - December 29, 2025 at 05:15 PM

CJ

“ Charles And Teresa Johnson lit a candle in
memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott



Charles and Teresa Johnson - December 29, 2025 at 05:05 PM

NM

“ Nancy And Vern Myers lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott



Nancy and Vern Myers - December 29, 2025 at 11:00 AM

EC

“ Lord have mercy! CJ, I'm so sorry for your loss, please accept my deepest condolences. Coach was a great man, he'll be missed but won't be forgotten.



Evonne Cooper - December 29, 2025 at 12:39 AM

JB

Carol Jean I am so sorry for your loss. I remember Bob from our tennis matches. He was a real southern gentleman. My prayers are with you and your family.

Jean Beasley - December 29, 2025 at 10:12 AM

MS

My sincere condolences to the Abbott family. Bob was well liked and may he RIP. Mitchell Snipes C of 69.

Mitchell Snipes - December 29, 2025 at 11:56 AM

KS

“ There are so many memories, it is so hard to name one. Bob and Caroljean were always there for myself and the boys years ago, you are not forgotten. Bob did give the best hugs and loved CJs cooking and spoke about the grandkids when I did see him but unfortunately it has been a while. CJ just remember the 3 F's, Faith, Family, Friends. ❤️❤️ Kim and Dan Smith

Kimberly Mcgilvray Smith - December 28, 2025 at 05:39 PM

TC

“ Kenan and I send our deepest condolences to you, Carol Jean and family. Bob was such a kind man and neighbor. He will truly be missed.

Terri Clougherty - December 28, 2025 at 05:11 PM

NM

“ Carol Jean, I am so sorry. Bob was a friend to all, talented in so many ways. Hartsville will miss him.

Nancy McGee - December 28, 2025 at 03:19 PM

TW

“ Thomasina Wilson lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott



Thomasina Wilson - December 28, 2025 at 02:58 PM

WH

“ *Willie and Frances Herbert send our deepest condolences to the family and friends of Bob. He live next to us a very nice man. Sorry to hear this.* ”



Willie Herbert - December 28, 2025 at 02:01 PM

BW

“ *Becky Wetzel lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott* ”



Becky Wetzel - December 28, 2025 at 01:03 PM

BG

“ *Forever St. Luke Mudville 9! We will miss you Bob. Thanks for your unwavering motivation, leadership and friendship! See you one day soon.* ”



Bootsie Griggs - December 28, 2025 at 12:19 PM

BG

Mudville 9

Bootsie Griggs - December 28, 2025 at 12:24 PM

BN

“ *Bob was a fine person & tennis player, he will be missed in league play.*

bn_king - December 28, 2025 at 11:41 AM

KM

“ *Sorry for your loss! He was also a good teacher!!!*

Kathy moore - December 28, 2025 at 11:29 AM

BM

“ *Our thoughts and prayers for the life of Bob Abbott. Our friend, teacher, and tennis players.*

Becky and Bob McWatty - December 28, 2025 at 11:27 AM

KA

“ *Kimberly Anderson lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott*



Kimberly Anderson - December 28, 2025 at 10:37 AM

TB

“ *Tonda Bunch lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott*



Tonda Bunch - December 28, 2025 at 10:00 AM

PC

“ So sorry for your loss, Phyllis Pigate Clark,
Southside Alumni, class of 66



Phyllis Clark - December 28, 2025 at 08:29 AM

HB

“ Howard Barfield lit a candle in memory of Mr.
James Robert "Bob" Abbott



Howard Barfield - December 28, 2025 at 07:36 AM

TD

“ My heartfelt condolences. Mr. Abbot was one
of my teachers at Butler High and then
Hartsville High. He was a kind and caring
teacher. I will remember him and pray for his
family



Tonia Davis - December 28, 2025 at 05:43 AM

RC

“ Carol Jean, our heartfelt condolences to you
and your family during this time. Bob was a
wonderful man, and we will all miss him but I
know you and your family will miss him most
of all. You and your family are in our prayers.



Richard and Linda Cook - December 28, 2025 at 01:28 AM

AB

“ *Angelyn And Ted Bateman lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott*



Angelyn and Ted Bateman - December 28, 2025 at 12:08 AM



Jeanette
Blackmon

“ *Jeanette Blackmon lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott*



Jeanette Blackmon - December 27, 2025 at 11:19 PM

DE

“ *Diane Euten sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott*



Diane Euten - December 27, 2025 at 10:38 PM

SB

“ *Suzanne Skinner Beasley lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott*



Suzanne Skinner Beasley - December 27, 2025 at 10:13 PM

RW

“ My wife, Amy, and I, along with the congregations we serve individually and collectively, Elim Methodist Church (me) and Darlington Presbyterian Church (Amy) send love to Bob’s family and large circle of friends.

As a teacher, Bob raised a lot of people from my high school generation, and he was very supportive and loving to my wife at some very tough times (to put it mildly) in her first marriage. Bob was a true Good Samaritan, and was extremely happy about (and supportive of) our 2022 engagement and about our marriage in 2023.

Amy served Bob’s church for 13 years, then St. Luke UNITED Methodist Church, as organist, pianist, and chancel choir accompanist. As a result, they were very, very close.

May Bob rest in peace. He’s no longer in pain.

Pray with me:

“In your hands, O Lord, we humbly entrust our brother, Bob. In your great mercy, deliver him from every evil and welcome him into your presence. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen”.

