



James Lester Chavis

August 31, 2023

James Lester Chavis, 82, of Darlington died on Thursday, August 31, 2023. James was born on October 8, 1940. He was the son of the late James Lee Chavis and Ruby Johnson. Jim as he was known to friends and family, was born in Rockingham, NC. He graduated from Rockingham High School in 1957 and joined the United States Army right after graduation. He enlisted under the Army Buddy System with his best friend Sanford (Junior) Huggins, but they ended up separated. Jim completed his Army basic and advanced training and went on to serve at several Army bases to include service in Korea, and in Vietnam as a combat Veteran. After his honorable discharge from the Army, he remained active in Veteran activities through the Veterans of Foreign Wars where he served as a life member and quartermaster for Dillon VFW Post 6091. In 2013 he was named Veteran of the Year by Dillon County Veteran of the Year Organization. At the time of his death, he was serving as its commander. He was also a member of the American Legion. He regularly volunteered with the Dillon County Help for Veterans organization where he helped deliver bags of food to low-income military families. Jim was very proud of his family and loved them with his whole heart. He leaves behind his daughters, Donna Chavis Pevoto (Loyd), Judy Chavis (Gary), Ryan Derrick (Grant), Lorri Harvard (Vicki), Dannielle Clauson (Josh) and Cheryl Bunch (Rock). His precious grandchildren, Joseph Arnold, Jodi Harding, Ashley Scott, Joy Derrick, Landon Derrick, Lilly Clauson, Aryonna Bunch, Marie Potter, Savannah Crews, Dianna Dowdy, Aubrey Wood and

Kelsey Clement; 20 great grandchildren; and one great great grandchild. He also leaves behind his siblings Myra Singletary, Gloria Chavis Gaddy, Deborah DeRatt (Alan) and Bobby Chavis (Nona).

He also leaves behind his friend and Native American Traditional Spiritual Leader from the Land of 2 sands, Blue Eagle Brenda Bishop.

He loved his family, friends, his motorcycles, the Pee Dee Indian (his native tribe), fishing, Engineering, and creating things. He studied electronics, PLC, circuit analysis and design at Richmond Community College. He also studied radio and TV electronics class of 1976, ADPS computer technology at Fort Monmouth, NJ.

He retired from Marion County Technical Education Center where he taught industrial Technology for 12 years until 2006, then worked part time as information Technologist until fully retiring in 2012. Teaching was something that he enjoyed, and he made many close-knit relationships with his students. He will be missed by many but he invested his time into thos he loved while he was here on Earth.

"When you were born, you cried and the world rejoiced. Live your life so that when you die, the world cries and you rejoice."- Cherokee Proverb.

A celebration of life will be held on Wednesday, September 13, 2023 at 5:00 PM at The American Legion, 2014 Hwy 9 East, Dillon, SC . A private burial service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, we ask that you donate to the VFW of Dillon, SC, 2042 Highway 9 East Dillon, SC 29536 or to the Help for Veterans, INC. in Dillon, SC .

Tribute Wall



“ Jim & I rode together some and we also took our CCW class together in Dillon!!
He was a good man and a good friend.
I know I will miss seeing him and his posts :(

Ike Spike - November 14, 2023 at 02:37 PM

WF

“ Jim will surely be missed by all who knew him and his service to our country will never be forgotten. Family please know that you all are in my prayers and thoughts.
Wilton Fowler VFW State Chaplain

Wilton Fowler - September 02, 2023 at 01:06 PM

JC

We at the Dillon VFW Post 6091 send our deepest sympathies to the Comrade Jim Chavis family on the loss of their beloved family member. Comrade Jim was a life member of the VFW having served in combat during the war in Vietnam. He was serving as the Dillon VFW quartermaster at the time of his death. Comrade Jim was a strong supporter of the VFW working to promote its patriotic programs and its work to help Veterans and their families. He was enroute to a Dillon VFW committee meeting when a dead tree limb fell in front of him and caused his motorcycle accident on June 27th. This culminated in the later health complications on August 20th that caused his death on August 31st. He was a good friend of Veterans always volunteering to help with programs that support Veterans. He will be deeply missed in the VFW, but we are so very thankful for his service to his country in peacetime and wartime, and for his commitment to the VFW and to all Veterans. RIP Comrade Jim. s/John Harlow Commander Dillon VFW Post 6091 for the Post.

John Harlow Dillon VFW Commander - September 03, 2023 at 01:59 PM