



James "Jimmy" Wallis

November 8, 1931 - February 20, 2023

James Edward Wallis was born in Los Angeles County hospital, Los Angeles, California on November 8, 1931. He departed this life on February 20, 2023 and entered, with rejoicing, into the presence of the Lord.

Jimmy or "Pa" and "Jpa" as he was known to most of his family and friends, along with his younger sister, Fay, was raised by his paternal grandparents, James Oliver and Etta Ellen Wallis. His Father, Virgil, died by accident in Ouray, Colorado in 1935 and his Mother, Bertha, abandoned both he and his sister. Jimmy attended the first and part of the second grades of school in Ouray, Colorado. Then with his grandparents and sister moved to Olathe, Colorado where he completed the rest of his grade school and high school education. While in both grade school and high school Jimmy sang on countless occasions for local functions, parties, and churches. He knew and sang most of the popular tunes of the 40's and 50's as well as numerous familiar gospel songs. He graduated both grade school and high school with honors and upon graduation from high school was awarded a four year-all-expenses-paid scholarship to Western State College in Gunnison, Colorado for exceptional achievements in drama (acting) and sports (baseball.)

However, he never exercised his opportunity to attend Western State College, but felt called at an early age to go as soon as possible into the Ministry. He, therefore, went to the Apostolic Faith Bible College for two years in Baxter

Springs, Kansas where he and his first wife, Lavonda Barker, both attended and he asked her to marry him. They were married on August 23, 1951 in Laverne, Oklahoma. Jimmy had preached his first sermons and was responsible for Rev. Ralph Durham's weekly radio program over KUBC in Montrose, Colorado for three months, while his pastor was in Alaska, when he was 18. He also traveled with "Bitsy" and Ruby Reese for a short evangelistic tour when he was 12 years old. Their travels took them through Spearman, Texas where he sang for Johnny Moderick and his congregation and was introduced to Hattie Bowlware's song, "I've Had A Vision Of Jesus." That song would eventually become Jimmy's signature song as he was requested over and over to sing it.

Jimmy was officially ordained, as a minister, on March 25, 1951 at the Apostolic Faith Bible College in Baxter Springs, Kansas with Gail Schultz as the minister in charge of ordination.

Just after the first term of Bible School, Jimmy went with Otto and Naomi Busch in tent revival meetings in Kansas, Alabama, and Mississippi while Lavonda was traveling in ministry in Oklahoma and Texas with the Charles Mahan family. Jimmy drove Otto's farm truck caring all of the equipment for the tent revivals and took a wrong turn in Memphis, Tennessee. No cell phones in those days so Otto and Naomi had to turn around and search for him.

Jimmy pulled over to the side of the highway and waited until a frustrated, animated, yet understanding German evangelist found him, and then led him back to the correct hi-way.

When Jimmy and Lavonda were married they traveled extensively in the United States in revival meetings. They were even traveling a few days prior to the birth of their twins, Randy and Kandy who were born on Feb. 21, 1953. After Randy and Kandy were born, Jimmy and family settled down and began to pastor various churches in the Apostolic Faith Movement. They pastored in

Oklahoma, Missouri, Colorado, Kansas, and Texas. They worked in full-time ministry until retirement to Tulsa, Oklahoma in September of 1999. Even after moving to Tulsa, Jimmy and Lavonda continued to serve and minister up and until the home going of Lavonda on October 10, 2011.

After five years of being alone, God brought into Jimmy's life another beautiful companion who had also been through heartache and loss. He and Barbara dated for three years (why did I take so long?) On a beautiful evening, September 27, 2019, Jimmy and the former Barbara McMurray were married at the Glass Chapel in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma.

The smile and joy returned to Jimmy as God was responsible for adding extra blessing and love back into His life. Barbara was and is a special gift from God. My love for Barbara, as I write this, grows with each passing moment.

