



James Leonard Spurgeon I

November 13, 1938 - February 27, 2025

In loving memory of James Leonard Spurgeon I
November 13, 1938-February 27, 2025

James Leonard Spurgeon I, 86, of Sweetwater, TN went home to be with the Lord on Thursday, February 27, 2025. Leonard was born on November 13, 1938, to the late James Edward and Mary Lou (Stephens) Spurgeon.

Leonard was known for his joyful personality. He was helpful, kind, and humorous. He attended Sweetwater High School, served in the National Guard, and held the role of Fire Chief for a time. He, along with family, ran Bellamy's Grocery Store for many years.

Leonard also worked in construction building and remodeling houses, motels, and businesses in Sweetwater and its surrounding areas. He is known for wearing his measuring tape suspenders around town, brightening the day of everyone he passed with jokes and small talk. Leonard was dearly loved and will be greatly missed by the Sweetwater community.

He is preceded in death by his parents; his wife of 67 years, Ellen Ruth (Holder) Spurgeon; brothers, Robert, Kenneth, Audi and Gary Spurgeon; Sister, Joan Bellamy; Son, James Leonard Spurgeon II; Grandsons, Travis Wade Spurgeon, and James Leonard Spurgeon III.

He is survived by his brothers, Billy and Jimmy Spurgeon, and sister, Kay Jackson; Sons, Larry Edward and Jerry Randall Spurgeon; Grandchildren,

Nathan, Dylan, and Chase Spurgeon, Amanda Akens, Julia Spurgeon, Maranda Hughes, Tayla Parris, Brett Spurgeon; and 17 great-grandchildren. Receiving of friends will be held at Sweetwater Memory Chapel on Tuesday, March 4, 2025 from 12-2 PM. Funeral service will be at 2 PM, with the Rev. Jeff Powell officiating. Burial service will immediately follow in the Sweetwater Memorial Park. www.kykerfuneralhomes.com

Cemetery Details

Sweetwater Memorial Park

1838 Hwy 11 N
Sweetwater, TN 37874

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 4. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Sweetwater Memory Chapel
P.O. Box 201
1838 Highway 11 North
Sweetwater, TN 37874
(423) 337-7773
<https://www.kykerfuneralhomes.com>

Funeral Service

MAR 4. 2:00 PM (ET)

Sweetwater Memory Chapel
P.O. Box 201
1838 Highway 11 North
Sweetwater, TN 37874
(423) 337-7773
<https://www.kykerfuneralhomes.com>

Tribute Wall

PF

“ We were saddened to hear of Leonard’s passing. Leonard was a kind-hearted and helpful friend. We will always remember his humor and his love of coffee—even on a hot afternoon! Leonard was always cheerful and smiling. We send our condolences and prayers to his family.

Eddie and Peggy Filyaw

Peggy Filyaw - March 04, 2025 at 02:17 PM



“ I am so sorry to know Leonard passed, he was such a sweet and kind man, I don’t think I ever saw him without those yardstick suspenders and a big smile on his face, it didn’t matter where we were or what we were doing, he would always stop for a chat, I called him “ boyfriend” don’t know how that started but he always laughed and hugged me when I called him that, I would sometimes visit him and Ellen, he always has something interesting to show me and had a story to share, he will be missed.

Carla Cook - March 03, 2025 at 10:28 PM

PD

“ Sorry to hear about Leonard. He helped build a few houses for us (Norman & Phyllis Dawson) along with Mike hall.
Phyllis Dawson.



Phyllis dawson - March 03, 2025 at 08:29 PM



“ *Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of James Leonard Spurgeon I.*



March 03, 2025 at 03:50 PM



“ *Mr. Spurgeon helped me with home repairs over the years. Always generous, helpful and funny. He will be missed.*

Donna Seargeant - March 02, 2025 at 11:30 PM



“ *Papaw Leonard was a great man!!! I will always remember how fun he was to be around. He was always smiling and having a good time. He helped shape me into the man I am today. Thanks for everything papaw!!! We will miss you!!!*

Nathan Spurgeon - March 01, 2025 at 04:04 PM



“ *James was a person that loved life to its fullest. It has been a honor to know him and his family throughout the years. Steve A. woodruff*

Steve Woodruff - February 28, 2025 at 08:08 PM