



Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins

April 1, 1942 - August 28, 2020

A private memorial service for John Dantzler Watkins "JD", 78, will be held Tuesday, September 1, 2020, at the family's home, with Pastor Bo Gunter officiating.

Mr. Watkins died Friday, August 28, 2020. Born in Hartsville, SC, he was a son of the late George Haney and Oddie B. Brown Watkins. He was a member of the First Church of God of the Reformation, where he served on the Board of Elders and other committees. He retired as a Master Sergeant in the United States Air Force after 22 years of service, then many years later retired from Perry Morris Motor Company. He had a passion for telling the Good News and had a special gift to bring others to know the love of God. He was a dedicated husband and lived every day to the fullest to celebrate God's mercies, grace, and faithfulness with his entire family and church family. He cherished being the grill master and planning pool parties with his granddaughter and never turned away an opportunity to tinker or restore an old car or twelve with his grandson. JD was an avid bowler, enjoying his circle of friends that felt and supported him like family. He was always on the lookout to start up a good game night with their card-playing couples or have spontaneous fishing trips with their best buddies. Last but not least, JD had an impeccable love and respect for his country.

Surviving are his wife, Judy Stewart Watkins of Hartsville, SC; daughter,

Sherry (Craig) Watkins of Hartsville, SC; brother George Haney (Kay) Watkins of Coronado, CA; sister Abbie (Laney) Barr of Farmington, NM; grandchildren, Terie (Robert) Rousseau of Sunnyvale, CA; Daniel (Holly) Watkins of Hartsville, SC; great-grandchildren Finley, Mollie, Silas & Jackson Rousseau of Sunnyvale, CA and Ellis Watkins of Hartsville, SC.

He was preceded in death by his son, Terrence Dantzler Watkins, and his brother, Bobby Ray Watkins, Sr.

Memorials may be made to the First Church of God of the Reformation, PO Box 386, Hartsville, SC, 29551.

Previous Events

Service

SEP 1 (ET)

at the home
1941 Tema Rd.
Hartsville, SC

Tribute Wall

KG

“ *Kristie Gardner lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins*



Kristie Gardner - September 07, 2020 at 06:42 PM

JO

“ *I have never known John in person but I know his daughter Sherry who is not just a colleague but also a friend. I am sorry for your loss. It is hard to find the right words to express my sympathy when there is nothing which can heal or make this emptiness, you may feel, go away. I am sending hugs and strength for the time to come. If there is anything I can do for you from Europe please let me know.*
Johanna



Johanna - September 07, 2020 at 03:05 AM

JL

“ *Jolanda S Lynch lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins*



Jolanda S Lynch - September 02, 2020 at 10:29 AM

JL

Larry and I are so saddened to hear this news! JD and Judy were wonderful neighbors and long time friends. We have thought of you both often. You both were so good to me when my mom passed in 2015. My heart is breaking as I write this. Judy we are sending hugs to you and your family.

Jolanda S Lynch - September 02, 2020 at 10:32 AM

JR

“ Judy, I am so sorry for your loss. You and JD were always so close to my parents. You and your family are in our prayers. Jamey Rudisell



Jamey Rudisell - September 02, 2020 at 09:41 AM

BJ

“ Betty Jeffords-Broach lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins



Betty Jeffords-Broach - September 01, 2020 at 08:15 PM

JE

“ Jonnie Thomas Estermyer sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins



Jonnie Thomas Estermyer - September 01, 2020 at 08:05 PM

LL

“ *Lori And Randy Lowe lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins*



Lori and Randy Lowe - September 01, 2020 at 04:42 PM

CN

“ *Cory Nice lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins*



Cory Nice - August 31, 2020 at 10:32 PM

WJ

“ *Woody And Irene Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins*



Woody and Irene Johnson - August 31, 2020 at 06:11 PM

WJ

Judy, our hearts are so sad. JD's life spoke of how much he loved his family and his Lord. A true friend, he will be missed. We are here if you need us. Love you very much.

Woody and Irene Johnson - August 31, 2020 at 06:13 PM

GM

“ *Gay Martin lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins*



Gay Martin - August 31, 2020 at 11:09 AM

RG

“ *Rudy Gainey lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins*



Rudy Gainey - August 31, 2020 at 09:54 AM

KB

“ *Kathy Beasley sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins*



Kathy Beasley - August 31, 2020 at 09:48 AM

DD

“ *Dan And Rita Dukes lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins*



Dan and Rita Dukes - August 31, 2020 at 09:38 AM

BB

“ *Ben Bethea lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins*



Ben Bethea - August 31, 2020 at 06:37 AM

KP

“ *Kelly Tyner Peake lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins*



Kelly Tyner Peake - August 31, 2020 at 01:02 AM

WW

“ *Wade Walters lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins*



Wade Walters - August 30, 2020 at 09:56 PM

MW

“ *Mike Walters lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins*



Mike Walters - August 30, 2020 at 09:55 PM

RS

“ *Rebecca Skinner lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins*



Rebecca Skinner - August 30, 2020 at 08:31 PM

MG

“ *Sorry to hear about J D he was a special person our prayer and though are with the family.*
Billy and Margaret Grantham

margaret grantham - August 30, 2020 at 08:23 PM

KS

“ *Kathy & Freddie Stanley lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins*



Kathy & Freddie Stanley - August 30, 2020 at 08:08 PM

LL

“ *Lawrence & Cindy Lowe sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins*



Lawrence & Cindy Lowe - August 30, 2020 at 07:52 PM

LR

“ I am so sad to hear JD has passed away. But that is because I selfishly want to see him smile and hear him laugh again. I know he is in heaven telling Jesus a good joke :) I am honored to have known him and am sending lots of prayers of comfort to Judy and family.

