



James Gary Montgomery

November 27, 1955 - February 23, 2026

Obituary for James Gary Montgomery

James Gary Montgomery, 70, of Florence, Alabama, passed away peacefully surrounded by family and friends on February 23rd, 2026. He was born on November 27, 1955, in Franklin County, Alabama, and spent his life devoted to his family, his community, and the things that brought him joy.

Gary was a loving husband to Paula Montgomery, proud father to his daughter Mindy Hutton, son Adam Montgomery, and bonus kids Miles Hutton, Luke (Julie) Smithson, Cayce (Jordan) Wilder. Nothing lit up his world quite like his grandchildren, Dax, Mia, Everett, Jack, James David, Brooks and Claire, whose games, activities, and everyday adventures he followed with unwavering enthusiasm and pride.

He is survived by his brother Don Montgomery (Rita), sister Robin Montgomery Jackson (John), brothers-in-law Jimmy (Tracy) Hughes, Michael (Kristy), his loyal dog Emma, and a host of nieces and nephews with whom he shared lifelong bonds, countless memories, and a deep family connection that remained strong throughout his life.

Gary was preceded in death by his parents, J.L. "Red" and Dorothy "Dot" Montgomery, brother Steve Montgomery, and sister Lona Ann Vandiver.

A supporter of Alabama sports, Gary never missed a chance to cheer on his favorite team. Whether watching a big game or sitting in the stands at his grandkids' sporting events, he brought excitement, warmth, and encouragement wherever he went.

Gary had a genuine gift for connection—he never met a stranger. His easy laugh, generous spirit, and welcoming nature helped him form friendships everywhere he went. After making Florence his home, he built a community of people who cherished his kindness, humor, and steady presence. Above all, Gary's greatest happiness came from spending time with the people he loved most—his family. His legacy lives on in their laughter, their stories, and the love he poured into their lives.

The visitation will be 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Thursday, February 26, 2026, at Spry Memorial Chapel in Russellville. The funeral will follow in the chapel at 7:00 p.m. with Tim Grigsby and David Burgess speaking at the service. The private family burial will be at Shiloh Cemetery in Greenhill.

Pallbearers will be:

Miles Hutton, Dax Hutton, Adam Montgomery, Don Montgomery, Shawn Vandiver, Noah Montgomery, Jimmy Hughes, Michael Hughes, Luke Smithson, Jordan Wilder

Honorary Pallbearers:

John Jackson, Everett Smithson, James David Smithson, Jack Smithson, Brooks Wilder, and Nathan Hughes

Gary will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by all who knew him. In lieu of flowers the family requests that in the coming weeks you pay it forward and bless a stranger.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **26.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Spry Memorial Chapel/ Funeral Home
907 Jackson Ave S
Russellville, AL 35653-2625
(256) 332-1122

Funeral

FEB **26.** 7:00 PM (CT)

Spry Memorial Chapel/ Funeral Home
907 Jackson Ave S
Russellville, AL 35653-2625
(256) 332-1122

Tribute Wall



“ *Spry Memorial Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of James Gary Montgomery*



Spry Memorial Chapel - February 26 at 05:27 PM

GP

“ *To the family of James Gary Montgomery your friends at Pivot Bio extend our deepest sympathies! May your memories be filled with remembering the good times and may you be blessed with God's peace and understanding!*

Gregory Peton

Gregory P Peton - February 28 at 06:27 PM

GP

“ *Gregory P. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Gary Montgomery.*

Gregory P. - February 28 at 06:22 PM

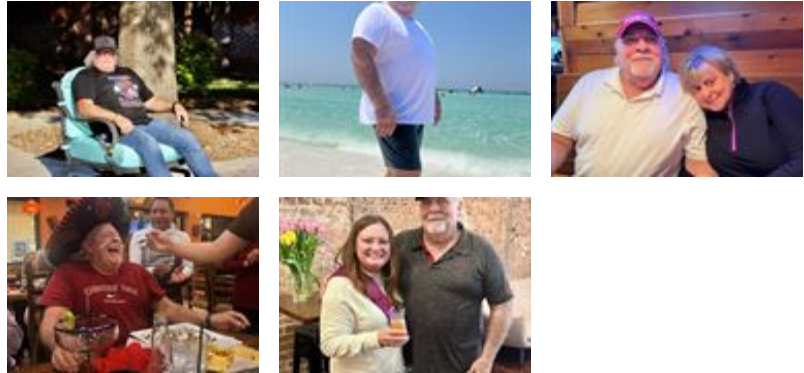
LR

“ *Lindsey R. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Gary Montgomery.*

Lindsey R. - February 27 at 07:16 AM



“ 153 files added to the album LifeTributes



Spry Memorial Chapel - February 26 at 02:30 PM



“ Eddie C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Gary Montgomery.

Eddie C. - February 26 at 01:10 PM



“ Your Hens purchased the Fairest of All for the family of James Gary Montgomery.



Your Hens - February 26 at 09:29 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of James Gary Montgomery.

February 25 at 06:37 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of James Gary Montgomery.*



February 25 at 06:37 PM



“ *Your 4M Research Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of James Gary Montgomery.*



Your 4M Research Family - February 25 at 02:02 PM



“ *Your 4M Research Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Gary Montgomery.*

Your 4M Research Family - February 25 at 02:02 PM