While pastoring in Liberal, Kansas Jimmy graduated with honors, in the school's first graduating class, from Seward County Community College in 1971 with an Associate of Arts Degree and a major in Social Science. He later completed work for and received degrees of Bachelor of Religious Education, Master of Sacred Literature, and Master of Ministry from Trinity College and Theological Seminary in Newburgh, Indiana. His most important accomplishment, however, had nothing to do with himself. Through God's unmerited favor and grace he was born-again and received eternal life at the age of 11 all because of the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. The moment of truth occurred for him on a Sunday morning in a small country church on "California Mesa" just West of Olathe, Colorado He followed his conversion by being baptized, by immersion, in the cold water of an overflowing canal near Olathe in the Spring of 1942.

He was preceded in death by his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Wallis, his paternal grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. J.O. Wallis, the couple he always

considered his parents, his maternal grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Brumfield, his half-sister, Verlyn Doert, and his own, much loved, sister Arvilla Fay Killen. numerous uncles, aunts, and relatives, (many of whom were like a brother or sister to him) his father and mother-in-law, Rev. and Mrs. Jack Barker, (another special set of parents) and his first wife, Lavonda Barker Wallis.

Jimmy is survived by his wife, Barbara Wallis, daughter, Kandy Sharp and husband, Roger, son, Randy Wallis and Lou Ann, daughter, Heidi McMurray, son, David McMurry and wife, Dacy, grandchildren, Heather Rhynes and Dr. Jason, Heath Sharp, Jordan Wallis, Cameron Wallis and Donna, Maren Baker and Aaron, Dustin Seidel and Jennifer, Sommer Adcox and Brent, Taylor Gilstrap, Corey Conradt and Rickey, Britni Hill and Caleb, Lucas Bersin, Barrett Bersin, Olivia Mills, Cheris Bersin, Braeden Bents, David McMurray III, Charles McMurray and 19 Great Grandchildren.

Finally, It is Jimmy's desire that those who do survive him will not grieve for him, as those who have no hope, but catch a vision of Jesus returning, and live with the blessing of Christ upon them and seek to hear the Lord tell them, "Well Done!"

Cemetery Details

Floral Haven Memorial Gardens

6500 S. 129th E. Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74012
(918) 252-2518

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **26**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Hayhurst Funeral Home
1660 South Elm Place
Broken Arrow, OK 74012
(918) 258-9623
hayhurstfuneralhome@gmail.com

Viewing

FEB **26**. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Hayhurst Funeral Home
1660 South Elm Place
Broken Arrow, OK 74012
(918) 258-9623
hayhurstfuneralhome@gmail.com

Funeral Service

FEB 27. 1:00 PM (CT)

The Assembly
3500 W. New Orleans
Broken Arrow, OK 74012
(918) 251-8591
<http://www.theassembly.org>

Tribute Wall



“ James "Jimmy" Wallis

October 23, 2023 at 01:21 AM



“ You will be missed Jimmy! It was a pleasure meeting you even for a short time ❤️

Justin Francis - March 02, 2023 at 08:45 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Funeral Service



Hayhurst Funeral Home - February 28, 2023 at 01:06 PM



Kandy and Randy...you both did such a beautiful job of sharing your dads message in this service. We are sad that we didn't get to make it there. Thank you for sharing the video, and for sharing your amazing parents with so many of us in the Apostolic movement. You and your families will be in our prayers as you navigate the days, weeks, and months ahead. I know that your dad's "vision of Jesus" is now reality. We love you guys.

Telo

Telo Stanberry Pearman - March 02, 2023 at 09:14 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Jim Wallis Tribute



Hayhurst Funeral Home - February 27, 2023 at 10:29 AM

TP

What a treasure his life has been. Thank you for sharing this video.

Teloa Stanberry Pearman - February 28, 2023 at 09:34 AM

TS

I too feel so Blessed to have known this man and his family. Yes...A Treasure

Tyron Stanberry - February 28, 2023 at 08:44 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Pictorial Video Tribute



Hayhurst Funeral Home - February 26, 2023 at 05:31 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of James "Jimmy" Wallis.



