



## Mr. James P. Watkins, Jr. Obituary

February 10, 1938 - April 25, 2007

James Porter Watkins, Jr., 69, of Albany, died at his home Wednesday, April 25, 2007. A native of Albany, Mr. Watkins attended the Baylor School in Chattanooga, TN, and graduated from Albany High School in the Class of 1956. He is a graduate of the Georgia Institute of Technology. He was President of Watkins Builders Supply and was the owner of J Watkins. Mr. Watkins was a Communicant of St. Paul's Episcopal Church and he served on the Vestry. He was a past president of both the American Heart Association and the American Cancer Society. Mr. Watkins served on the Boards of the Albany Concert Association and the Southern Hardware Association. He founded the Halcyon Club and was a member of Doublegate Country Club. Mr. Watkins was preceded in death by his parents James Porter Watkins and Joyce Ferrell Watkins. He is survived by his wife Raines Wakeford Watkins, Albany; 2 sons: James Porter Watkins, III and his wife Leslie, Atlanta, Thomas Scott Watkins and his wife Pamela, Atlanta; 5 grandchildren: James Porter Watkins, IV, Clara Watkins, Elizabeth Watkins, Thomas Watkins, and John Watkins, all of Atlanta. Those desiring may send memorials to the Albany Community Hospice, P.O. Box 1828, Albany, GA 31702, or to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 212 N. Jefferson St., Albany, GA 31701.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. James P. Watkins, Jr. Obituary*

May 22, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ *Mr. James P. Watkins, Jr. Obituary*

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



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May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ *Mr. James P. Watkins, Jr. Obituary*

December 24, 2022 at 02:54 AM



“ *Loving thoughts are with you  
all as is God's love and faithfulness! Lean on Him!*

**Barbara and Bud Marsee** - May 13, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ *Raines-  
Sorry to hear about Jimmy. I have fond memories of my children  
and me sitting behind the two of you many Sundays at St. Paul's  
and campaigning for the rennovation of the church. I know he loved  
St. Paul's and the fellowship. My thoughts and prayers are with you,  
Lisa Creel (formerly Robinson)*

**Lisa Creel** - May 09, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BD

“ *My prayers are with you and your family.*

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**Becky Gammaage Dupree** - May 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

FH

“ *I am so sorry to hear about Jim Porter's passing. With deepest sympathy to you and your boys, Frances Calloway Hatcher*

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**Frances Calloway Hatcher** - May 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ *Raines, I was so sorry to hear about Jimmy, but I know how much he was suffering. I will always remember him as my smiling, laughing, friendly neighbor.*  
*Love, Betty*

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**Betty Fleming Morgan** - May 02, 2007 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ *Dear Raines, I was sorry to learn about Jimmy's passing. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. His wit, humor & kindness will be missed. He was always a joy to talk to and always put a smile on my face.*  
*Sincerely,*  
*Lee*

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**Lee Haley Jones** - May 01, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MF

“Stuart and I are so sorry we did not find out about the service until it was too late. Raines, you and Jimmy have always held such a special place in our lives and hearts and always will. I feel so blessed to be a part of the Usry family and for them to bring me to you. You are one of my favorite people and I love you so much! I will be thinking of and praying for you and your sweet family. - Meagan

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**Meagan Franklin** - May 01, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SF

“I cherish the time I got to spend with Jimmy, listening to his stories of my grandparents and my mother.  
Love- Stuart

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**Stuart Franklin** - May 01, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MU

“Dear Raines: You and Jimmy helped my family through some of our saddest hours, so I hope our thoughts and prayers will at least let you know how much we loved Jimmy. No one ever made me laugh longer and harder, and I already miss him terribly. God bless and keep you and the children. I'm sure Jimmy has them rolling in the aisles in Heaven.

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**Michael Usry** - May 01, 2007 at 12:00 AM

PD

“Raines, we are so saddened to hear of Jimmy's passing. Please know our prayers and sympathy will continue with you in the days ahead.

