



## Jimmy (Jim) Kay Kemplin

January 25, 1948 - December 21, 2024

Jimmy “Jim” Kay Kemplin, devoted husband of Karen, entered eternal life December 21, 2024, at the age of 76.

Son of the late Raleigh Kemplin and Allie (Ison) Presnell, Jim was born in Kona, Kentucky on Jan. 25, 1948. He was a member of Grace Family Fellowship in Russell Springs. From an early age, Jim set out to take care of his family. Following the death of his stepfather, Jim left home to train as a journeyman carpenter at the age of 15, always making sure to mail home money to his mother. For the following 60 years, Jim honed his craft as an experienced trim carpenter. Homes and businesses from Baltimore to Atlanta to Honolulu to Colorado Springs, including a church or two in southeastern Kentucky, bear his expert handcrafted trimwork and cabinetry. Jim served in the U.S. Army as a combat engineer, including 3 tours to Vietnam.

In addition to his wife of 31 years, Jim is survived by his five children: Brandon Kemplin, Shelissa (Gerald) Kearney, Stephanie Lea (James) Utz-Fournier, Kristin (Michael) Molinaro and James “Robby” Carlisle; seven grandchildren: Allie, Tommy, Chloe, Traigh, Chase, Callasara and Kaileb; brother Billy Ray Wilfong of Burnside, Kentucky; and many extended family members and friends who will miss him dearly.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Betty Everidge, brother Berkley Wilfong, daughter-in-law Kyra Kemplin and niece Shelia York.

Services will be held Friday, Jan. 3 at 10 a.m. CST at Grace Family Fellowship, 192 Stephens Ridge Road, followed by interment with military

honors at 12:30 p.m. CST at Mill Springs National Cemetery in Nancy. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Grace Family Fellowship Benevolence Fund or the United Service Organizations (USO).

# Cemetery Details

## Mill Springs National Cemetery

9044 West Hwy 80  
Nancy, KY 42544

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JAN 3. 10:00 AM (CT)

Grace Family Fellowship  
192 Stephens Ridge Road  
Russell Springs, KY 42642

## Burial

JAN 3. 12:30 PM (CT)

Mill Springs National Cemetery  
9044 West Hwy 80  
Nancy, KY 42544

# Tribute Wall

DI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Daniel Ison** - March 05, 2025 at 11:30 PM



*Thank you for sharing this photo. Would you have an additional photos of my dad you can share? Thank you, Shelly Kemplin-Kearney*

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**Shelissa Kearney** - April 30, 2025 at 11:15 PM

RB

“ Rebecca B. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jimmy (Jim) Kay Kemplin.

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**Rebecca B.** - January 02, 2025 at 08:27 PM

BK

“ I miss you already Dad. Missed you before.

Gonna miss you even more tomorrow. Our talks, our hikes, us getting into chaos in one way or another. Fishing, or just the fun perpetual future plans we would dream up that life always interrupted. Theres never enough time. Never gonna forget any of it. Or any of the things you taught me about being a good man. Honor, respect, true work ethic, family first always, but dont ever forget about your neighbor . Help a stranger. Dont hurt or destroy anybody or anything just for the sake of doing it. Be nice. Be polite.. Actually use the manners taught to you. And not just at home. Everywhere. And never disrespect your Mother.

Just a handfull of the top of my head that would come up in some way in most converstions. Because its what he believed, so it radiated from him in almost all things.

Except when frustrated from accidental hammer strikes to the thumb. Then all bets are off for about 3.2 seconds of some un intelligable somethin or other... then right a shake of his head and right back to himself.. with a "son , that smarts right there "

I love you Pop

Always

Keep an eye on all of us

Please 😊

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Brandon KEMPLIN - December 24, 2024 at 12:17 PM