



Mr. Joedy David Putnal, Sr.

August 2, 1932 - December 11, 2020

Joedy David Putnal, Sr. passed away peacefully on Friday, December 11th at the Willson Hospice House. He was 88 years old. For decades, he was a holiday fixture in the Albany area as the owner of Busy Elves Christmas Tree and Blueberry Farm, although he assumed that role only after a long and successful career in the insurance business.

He was born in Mayo, FL August 2, 1932 to Zebblin H. Putnal and Pearl Jackson Putnal. He grew up on a farm on the banks of the Suwannee River. After serving two years in the U.S. Army stationed in Germany, he returned to the states and began a 41-year career with Independent Life Insurance Company. After starting with the company in Macon, he transferred to Albany in 1959 and was later promoted to a district manager position. He spent the last 11 years of his career with Independent Life at the corporate office in Jacksonville, Florida, before retiring and moving back to Albany.

Upon his return to Albany, in 1997 he turned his full attention to growing his Christmas tree operation in Lee County. His hobby quickly became his passion. He provided numerous varieties of Christmas trees, and eventually began growing blueberries for his u-pick operation. His fun-loving spirit and outgoing personality created an extremely loyal customer base for generations. In 2019 he retired from farming.

He was actively involved in many organizations throughout his life, including the Georgia State Association of Life Underwriters, Toastmasters, Kiwanis, and the Georgia Christmas Tree Growers Association. For many years he

volunteered as a hunter safety instructor for the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. He was a devoted member of the Beattie Road Church of Christ.

Survivors include his beloved wife of 64 years, Marguerite C. Putnal, his three children Anita Lindsey of Albany, Joedy David Putnal, Jr. of Atlanta, and Pamela Roberts of Leesburg, his grandchildren Jessica Glow of Leesburg, Laura Lindsey of Atlanta, Emily Miller of Tifton, Isabel Putnal of Melbourne, Australia and Margaret Putnal of Lexington, Kentucky, four great grandchildren Abby & Jack Glow and Harper & Carter Miller. He is also survived by his two sisters, Louise Bell of Lilburn, GA and Lillie Mae Wadsworth of Montgomery, AL.

A private family service will be held at a later date to honor his memory and celebrate his life. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Willson Hospice House, 320 Foundation Lane, Albany, GA 31707

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Joedy David Putnal, Sr.*

December 24, 2022 at 02:54 AM



“ *My most sincere sympathy to Joedy's loved ones. I had been trying to get news of him since last summer but did not know anyway to contact him other than his cell number.*

Like so many others he became my friend and favorite Busy Elf at the tree farm. I always enjoyed stopping by when he was working when I was on my way to Albany.

He became a very dear and loved friend and I was so thrilled when he would attend my Christmas piano concerts at my church near Weston.

I surely wish I had known how to contact him and/see him before his passing. He will forever be a most special person in my life. I am glad to know he is now in a perfect body in a perfect place!

*With Love,
Deena Grimsley*

deena grimsley - January 26, 2021 at 07:30 PM

LJ

“ How many years our family came to see you at the tree farm. You have been a beautiful blessing for many many years. I will miss your stories, I will miss your heart, but mostly I will miss your spirit. God bless you, I know you're growing some beautiful trees in Heaven!
Ken and Laura Johnson



Laura Johnson - December 17, 2020 at 02:07 PM



“ All our love from your friends at Kiwanis Club of Dougherty County. We were all sadden to hear of Joedy's passing. Such a vibrant giving spirit on any project on which he served. My favorite was meals on wheels together as he told his stories. Hardest worker ever even way past normal retirement years, never complained. God's blessings to you Marguerite, children and grandchildren. We will all miss his infectious smile.

Larry Price - December 15, 2020 at 08:48 AM

PE

“ Joedy always had a smile. Like all the Putnals, he loved his family. He always took a leadership role in the family reunions. I extend to all the family my deepest sympathies.