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**Penny and Clark Douthit** - April 30, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *Raines, bless you for all your dedication in making Jimmy's life comfortable and dignified through his illness. May Jimmy's soul rest in peace and may you be blessed through this time of grief and beyond.*

*Margaret & Mark*

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**Mark D. Ingram & Margaret V. Moss** - April 29, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ *Please accept our deepest sympathies.*

*Johnny & Elaine*

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**John & Elaine Johnson** - April 29, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ *Our sincere condolences, Raines. I remember our fun times well when I first came to Albany, and Jan always enjoyed shopping at the gift shop in the more recent years. Joe and Jan*

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**Joe and Jan Marshall** - April 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ *Dear Raines, Scott And Porter,  
You are in our thoughts and prayers as we extend our sympathy at this time of your loss. May the power and presence of God's Love give you comfort. Sincerely, Gordon & Beverly Ferrell.*

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**Gordon & Beverly Ferrell** - April 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ *My heart hurts for all of you. Raines, please accept my love and prayers and tell your boys that someone from their folks long, long, lives is thinking of them. Love, hugs, and God Bless.*

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**Carolyn Miller** - April 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SN

“ *Raines,  
I am saddened to learn, just today, of Jimmy's passing. He was a joy to me during my time at St. Paul's! He always had a smile and kind word and usually a funny story for me! I will remember him always. With love, Shirley*

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**Shirley Wirth, Brockport, NY** - April 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ *Dear Raines and family,  
I was saddened to learn of Jimmy's passing. Please accept our condolence on your loss. I know he will be missed greatly. I, too, lost my father at a relatively young age. It's not easy when you lose someone so early in life... Lean on God and your friends to help you through your grief and focus on the good times and memories - which I'm sure you have lots.*

*Take care and please let me know if there is anything the Ferrell-Barnett side of the family can do for you.*

*Fondly,*

*Anita (Barnett) Campbell  
DeLand, Florida*

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**Anita Barnett Campbell** - April 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ *The world will NOT be the same without Jimmy Watkins..How missed he and his wonderful personality will be..Know how dear you are in our hearts and prayers...He fought a valiant battle and now he is at peace..Much Love to the Watkins/Wakeford families...*

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**Molly and Bill Swan** - April 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ *Dear Porter, Scott, and Mrs. Watkins,*

*I just wanted to let all of you know I am thinking of you. When I think of Mr. Watkins, I always think of him laughing and having fun. I have good memories of those days. My prayers are with the each of you. You all are very good people.*

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**David Guillebeau** - April 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ *To Raines, Porter, and Scott:*

*Your home was my second home for such a long time. Your family, and especially Jimmy, were my family. Wherever I lived, seeing Jimmy when I returned home to visit, was a priority. I miss that, but I treasure the memories of his laugh, his quick wit, his turn of a phrase, his uncanny ability to know everything that was going on in this town, and his devotion to those that he loved. You're so blessed to have had such a man as for a husband and a father. Time has separated us, but I love each of you and pray for strength and peace for you and your children.*

*Piper*

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**Piper Mohl** - April 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Mrs. Watkins, Porter and Scott, You will be in my thoughts and prayers today. Although it has been such a long time, I have so many wonderful memories from my childhood that include you and Mr. Watkins. I know he will be missed. May God bless and keep you all. Mel.

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**Mel Stripling** - April 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

HF

“ Dear Raines and family,  
Jimmy Watkins was one of those special people that always made your darkest day feel filled with sunshine. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

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**Helen Freeman** - April 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

WB

“ I will always remember the good times we had in high school.

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**Willis Bowles** - April 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ To the Watkins Family: I only met Mr Watkins once at the beach house when Rue and I were visiting. Please know how much your husband meant to Mr. Morrison. May the Lord bless and keep you.

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**James C. Allen** - April 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ I was so sorry to hear this news about Jimmy. My thoughts are with Raines, Porter and Scott. Jimmy was such a wonderful person. I will always remember how kind and thoughtful he was to me when I was just a kid out of high school working at the building supply store. Suffice it to say, I am a much better person today because Jimmy was a part of my life.

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**Scott Dix** - April 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

EF

“ Dear Raines, Porter, and Scott,  
When I think of home and "the good ole days" of growing up in Albany- some of my fondest memories include Jimmy. He was so much fun to be around, so cool and hip, and just hilarious. He'd leave you with a good laugh and a smile and a warm feeling. He had a gift for knowing how to make everyone feel good about themselves. He was definitely one of a kind ....a wonderful and special man. Much love to all of you and your family.

