



## James Walter Rice

May 22, 1932 - October 19, 2019

James Walter Rice (J. W.) entered this world on May 22, 1932 to the union of Cleo (Arnwine) and Virgil Rice. Cleo and Virgil worked at what is now the Oak Ridge Nuclear Plant during the early years where they were eventually laid off. Relatives referred them to Ohio where they were able to find employment.

As a young boy James (J. W.) grew up with very humble beginnings. His spiritual journey began at Mt. Cumberland Presbyterian Church Piney where he professed his faith in Christ. As a young boy, he was nurtured and reared by his dear and loving aunt, Lizzie Sherman, who everyone in the community affectionately called, "Aunt Lizzie." During his school years, he was a member of the Glee Club. As a young adult, J. W. sang baritone along with Sam Donaldson, S.D. Hurst, Armor King, and Kenneth Moore as The True Tone Gospel Singers on Saturday mornings at 915 on radio station WLAR in Athens. The group later went on to become The Heavenly Nine singing at various churches and events in the area. The group later dissolved due to the members being drafted to serve in the Korean War Conflict. J. W. honorably served stateside in the U.S. Army from May 1953 - May 1955.

On November 16, 1957, James wed his sweetheart Clara Mae Bacome. The two have shared 61 beautiful years of matrimony. To this union, two children were born, Lesa Annette Cain and Paul Timothy Rice. He worked faithfully to support his family at Bowaters Southern Paper Mill until his retirement in May 1995. J. W. enjoyed gardening. He had a green thumb when it came to growing fresh vegetables.

J. W. departed this life at age 87, on Saturday, October 19, 2019 at 1:42 a.m. at St Francis Hospital, Bartlett, TN He is preceded in death by his parents Cleo and Virgil Rice, his baby sister who died during childbirth, son-in-law Dennis Cain, brother-in-law Jimmy Bacome, and sister-in-law Lenora Williams.

J.W. leaves behind to cherish his beautiful memory his beloved faithful wife, Clara Mae, one daughter Lesa Cain, one son Paul (Shaunnellia); five beautiful grandchildren: Cody Rice, Carla and Lauren Cain, and Breanna. and Shaylea Rice; devoted friend Roy Lynn Johnson, faithful cousin Armor King, and a host of uncles, aunts, cousins and friends. Because of his true love for the family pets two grand-pups C. J. and Jay; and one great grandpup Loki. The family will receive friends on Saturday October 26, 2019 from 12:00 noon until 2:00 P.M. at Kyker Funeral Homes, Sweetwater, with the funeral service to follow at 2:00 P.M. with Rev. Lionel Moore officiating. Interment to follow in the Sweetwater Memorial Park with full military honors. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the Alzheimer Foundation of TN, Alzheimer's Association I Donate to Fight Alzheimer's Disease. [www.kykerfuneralhomes.com](http://www.kykerfuneralhomes.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Sweetwater Memorial Park

1838 Hwy 11 N  
Sweetwater, TN 37874

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **26**. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Kyker Funeral Homes  
OUR SWEETWATER CHAPEL  
PO Box 309, 113 W. North Street  
Sweetwater, TN 37874  
(423) 337-5033  
julie@kyker.net  
<https://www.kykerfuneralhomes.com/>

## Funeral Service

OCT **26**. 2:00 PM (ET)

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# Tribute Wall



“ *Kyker Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of James Walter Rice*



**Kyker Funeral Home** - October 24, 2019 at 02:17 PM

PW

*Mr. Rice was such a sweet caring father and husband. He was also a friend like a "Pops." He enjoyed many sweets from my family. That let's me know he has good taste. 😍 God bless the family. Princess Wilbern*

**Princess Wilbern** - October 24, 2019 at 04:22 PM

KR

*Mrs. Rice, Paul and the entire Rice Family,  
My heart and prayers go out to each of you during this time.*

*Kim Wyrick Reynolds*

**Kim Wyrick Reynolds** - October 24, 2019 at 06:05 PM

SB

“ *Sherri Bell lit a candle in memory of James Walter Rice*



**Sherri Bell** - October 26, 2019 at 12:53 PM

SB

*God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.*

**Sherri Bell** - October 26, 2019 at 12:59 PM

SB

*The Reed / Cain family love you and support you.*

**Sherri Bell** - October 26, 2019 at 01:01 PM

PS

“ *Pamela Stokely-Smith lit a candle in memory of James Walter Rice*



**Pamela Stokely-Smith** - October 24, 2019 at 07:18 PM

NB

“ *Clara, I worked for my Dad A.j. Wallace at the insurance agency for years and I remember how I loved for you and your husband to come in to pay your insurance as your little boy came too and he was a doll. That was a long time ago! Nancy Baker*

**Nancy. Baker** - October 24, 2019 at 05:22 PM

BF

“ *Beatrice & Willie Cheeseboro & Family lit a candle in memory of James Walter Rice*



**Beatrice & Willie Cheeseboro & Family** - October 24, 2019 at 03:13 PM

BF

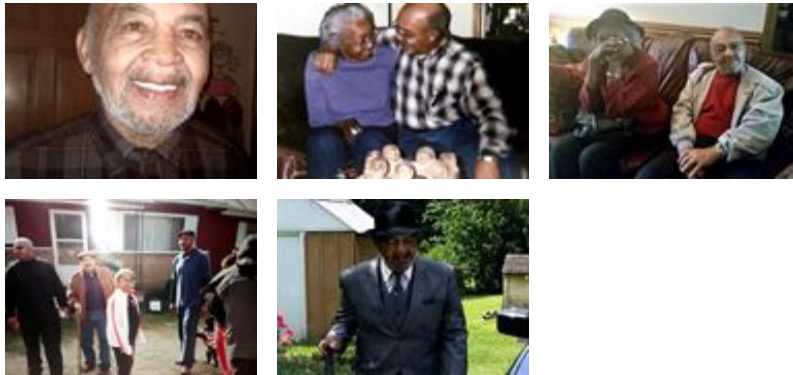
*To- Cousins Clara, Annette, Paul & Family  
May God comfort & strengthen you at this most difficult time! With  
heartfelt sympathy, love & prayers.*

*Your Cousins,  
Willie & Beatrice (Upton) Cheeseboro & family  
Suitland, MD. 20746*

**Beatrice & Willie Cheeseboro & Family** - October 24, 2019 at 03:27 PM



“ 52 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



**Kyker Funeral Home** - October 24, 2019 at 02:15 PM

LB

“ *A true southern gentleman. I was privileged to be his insurance  
agent for many years. Rest In Peace sir.*

**louise barnes** - October 24, 2019 at 01:26 PM

MK

*You have my sincere condolences and much love for the family!!! Lynn*

**Mona Ellis Kinnard** - October 25, 2019 at 08:31 AM

ET

*I enjoyed working with James for many years. He was truly a fine man.*

**Ed Tennysin** - October 25, 2019 at 06:39 PM