*Blessings and prayers,
Paula Putnal Edenfield*

Paula Edenfield - December 14, 2020 at 09:03 PM

BJ

So sorry to hear of Mr. Putnal's passing. He will fondly be remembered by many Kinchafoonee Primary School kindergarteners and teachers who were blessed by him during annual field trips to Busy Elves Christmas Tree Farm. Mr. Putnal made our time there informative/educational & lots of fun. He was always so sweet to everyone so it's no wonder he was Santa's best friend. He proved it too each year by getting that all important call from Santa during our visit to make sure KPS boys & girls were using good behavior! May the Putnal family find comfort in knowing Mr. Putnal celebrates this Christmas with our Savior.

*Prayers,
Becki Jeffcoat
Retired KPS K teacher*

Becki Jeffcoat - December 15, 2020 at 12:23 AM

NT

“ *Our loss is heavens gain. Joedy was a really unique man. He was always happy and smiling. I have so many wonderful memories of Joedy. I have been with him on many home Bible studies. He enjoyed studying the Bible with others more than anyone I know. He is responsible for teaching and bringing many souls to Jesus. He will be missed by everyone who knew him. My prayers are with Marguerite and all the family.*

Nell Bozeman Turner - December 14, 2020 at 08:45 PM



“ *Joedy always had a great smile and a positive word to share. He was very proud of his Putnal Family. A few years back, Uncle Joedy and I spent the afternoon together at his tree farm. Joedy clearly enjoyed helping boost the lives of others.*

Franklin Putnal - December 14, 2020 at 05:59 PM

SH

“ Mr. Joedy was always so kind to my family. My mom (Geneva Wiggins) worked with him for many years at Independent Life Ins. When she passed away he made it a point to stay in contact with us. He was a kind and fun man. Prayers for the family.

S Hunter - December 14, 2020 at 08:14 AM

NR

“ Thinking of this special family. Mr. Putnal was a great neighbor.
Nancy Reimer

Nancy Reimer - December 14, 2020 at 07:19 AM

TS

“ We are so sorry to hear of Joedy's passing. I first met him when I took my Pre-K students to Busy Eleves Tree farm for field trips in the late 1990's. My students loved him and so did I! He made everything so fun for them. Our family Christmas tradition for 10 years or more was to go to the tree farm the Saturday after Thanksgiving and cut our tree. Many years there were 4 generations of our family doing this together. Jody remembered us and took a family photo every year. We picked blueberries several summers. Joedy was such a nice man; friendly, kind and obviously loved his life. We know he will be sorely missed by his wonderful family. Tom and Laurie Sechrist

Tom and Laurie Sechrist - December 13, 2020 at 06:14 PM

RA

“ I am sorry to hear of our loss and he will be greatly missed. We lived next door to Mr Putnal for a number of years and we loved our neighborly chats. When we moved into our next house, his gift to us was the landscaping plans which he also oversaw. The yard still looks great! That's just Mr Putnal. Always giving. My children loved going out and picking out our Christmas trees and visiting with him. They also went on field trips with their school to visit the farm. We all loved Mr Putnal. He was a wonderful manor God who lived his faith. Until we meet again.....

Roxanne Allen - December 13, 2020 at 11:46 AM

AR

“ To: Marguerite, the children, and grandchildren; please know that your husband, father, and grandfather was dearly loved by so many. I feel very confident in saying that Joedy genuinely loved the LORD. He demonstrated that love in the care that he showed for GOD's people. Joedy was always willing to help those in need. He was always eager to teach some lost soul the gospel. Joedy was a servant for the LORD; he has left a great example for us to follow. His work here is finished. Well done thy faithful servant.

Charlie and Arvilla Marks

ArvillaMarks - December 12, 2020 at 10:48 PM

RL

“ *Angels rejoice as they welcome Mr. Joedy home. Mr. Joedy was like a parent to me when I was growing up. I spent many hours in his home. His love for the Lord was always foremost in his life and I will forever be grateful for his Christian influence and teaching. I will remain indebted to him for values he has shared with me over the years. Mr . Joedy you will be missed on earth but welcomed in heaven.*



Ruby Bozeman Long - December 12, 2020 at 05:14 PM