Liz

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**Elizabeth Watson Fort** - April 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

WW

“ James was a friend to me growing up and a kind person. When you were down, he had God's gift to bring merriment. The intervening years have done nothing to alter the memories of those moments. I offer my condolences. I can not say I fully comprehend the family's loss for we all suffer our losses differently. But I do share your sorrow and pray that God's mercy, strength and touch will help you through your loss.

In deepest sympathy,  
Wade Whitley

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**Wade Whitley** - April 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

FP

“ *Raines and sons,  
Your loved one will always be as close as a memory, and the God of  
all comfort will always be as close as a prayer. With Deepest  
Sympathy.  
I am Sarah Henderson's neice, Jimmy was like a son to her.*

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**Freddye Fowler Phipps** - April 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ *Dear Raines*

*We were so sorry to hear of  
Jimmy's death.  
You and your family will be in our thoughts and prayers  
during this difficult time.*

*Dwight and Bettye Sample*

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**Dwight and Bettye Sample** - April 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ *Mrs. Watkins I am so sorry to hear about Mr. Watkins passing. He  
was a delight to take care of and even when he felt bad he still  
nmade me laugh....I remeber when he told me he had made him a  
smoking den in the garage and his detail of it and how it came about  
were and still are so funny to me. If I or us at AIM can be of help  
please call. Keeping you and yours in prayer. Bonnie Sisk, PA-C*

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**Bonnie Sisk,PA-C** - April 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ Dear Raines,  
I was so sorry to hear about Jimmy's death today. I have such fond memories of you both many years ago when I had the pleasure of teaching you. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this difficult time.

Carleen Flowers

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**Carleen Newell Flowers** - April 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

EH

“ Dear Raines and Family,  
My hero has gone to heaven!  
I have loved Jimmy Watkins all of my life and his passing leaves a hole in my heart as it does yours.  
Jimmy was truly one of the good guys.  
My love and prayers are with you now and forever.  
Ellen Yancey Hunt

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**Ellen Yancey Hunt** - April 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ Jimmy was a very special person, and will be missed very much!!  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Much love,  
Rosemary and Gerry Dozier

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**Rosemary Dozier** - April 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ Raines,  
  
Our thoughts & prayers are with you. With sympathy & love,  
Dimi & Thomas

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**Dimi (Pace) & Thomas Williams** - April 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Dearest Porter, Leslie & Scott -- You, your Mom and Dad are all in my prayers. God Bless.  
Love, Brooks in TX

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**Brooks Barnes** - April 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Very sorry for your loss,I wish I could attend the service but I am in Atlanta and cant be back in time. Thinking of you and the family, Joe

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**Joe Bruton** - April 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ Dearest Raines,  
You and Jimmy have, since my early years in Albany, been an important part of my life. Jimmy was a truly cherished friend and I'll always have wonderful memories of our younger times. He had the ability to make us feel special in his presence and conversation, and we all have our own unique "Jimmy stories."  
Jean and I send you and your family our love and prayers.

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**Karl Heinzman** - April 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

HG

“ Dear Raines, Jim III and Scott

We remember with fondness what a great gentleman Jim Porter was. Our prayer is that God will strengthen you during this time of sadness. He lived an exemplary life, and rest assured his reward will be great. May God wrap you all in his sheltering arms.

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**Helen and Paul McCorvey, Manchester, GA** - April 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

GI

“ It is with a heavy heart that I send this message from the East Tennessee mountains, yet it is also with thanks that I met Jim Watkins for the joy that he gave to me and many friends and family.

*I first met Jim at The Baylor School, and was immediately infected by his superb personality and fun attitude. Through those years there were trips with Jim and other "Baylor Boys" to Daytona Beach, to a house party at our home in Johnson City, and even on a tour of Europe. I still have photos from those days that I treasure.*

*In more recent years I lost touch with Jim, but I shall always remember the fun times and great wit that Jim shared with us. And I bet Jim even has Saint Peter in gales of laughter by now.*

*My thoughts, and my prayers of comfort are with you all.*

*George "Skip" Oldham*

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**George E. "Skip" Oldham, III** - April 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ Raines and family, I am thinking of you all today and every day. Jimmy was my dear friend. I will always remember him and his kindness to me.

