



James Clifton Nicholas

June 28, 1960 - May 4, 2026

Bessemer, AL- James Clifton Nicholas, 65, passed away on May 4, 2026, at his home in Bessemer, AL, surrounded by his family. He was born on June 28, 1960, in Alabama to Shirley and Thomas Nicholas. James is survived by his wife Ronda Sheppard Nicholas, two children, James Brandon Nicholas (Melissa Nicholas) and Amanda Nicholas Hatcher (Michael Hatcher), three grandchildren, Colton James Nicholas, Henry Braxton Nicholas (Brandon and Melissa), and Memphis Alexander Hatcher (Amanda and Michael), Sister Brenda Powell (Larry), and Mother-in-Law Helen Sheppard He was preceded in death by his Father Thomas Nicholas; his mother, Shirley Ledbetter, Brother Joseph Dale Nicholas, Sister, Sharon Mitchell, and Father-in-Law George Sheppard. James worked in the paint shop at Mercedes-Benz as a team leader for 25 years and loved his job. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, and spending time with his friends and family in his free time. He loved going on vacations with family and friends to the Smoky Mountains and the Beach. He was a dedicated and loving Husband, Father, Pawpaw, and Boppy. He will Forever be in our Hearts. A Celebration of Life Gathering will be held at Tannehill State Park on May 24, 2026, from 12:30-2:30 in the Robert Pavilion located in Farley field (trade days). Please feel free to bring any photos or memorabilia you have of James to the gathering, as we will have a table set up in remembrance of him.

Previous Events

A Celebration of Life

MAY **24**. 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM (CT)

Tannehill State Park
12632 Confederate Parkway
Mc Calla, AL 35111

Tribute Wall

SC

“ I just want you all to know that We love you and we're praying for you. I loved James like a brother. We have been best friends with Ronda and James for many years now and have enjoyed all of our adventures and Friday nights together. I will truly miss him. There will never be another James. He was such a great guy and he had a way of making everyone feel special. Him and Ronda were friends that quickly became family. I'm very thankful to have known him and for all the memories we made together. I will always cherish them and he will always be in our hearts. We love you all and we will always be here for you.

Sandra Chappell - May 09 at 12:11 AM

SW

“ I'm so sorry for your family's loss. Just know that James is a huge loss to us all. He was a very special person and a friend to everyone. I loved his sharp wit and sense of humor. If I was having a bad day at work and ran into James, he was sure to make me laugh or smile. He was talented in many ways. He was very devoted to family and friends, funny and dependable. I will never forget James. He just had one of those unique personalities that makes him impossible to forget. Sending you prayers for comfort and strength. Fly high James!

Sherry Wilson - May 06 at 07:05 PM

VC

“ We where hunting down in Livingston at our club. I had just dropped james off at a stand and drove a few hundred yards to where I was going to hunt. As I was walking to my stand Boom!! James shot I thought dang did he fall out of the shooting house it had been just 3 or 4 minutes. So we hunted till about 11. I rode back to James, Brandon was there and I said what happened you shot so early? He said he had shot a doe and need help dragging it out so I said let's go as we walked to the deer it was a Hugh 11 point biggest deer we had taken off that property. James was my buddy and I'll miss him every day!!!

Victor Chappell - May 06 at 06:37 PM