



Mr. Jerry Lee Garrett

August 14, 1944 - August 17, 2025

Mr. Jerry Lee Garrett, 81, of Albany, Georgia, met his Lord and Savior on Sunday, August 17, 2025, at his residence after a long battle with Parkinson's Disease.

The funeral service will be held at 11:00 AM on Thursday, August 21, 2025, at Avalon Church, interment will follow in the Riverside Cemetery. The Rev. Debbie Cone will officiate.

Mr. Garrett was born on August 14, 1944 in High Hill, Missouri, to the late Marvin Franklin "Tinker" and Anna Katherine Lockwood Garrett. He lived in Albany since 1966 and retired from Yancey Caterpillar where he was a diesel mechanic for 40 years. Mr. Garrett was a veteran of the United States Air Force, having served during the Vietnam War. He was a jet engine mechanic with the 1370th Photo Mapping Wing where he toured the world, going to countries such as Brazil, Spain, France, and Ethiopia. His last duty station was at Turner Air Force Base in 1967, in Albany, GA; where his friend, Richard Stewart took him to their church where he then met his wife Cherry, and decided to call Albany home, marrying her after a six month engagement. He enjoyed tinkering with any and everything. He always had a love for animals, especially cats, and for heavy machinery, tractors, and trains. Jerry built a large train table diorama and loved collecting model trains and Caterpillar memorabilia throughout the years. Before his health took a downturn, you'd often find him in his workshop taking something apart to figure out how it works, or fixing something broken. He also loved to cut grass.

Mr. Garrett was greatly devoted to his faith and his church having served as the Lay Leader at Trinity United Methodist Church for more than 40 years, until its closing in 2016. He was very dedicated to The American Legion Post #30, having served as the Jr. Vice Commander for numerous years, receiving the honor of being named Post #30's Legionnaire of the Year twice, and serving on the Tri-County Memorial Team for years providing military honors at countless veteran funerals, NARFE, The Air Force Sergeants Association, and was also a member of The 40 and 8 Honor Society of American Veterans, Voiture #909. Many Saturday mornings were spent on the 40 and 8 train participating in many parades through the years, especially the local Christmas parades in Albany, Leesburg, and Sylvester. He was always willing to lend a helping hand, no matter what the situation. Above all, Jerry was an exuberant family man. He loved spending all the time he could with his family. Especially taking the children and grandchildren on trips through the years, to showing his grandchildren old movies and western's, where it didn't matter if he fell asleep watching them or not. He would, without fail, wake up and change the channel back if you had the gall to change the channel. He surely loved to show his grandchildren his great taste in music. Some of the most fun came from taking trips back home to the family farm in Missouri. To his family, he was the perfect husband, Daddy, and Papa, and he left a lasting impact with us all.

Taking a line from one of his favorite Statler Brothers songs, he would say "I'll go To My Grave Loving You".

Survivors include his wife of 57 years Cherry Lee Kitchen Garrett of Albany, GA; children Peggy Lee Purvis (Cory) of Albany, GA, Paul Lee Garrett of Leesburg, GA, Paige Lee Trone (Adam) of LaGrange, GA; grandchildren, Garrett Martel Hiers (Summer), of Albany, GA, Winfred "Freddie" McCollum, Keira Sky Trone, Isabell Grace Trone, Blake Oakley Trone, Dakota Purvis; siblings, Leslie "Les" Garrett of High Hill, MO, Anita Garrett Finke (Kenny), of Montgomery City, MO, Kathy Garrett Anderson (Lee) of Monroe, MO; sisters-in-law, Alice Garrett of Jonesburg,

MO, Maureen Kitchen Lyon of Albany, GA, and numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, Mr. Garrett was preceded in death his brothers, Richard Garrett and Lindsay Garrett, sister-in-law, Ellen Garrett, nieces, Amanda Green Lyon, Teresa Jill Lyon Erickson, and Wendy Garrett.

The family would also like to extend their deepest gratitude to Jerry's very special VA caretakers, Melissa Cohen and Jackie Overstreet, as well as the nurses with Phoebe Hospice for all the help and support that they provided.

The family would also like to extend their gratitude to Jerry's close friend since 1965, Richard Stewart for sticking by his side through everything.

The family will receive friends on Wednesday from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Avalon Church.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to either The Walter H. Burt American Legion Post #30, the 40 and 8 Honor Society of American Veterans Voiture #909, both at 2916 Gillionville Road Albany, GA 31721, or Avalon Church at 3018 Gillionville Road Albany, GA 31721.

Please sign our online guest registry at www.banksfh.com.

Banks Funeral Home in Sylvester is in charge of arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **20**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Avalon Methodist Church
3018 Gillionville Rd.
Albany, GA 31721

Funeral Service

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

Avalon Methodist Church
3018 Gillionville Rd.
Albany, GA 31721

Burial

AUG **21** (ET)

Riverside/Oakview Cemetery
P.O Box 447
Albany, GA 31702

Tribute Wall



“ *Banks Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Jerry Lee Garrett*



Banks Funeral Home - August 18, 2025 at 08:40 PM

RA

My sincerest condolences to Ms Cherry, Peggy, Paul, Paige and all the grandbabies. I have memories of Mr Gerry leading us in worship at Trinity as far back as i can remember. Going over to their home in the old neighborhood. He was a great man. May God Bless you all.

Ross Arrowood - August 19, 2025 at 02:12 PM

RA

Wow at those pictures. Seeing Ms Grace and Champ, pics from Trinity United Methodist Church. Brought back lots of memories

Ross Arrowood - August 19, 2025 at 06:08 PM

RL

“ *I'm so sorry for your loss, Garrett. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.*



Rita Leggett - August 21, 2025 at 10:25 AM

MW

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to all of Jerry's family and friends. I was blessed to have worked alongside of Jerry for several decades at Carlton Co. as he was a tremendous Mentor and highly skilled Engine Technician. I'm honored to have known him.

Mike Wilbanks - August 20, 2025 at 07:29 AM

KK

“ My heart goes out to the family during this difficult time. I had the privilege of working with Mr. Jerry at Carlton Co. for many years (it seems like his empl. no. was 2420) and I'll always remember his kindness, dedication, and the light he brought to those around him. May you find comfort in the love that surrounds you and peace in the memories you hold close.

Kim Dorminey Key - August 19, 2025 at 10:13 PM

JH

“ My deepest and heartfelt condolences! He will be missed.

Janice Haywood - August 19, 2025 at 04:07 PM

KE

“ Our family were members of Trinity United Methodist Church. Jerry & family were so good to our Dad (Kermit) & Mom (Lenora). So Blessed to have them in their lives.
Heaven received a Great Man.
Good Bless
Kermit Laney Jr

Kermit - August 19, 2025 at 08:56 AM

TL

“ Our deepest sympathy and prayers to Garrett & Summer. Although we did not know your grandfather, we do know that he had an awesome grandson in you, Garrett. May the peace of our Blessed Lord comfort you both and may you know he is at the banquet table of the Lord right next to Our Lord Himself.

Thomas & Nancy Long - August 18, 2025 at 05:27 PM

SC

“ My deepest sympathy to Cherry Lee and her family. Sue Carswell

sue carswell - August 18, 2025 at 01:43 PM

RH

“ I believe if you wanted to see a picture of "a good man", all you had to do was look for his picture under that heading in the Dictionary!

Ray Humphrey - August 18, 2025 at 10:06 AM

LW

I worked with Jerry for many years at Carlton Company. He was a quiet leader in our Service Dept., and respected by all for his technical skills.
Lee Walters

Lee Walters - August 28, 2025 at 06:14 PM