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**Pat Adams Shays** - April 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ I cherish the memories of my lifelong friend. We send our deepest sympathy to Jim's family.

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**Anne R. and Dennis Folsom** - April 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

ME

“ Raines, be assured that you are in my thoughts and prayers. As you draw strength from your precious memories and the love of your family, remember friends stand by ready to help.

Love,  
Martha Everson

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**Martha Everson** - April 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

HF

“ We are grateful for your friendship and your kindness through the years. We care for you all deeply and our thoughts and prayers are with you.

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**Harpole family** - April 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

PT

“ Mr. Jimmie was such a fine gentleman. His smile will be missed by all of us. Peace.

Peggy Thomas

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**Peggy Lawrence Thomas** - April 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JV

“ Raines and family, my deepest sympathy to you.

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**Jeanene Horne Vail** - April 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ Raines...our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family....

Flip & Rip  
Atlanta, Ga.

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**Rip Clark** - April 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ *Raines, you have my sincere empathy and prayers. I don't have to tell you what joy Jimmy brought to everyone's lives. God bless him, you, your family and his many friends.*

*Love,*

*Barbara*

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**Barbara Able Burton** - April 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ *Dearest Raines, you of all people know how I loved him .... after all, he practically raised me!*

*I am thinking of you, and the boys and their families, and wish all of you God's comfort at this difficult time.*

*My love always.*

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**Julie Purvis Montgomery** - April 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ *We love you Raines - our hearts are sad for you and Porter and Scott. Jimmy was a special light for all of us. His smile and wonderful sense of humor brought so much to all of us who loved him. Know that his life was more than ordinary and his love was unconditional. Much love to you all in Albany.*

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**Joe & Shawn Hall** - April 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

WA

“ *Dear Raines,  
You know how I felt about you and Jimmy. My world will be a lesser place without him. May God cause his love shine upon you and bring you peace.,  
My love,  
Winston*

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**Winston Alverson** - April 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ *Raines,  
  
We are saddened to learn of Jimmie's passing. We will lift you and your family up in our prayers. God bless you.*

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**Buster & Brenda Wasden** - April 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ *Jimmy Watkins was a very dear friend when we were growing up as youngsters in Albany, Georgia and I was looking forward to meeting up with him again in May. Now after all these years that have past us by, we will have to wait to meet on the other side on high. But for now we shall miss him, still our hearts his memory bear, but awhile ago we gathered, Friendship in each eye, Now the Golden cord is severed, He has passed to realms on High...  
May the Good Lord accept Jimmy for the good person he was and always has been.  
My Prayers are with his family left behind, may they all be strong in their faith in our Lord and God.*

*James W. (Jimmie) Holland*

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**Jimmie Holland** - April 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

LK

“ Heart felt condolences go out to Jimmy's family, friends and community. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Linda and Bob Klett - April 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ Jim will indeed be missed. He was a true Southern Gentleman

Linda and Glenn Chapman - April 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Dear Raines:  
Trisha and I were so sorry to hear of Jimmy's passing today. If we can do anything at all for you, please let us know. Love Dan and Trisha

Dan Brooks - April 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ Raines, my thoughts are with you. Jimmy was one of those people who could make the class clown laugh. I know Albany will miss him.  
Jimmy Johnson - St. Louis, MO

Jimmy Johnson - April 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Blessing's

Claude M. Myler - April 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ *Raines and family:  
Had sad!! The world has lost  
one of its brightest stars....Jimmy Watkins. What  
fun he was to be around.....and what wit and humor he added to life.  
We  
will all miss him so.  
Know our thoughts and prayers  
are with you all.  
Patsy and Russell Martin*

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**Patsy Martin** - April 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

M1

“ *Our sympathies to Raines and Jim's family. He followed with honor  
in the footsteps of his Father and Mother who inspired many young  
Albanians including myself.*

*May God bless you and give you comfort in the memories of Jim's  
love and service.*

*Mac*

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**Mac Williams (AHS 1954)** - April 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM