



Jesse Watson

August 30, 1925 - December 13, 2021

Jesse Watson, 96, of Union City, Georgia passed away peacefully on December 13, 2021.

Parrott Funeral Home in Fairburn, GA will conduct a memorial service on Tuesday, December 21 at 11:00 am, with visitation beginning at 10:00 am. Dr. Paul Mims of Friendship Baptist Church in Palmetto will officiate. Final resting place will be Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens in College Park, Georgia. Any floral memorials should be sent to Parrott Funeral Home, 8355 Senoia Road, Fairburn, GA 30213. Donations to Southwest Christian Care in Union City (swchristiancare.org) are welcome in lieu of flowers.

Jesse Junior Watson was born in Ozark, Alabama on August 30, 1925 to Taylor and Lille Mae (Hutto) Watson. He left Alabama in 1948 and moved to Atlanta. He met Sarah Burson, his true love and wife for 71 years, on a blind double date one week after arriving in Georgia. They were accompanied by Zach and Emily Mathews on a visit to the Cyclorama outside the Atlanta Zoo. They were married on October 7, 1949.

Growing up in Alabama, Jesse worked summers on the family farm and winters in a nearby sawmill. He loved to tell stories about his life behind a plow, providing food for his family by hunting with a slingshot and working in that sawmill. After arriving in Atlanta, he worked as a forklift driver, a house

painter, a security guard at the Federal Reserve, and for Southern Railway. He also ran his own landscaping and ceramic tile businesses. In 1956, he joined the East Point Police Department, where he spent over 27 years, retiring as a Lieutenant in 1983. Jesse was the local firearms instructor for several local police departments and for the GBI. He was the city-appointed caretaker for Sweetwater Creek State Park from 1973 to 1978.

Jesse was a true outdoorsman. He lived his 96 years to the absolute fullest. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, farming, taxidermy (his work is prominently displayed at the Cochran Mill Nature Center) and watching “his team,” the Atlanta Braves, on television. Jesse could take down a deer, a turkey or any kind of game with a single shot. When he told hunting stories (or any story – he had a million of them), he would act out each part of what happened. He became both the hunter and the prey, the policeman and the perpetrator, all with big gestures and appropriate expressions. Dinnertime was story time and if you were at his table, you likely couldn’t catch a breath for laughing.

Jesse was proud of growing the tallest and best tomatoes anywhere in town. He was known as the “tomato man” because he would hang bags of tomatoes on the front door of neighbors and friends. He loved growing vegetables and working the field on his farm on Cochran Mill Road. This was a very special family place – Jesse built two houses, several outbuildings and even a playhouse for his grandchildren there. It was “home” to friends and family for over 30 years.

Jesse served as a deacon at Friendship Baptist Church for over 40 years. He was also a member of the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free Masons.

He is preceded in death by his beloved wife, Sarah, his parents; brothers Floyd, Buford (Boots), and Cecil; sisters, Kathleen, Anne and Louise; and son William Robert (Bob).

Jesse is survived by his son, Joseph (Mary) Watson of Muscadine, Alabama; daughter, Kathy Watson (Chris Callahan) of Decatur, Georgia; daughter-in-law, Paula Watson of McDonough, Georgia; grandchildren, Adam Watson, Amanda Falls, Stephanie Urrea, John Watson, Paul Watson and Mary Beth Watson; great-grandchildren, June Falls, Hank Falls, Diego Urrea, Sophia Urrea and Cairo Watson.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **21**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Parrott Funeral Home & Crematory
8355 Senoia Road
Fairburn, GA 30213
(770) 964-4800
info@parrottfuneralhome.com
<https://www.parrottfuneralhome.com/>

Memorial Service

DEC **21**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Parrott Funeral Home & Crematory
8355 Senoia Road
Fairburn, GA 30213
(770) 964-4800
info@parrottfuneralhome.com
<https://www.parrottfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Parrott Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Jesse Watson*



Parrott Funeral Home - December 21, 2021 at 09:45 AM



“ *Parrott Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Jesse Watson*



Parrott Funeral Home - December 18, 2021 at 01:30 PM

BM

“ *Rest in Peace, Jesse! We will miss your good humor and stories. Your memory will live on within our hearts! You will be missed by the East Point Police Department and the East Point Retiree's Association! Captain (Ret.) Bob Mathews, EPPD, and President of the East Point Retiree's Association*

Bob Mathews - December 22, 2021 at 11:38 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jesse Watson.*



December 20, 2021 at 01:08 PM



“ *Mike and Nancy McMillen purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Jesse Watson.*



Mike and Nancy McMillen - December 19, 2021 at 01:22 PM



“ *139 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Parrott Funeral Home - December 18, 2021 at 01:22 PM

RB

“ Jesse could make me crave boiled peanuts every time I visited him! I am so blessed to have known such a wonderful, kind and loving human! You will always be loved and remembered! -Robin Barbaree

Robin Barbaree - December 17, 2021 at 11:33 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Jesse Watson.



December 17, 2021 at 11:28 PM

LC

“ Kathy and I met when she was 3 and I was 4. Her parents were dear to me. Jesse always called me Hot Wheels because I loved Hot Wheel cars. After Kathy and I became friends for Christmas she wanted hot wheels and cowboys and other boy toys and they just rolled with it and that's what she got. I will always remember and treasure them. They were like an extra set of parents. How lucky I was.

Linda Conner - December 17, 2021 at 05:56 PM

TC

“ Trent and Linda Conner purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Jesse Watson.



Trent and Linda Conner - December 17, 2021 at 05:46 PM

MP

“ Mike & Liz Callahan and Bonnie Platz purchased the Care and Compassion Spray for the family of Jesse Watson.



Mike & Liz Callahan and Bonnie Platz - December 17, 2021 at 08:55 AM

BW

“ Jesse was one of a kind. While I pastored Friendship Baptist, he was an encourager to me, even though he was not yet a part of that church. I do remember his generosity unto me and our church. He always had a story, whether believable or not, you would want to hear until the finish. Many will miss this man. Prayers for the entire family.

Buddy Waldron - December 16, 2021 at 05:08 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Jesse Watson.



December 16, 2021 at 03:43 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jesse Watson.



December 16, 2021 at 12:05 PM