February 26, 2023 at 01:58 PM

BC

“ Randy and Kandy . Much Love sent to each one.
Jim and family. Have always. Been apart of . MY Family.
In the passing of my grandmother. They were always. There. This is
important...to me..
I was very young... asked. Jimmy and LaVonda. To be my honorary.
Grandparents. Because. Somehow... they were always , in our life.
Even after.
Very thankful. Enid, ok.
Back to , when they came through, Austin . I was so very proud.
When , We were able to meet , with my parents. For lunch.
Again , Randy.....
You baptized, my Son.
We , will never forget .
The Presence of the Lord.
This is family. Time....
I gave Joseph, to you to pray.
You gave , your family, to pray.
And here we are. God is so good...
Amen and Amen .
Our,family.. Stephanie, Joseph, Brenda. Are, so Thankful .
For . The Wallis Family.
Deepest Condolences.
Much Praise, and Adoration. To Our Heavenly Father.
For , Your Dad. He sure , Loved ,
All of Us .

BRENDA K CANTU - February 26, 2023 at 04:40 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for
the family of James "Jimmy" Wallis.



February 25, 2023 at 08:17 PM

AW

“ Aunt Wanda purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of James "Jimmy" Wallis.



Aunt Wanda - February 25, 2023 at 03:55 PM



“ Tender Tribute was purchased for the family of James "Jimmy" Wallis.



February 25, 2023 at 09:03 AM

TF

“ The Vineyard Financial Group Family: purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of James "Jimmy" Wallis.



The Vineyard Financial Group Family: - February 24, 2023 at 01:59 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of James "Jimmy" Wallis.



February 24, 2023 at 01:44 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James "Jimmy" Wallis.*



February 24, 2023 at 12:13 PM



“ *Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of James "Jimmy" Wallis.*



February 24, 2023 at 12:24 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James "Jimmy" Wallis.*



February 23, 2023 at 05:50 PM



“ *Marty & Shirley Johnson & Tate & Tad purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of James "Jimmy" Wallis.*



Marty & Shirley Johnson & Tate & Tad - February 23, 2023 at 02:24 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of James "Jimmy" Wallis.



February 23, 2023 at 01:54 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms* was purchased for the family of James "Jimmy" Wallis.



February 23, 2023 at 11:33 AM



“ *MESA Family* purchased the *Beautiful in Blue* for the family of James "Jimmy" Wallis.



MESA Family - February 23, 2023 at 10:46 AM

AB

“ Words cannot express what Brother Jimmy meant to me and our family. He was the absolute best pastor and teacher of the Word that we ever knew. My parents, Bob and Jerry Magee, were so blessed to have Brother Jimmy and Lavonda as their best friends in Alvin. Fun memories of them celebrating birthdays with “ the birthday club”, which also included Alvin and Anna Barker. I cannot even imagine the wonderful homecoming! My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Aline Magee Blohm

Aline Magee Blohm - February 23, 2023 at 09:05 AM

PF

“ When Brother Jimmy was our pastor in Alvin, Texas, he taught us what a true pastor was, by example. He was caring, loving, and always there for his flock. I know that he’s dancing on streets of gold!

Patsy Ferguson - February 23, 2023 at 12:11 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of James "Jimmy" Wallis.



February 22, 2023 at 02:35 PM

KB

“ When the famous gospel quartet composed of Ron Martin, Delvin Wiles, Dewey Flock and myself, Keith Barker, were traveling evangelists in the spring of 1997, Bro. Jimmy & Sis. Lavanda invited us to their church in Liberal, Ks. We stayed with Randy in the basement of the parsonage and had some rowdy times. Bro Jimmy was a special mentor to a bunch of young, inexperienced guys, but we listened and appreciated his advice and instruction. He was an anointed and wonderful man of God. I just wish I could hear him sing “I’ve had a Vision of Jesus” one more time. Praise God, his vision is now complete.

Keith Barker - February 22, 2023 at 11:12 AM



“ Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of James "Jimmy" Wallis.



February 22, 2023 at 11:09 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of James "Jimmy" Wallis.



February 22, 2023 at 11:00 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of James "Jimmy" Wallis.*



February 22, 2023 at 09:50 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James "Jimmy" Wallis.*



February 21, 2023 at 09:15 PM



“ *2 files added to the album Memories Album*



Hayhurst Funeral Home - February 21, 2023 at 11:03 AM



“ *It is our honor and privilege to serve the Wallis family and to provide this permanent tribute website in memory of James.*



Hayhurst Funeral Home - February 20, 2023 at 12:19 PM