Yours in Him,

*The Reverend Andy Williams
Pastor, Elim Methodist Church
The Oates Community
Lamar, SC USA*

*Amy W. Williams, FNP-C
Organist, Pianist, Choir Accompanist
Darlington Presbyterian Church
Darlington, SC USA*

Rev. Andy and Amy W. Williams - December 27, 2025 at 09:34 PM

MC

“ *My sincerest condolences to the Abbott's family. Mr. Abbott was an excellent teacher! He will be missed dearly by many people.* ”

Michelle B Campbell - December 27, 2025 at 09:13 PM



“ *Jay Benson lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott* ”



Jay Benson - December 27, 2025 at 09:07 PM

JB

“ *Carol Jean, I'm sorry to hear about Bob's passing. His passing leaves a giant hole in many lives, but none as much as in yours and your family's. Prayers lifted!* ”

Joyce Beasley - December 27, 2025 at 08:11 PM

MS

“ *Morrell And Marie Springs lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott* ”



Morrell and Marie Springs - December 27, 2025 at 08:09 PM

BS

“ *Birsy Stroud lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott*



Birsy Stroud - December 27, 2025 at 07:53 PM

LS

“ *Lavonde Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott*



Lavonde Smith - December 27, 2025 at 07:35 PM

GM

“ *Gail Mobley lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott*



Gail Mobley - December 27, 2025 at 07:26 PM

VJ

“ *Vickie Jacobs lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott*



Vickie Jacobs - December 27, 2025 at 07:26 PM

PC

“ Paul & Debbie Callicutt lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott



Paul & Debbie Callicutt - December 27, 2025 at 07:17 PM

JG

“ Jewel Walters Gibson lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott



Jewel Walters Gibson - December 27, 2025 at 06:59 PM

GG

“ We send our deepest condolences to the family and friends of Bob! He was a teacher to my girls and a treasured client of ours at Gibson's Tire! Our prayers are with you all!



Gene and Teresa Gibson - December 27, 2025 at 06:17 PM

GC

“ So sorry to hear about Bob. I always enjoyed playing tennis with Bob. He was a very kind and likeable gentleman. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time of sorrow 🙏🙏
Gail and Maxie Cantley

Gail and Maxie Cantley - December 27, 2025 at 06:08 PM

DK

“ *David King lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott*



David King - December 27, 2025 at 06:02 PM

DK

Bob was always smiling and fast with a laugh. He will be remembered and missed by all that knew him. My condolences' to the family.

David King - December 27, 2025 at 06:04 PM

SG

“ *Carol Jean... I am so sorry. Sending love and prayers to you and your family. And to Kay and Dennis and your family, prayers for you all during this difficult time. I will keep you all in my prayers.*

Susan Goode - December 27, 2025 at 05:49 PM

LR

“ *Lester And Lori Reynolds lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott*



Lester and Lori Reynolds - December 27, 2025 at 05:49 PM

J'

“ So sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. Abbott. He was an excellent teacher and always encouraged me to do my very best. He still remembered me years later, always spoke when he saw me, and even remembered what year I graduated. He will be missed. Condolences to the family.



Julia Melton class of '88 - December 27, 2025 at 05:35 PM

CB

“ Tom & I are so very sorry for your loss of Bob. He was a great guy and I always enjoyed our matches playing tennis. I understand that he was well liked by his students, and will be greatly missed. You have our deepest sympathy. Love, Cecelia

Cecelia Brown - December 27, 2025 at 05:21 PM



“ Zachary Bradshaw lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott



Zachary Bradshaw - December 27, 2025 at 05:16 PM

LB

“ Im so sorry may God find you all comfort in the days ahead hugs and prayers



Lisa block - December 27, 2025 at 05:14 PM

BS

“ RIP Coach



Bill & Angela Stokes - December 27, 2025 at 05:07 PM



“ Crystal Minnehan sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott



Crystal Minnehan - December 27, 2025 at 04:47 PM

RS

“ Rebecca Skinner lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott



Rebecca Skinner - December 27, 2025 at 04:43 PM

TL

“ One of those teachers you never forget. Thank you for inspiring so many of us and for making your classroom a place where voices mattered. I am the storyteller I am today because you believed in me, Mr. Abbott. Prayers for the family.

Tiletha Lane - December 27, 2025 at 04:43 PM

RS

“ Prayers for the family.



Ron Spears - December 27, 2025 at 04:38 PM

ES

“ Elizabeth Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott



Elizabeth Smith - December 27, 2025 at 04:34 PM

AM

“ My condolences in the loss of Mr. Abbott. One of the limited few teachers I remember from high school (Hartsville c/o 88). I was not always his best student but I remember so much from him and his class. He was the teacher that initiated my love of folk music and my favorite poet, Robert Frost. He was the teacher that truly taught me to think critically and challenge the status quo! Many years ago I ran into him at a training and was pleasantly surprised that he remembered me and in a positive way. I frequently talk about him to this day, not only to my friends but my current students.



Andrea Barry Mann - December 27, 2025 at 04:09 PM

FH

“ *Faith Howle lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott*



Faith Howle - December 27, 2025 at 04:03 PM

SH

“ *Sandra And Larry Huggins lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott*



Sandra and Larry Huggins - December 27, 2025 at 03:57 PM

LL

“ *I am so sorry to hear this news. Mr Abbott was one of my favorite teachers. He was a super nice guy. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

Laurie Lane - December 27, 2025 at 03:37 PM

RC

“ *Richard & Jane Cheshire lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Robert "Bob" Abbott*



Richard & Jane Cheshire - December 27, 2025 at 03:32 PM