Liz Rackley - August 30, 2020 at 04:13 PM

MD

“ There are no words to express my heartfelt sympathy and sadness of loss of member of family, friend and brother in Christ. I have known J.D. most of my life. Married to my dear cousin Judy. He always had words of wisdom to say. When my husband Nurray and I would v ou sit J.D. and Judy it always felt like being home. Their generous hospitality was so appreciated. The four of us laughed, cried and prayed together. Im going to miss our special times together. Precious memories. Murray and J.D. are together in Heaven praising the Lord and Saviour.

Marlene Dalrymple - August 30, 2020 at 03:41 PM

JO

“ Joan Odom lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins



Joan Odom - August 30, 2020 at 01:34 PM



“ Linda Knorr lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins



Linda Knorr - August 30, 2020 at 12:51 PM



“ I sure am going to miss my bowling partner...we always had the best times on thursdays....I am going to miss seeing you and Judy when we are out eating at the same places....He always called me Julio..I will miss that on Thursdays.....my thoughts and prayers go out to Judy and his family...He will be missed by many...RIP JD..love ya and gonna miss you..Julie Patrick

Julie Patrick - August 30, 2020 at 10:23 AM



“ I will miss the conversations I had with JD and Judy during their visits to the Huddle House. He would always speak and have a joke to tell. To Judy and the family, he is in a better place. R.I.P. my friend.



Leroy Watts - August 30, 2020 at 08:00 AM



“ Joseph Hall lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins



Joseph Hall - August 30, 2020 at 02:09 AM

WJ

“ *William & Dot Jones lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins*



William & Dot Jones - August 30, 2020 at 12:30 AM

DB

“ *Dick Brown lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Dantzler "J D" Watkins*



Dick Brown - August 29, 2020 at 11:10 PM

DB

Judy, I am stunned by this sadness. As you know J.D. and I were very close, what I felt was like a brother. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

Dick Brown - August 29, 2020 at 11:13 PM

MS

“ *Mr. Watkins welcomed my family to my house the day we moved in back in 2011. He was always so nice and helpful with any question I had to ask him. He always helped me with whatever I needed him for with no questions asked. We have always thought the world of him and Mrs. Judy. We are heartbroken! I'll miss seeing him and talking to him through the fences in our back yards. Mrs. Judy we love u dearly and you know we are just a call away for anything! He will truly be missed by us!*

Marcel Smith - August 29, 2020 at 10:25 PM

JN

Judy and family I am so sorry for your loss, JD was such a loving person with a smile on his face. He was so easy to talk to. I will miss seeing him .

Janice Nolan - August 30, 2020 at 07:52 AM

GM

“ *So very sorry....I'm sending my love to all of you. He was always so positive and kind. I'm praying for peace and comfort for all of you. With love, Ginger*

Ginger Mims - August 29, 2020 at 09:41 PM

WW

“ *Judy and extended family - at times like this, there are no words to explain how deeply your friends & classmates care about you. Harry & I are praying for God to envelope all of you in His loving arms and give you consolation and peace. You and your family are loved.*

Wayne Stratton Wallace

Wayne Wallace - August 29, 2020 at 08:59 PM

LT

“ *Sherry, Judy and family, I am so saddened to hear of the loss of JD. He always had a smile on his face. May God give you peace, comfort and strength in the days ahead. Your memories will be so precious now. I will keep all of you in my thoughts and prayers. With love, Linda*



Linda Thompson - August 29, 2020 at 08:41 PM

JB

“ Judy, I am so sad to here this, you two were just a perfect couple. JD always had a smile for everyone. You will be in my prayers. Such a wonderful family. Judy

Judy Barefoot - August 29, 2020 at 08:21 PM

PM

“ He was the sweetest most loving man I know. Thank was blessed to have known him if only for a short time. Church will not be the same without Mr. JD. Prayers for Mrs Judy and the rest of the family. This man was loved beyond words because he loved deeply.

Priscilla and Dan Smith and Sarah Myers - August 29, 2020 at 08:14 PM

MW

“ Going to miss JD. A real good friend!! Love and Prayers for Judy and the family.



Mike and Pam Ward - August 29, 2020 at 08:01 PM

BM

“ JD was such a big part of my life. I had so many long talks and laughs with him. My teenage years and early adult days i worked with him 5 days a week. JD gave me a lot of counseling through difficult times in my life. He shared so many memories of his time in the military. I've got lots of good JD stories, jokes, sayings and memories. One thing i always knew i could depend on was when i seen JD is he was always the same. JD never seemed to get too upset about things and was always ready to crack a joke and laugh. I'll definitely miss him but I'm sure he's gone on to heaven and I'll see him again. My prayers for comfort to Judy, Sherrie, Daniel and rest of the family.

Brian Morris - August 29, 2020 at 07:26 PM