

Mr. James "Jim" Patrick Jeko Sr.

July 30, 1957 - January 29, 2026

James Patrick Jeko Sr. (Jim), beloved husband, father, and grandfather, unexpectedly passed away on Thursday, January 29, 2026. He was the devoted husband of nearly 48 years to the love of his life, Elaine Jeko.

Born in Toledo, Ohio, Jim was the son of the late Joseph and Helen Jeko. He spent much of his career as a professional builder and was known by many as the man who could fix or build just about anything. He loved teaching others by sharing his knowledge and wisdom, often saying, "The only stupid question is the one never asked."

A devoted Christian, Jim lived out his faith daily and exemplified what it meant to live a Christ-like life and to be of service to others. He served as a Captain for many years with the Palmyra Fire Department. He enjoyed fishing and being on the water with his family, but his true passion was time spent with them. He often found peace in quiet moments. A man of few words, Jim was observant and thoughtful—but when he spoke, you listened.

Jim was deeply supportive of his children and grandchildren and took great pride in encouraging them in all of their endeavors. His family always knew they could count on him.

In addition to his wife, Elaine, Jim is survived by his children: James Jeko Jr.

(Aruna), Daniel Jeko (Sunitha), Melissa Henry (Joe), Diane Giddings (Rob), Samuel Jeko (and children), Joshua Jeko (Natalie), Rebecca Jeko, Timothy Jeko (Shannon), Kathryn Jeko (Joel), Rachel Dinkins, and Emily Sanford (and children). He was a loving grandfather to Elijah, Isaiah, Esther, Natalie, Levi, Nathan, Madilyn, Clayton, Genevieve, Brianna, Samantha, Luke, Hannah, Abigail, Averie, Noah, Lainey, Ali, CJ, Isaac, and Zeke, and a great-grandfather to two. He was also a father and grandfather, a figure to many others, too numerous to list.

He is also survived by his sisters, Barbara Flint, Mary Ann Ruff, and Patty Jeziorowski (Ed), along with numerous nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, Jim was preceded in death by his brother, John Jeko, and his beloved daughter, Natalie Jeko.

Scripture that appropriately reflects his life is 1 Timothy 3:8–13.

The family would like to thank Lee County EMS and Hancock-Elmore Funeral Home.

The family will lead a celebration of his life on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM at the First Baptist Church in Bishopville, SC. The family will receive friends and members of the community throughout the afternoon. Refreshments will be available. You are invited to drop in, spend time with the family, and join in honoring and celebrating his life and lasting legacy.

A designated time for a reading and remarks will be held from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM for those who wish to share a memory, story, or words of reflection in remembrance of him.

John 14:1-3

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My

Father's house has many rooms... I go to prepare a place for you."

Previous Events

Family Directed Service

MAR **24**. 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Bishopville First Baptist Church
229 W Church St
Bishopville, SC 29010-1403
(803) 484-5430

Tribute Wall

AA

“ Archie And Kay Amerson lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Jim" Patrick Jeko Sr.



Archie and Kay Amerson - March 18 at 10:45 AM

AS

“ Mr Jim was a gentle giant who always shared a kind word and willing to help others what a great man of God he will surely be missed by many, sending prayers for ELaine and her family

angela scott - March 12 at 02:32 AM

KA

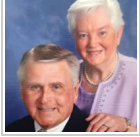
“ So sorry to hear about Jim. He was so nice. He went to Cedar Point with our family when we were in High School. I remember driving around town in his convertible with a bunch of us kids.

KarenShelley - February 18 at 02:26 PM

JF

“ So sad to hear of Jim's passing. He was an awesome man. I remember all the carpentry he did at our house, our daughter's house and yes building horse stalls! Beautiful work. Most of all we remember all the foster babies he cared staying up during the night rocking babies. He was a great husband and father always putting others first.

Jim & Beth Amick & family - February 05 at 12:44 PM



“ *Bill and Annette Hopkins lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Jim" Patrick Jeko Sr.*



Bill and Annette Hopkins - February 05 at 10:26 AM



So sorry for your loss Love, Prayers and Sympathy to the family

Bill and Annette Hopkins - February 05 at 10:28 AM

JS

“ *Jeff and Susan Holley (Bethune, SC) purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. James "Jim" Patrick Jeko Sr..*



Jeff and Susan Holley (Bethune, SC) - February 04 at 11:12 PM

JS

“ *Jeff and Susan Holley (Bethune, SC) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. James "Jim" Patrick Jeko Sr..*

Jeff and Susan Holley (Bethune, SC) - February 04 at 11:12 PM

CC

“ *So sorry for your loss. My prayers are with you all.*

Cheryl O'Kelly Cole - February 01 at 11:28 AM



“ You will be missed very much Jim! You had a strong but kind presence about you that was always reassuring. Will especially miss our conversations that had a lot of "Huh?"s in it! Glad Heaven has the best fix it man there. Make sure they are doing things right. Love you!

Suzanne Rapp - February 01 at 11:19 AM

EF

“ Our deepest condolences to Elaine and her family. May the Lord give you strength and peace through these difficult times.



Ernie & Audrey Floyd - February 01 at 08:05 AM

OF

“ Our deepest condolences to all of the family. Our prayers and thoughts are with you at this difficult time. We're lighting a candle in memory of Mr. Jim Jeko, Sr.



Olerud family - February 01 at 05:08 AM

AK

“ Archie And Kay lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Jim" Patrick Jeko Sr.



Archie and Kay - January 31 at 08:53 PM

SH

From Council lady Shirley Hill and family. 🙏

Shirley Hill - January 31 at 09:00 PM

SH

MY DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO THE JEKO AND GEDDING FAMILY. 🙏🙏

Shirley Hill - January 31 at 09:01 PM

EH

“ *Eddie & Miranda Huggins lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Jim" Patrick Jeko Sr.*



Eddie & Miranda Huggins - January 31 at 08:02 PM

AJ

“ *Abby, Averie, Noah & Lainey Jeko purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mr. James "Jim" Patrick Jeko Sr..*



Abby, Averie, Noah & Lainey Jeko - January 31 at 07:50 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. James "Jim" Patrick Jeko Sr..*

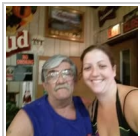


January 31 at 07:36 PM

JM

“ So sorry to hear this! Our condolences to Diane, Rob and family also Patty and Ed.

Julie Meisner - January 31 at 07:33 PM



“ Dad was one of the hardest working men I knew. A gentle giant dedicated to his family and his faith in God. Always took me to work with him. The master of anything construction. I will never forget scraping my face on the cement when he was on fire department he raced to get the supplies to to put on my face and held me for hrs comforting me. I love you dad rest easy

Emily Sanford - January 31 at 07:06 PM

ST

“ Susan Thrasher lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Jim" Patrick Jeko Sr.



Susan Thrasher - January 31 at 05:54 PM

RM

“ So sorry for your loss. Mr Jim was a wonderful man. Always greeted me with a smile and kindness. He will be missed. Prayers of peace and comfort.



Ruth Myers - January 31 at 05:25 PM