

REV. JAMES R. DRAKE



Rev. James R. Drake, 92, of Douglas, Georgia, went to be with Jesus June 7, 2024. He graduated from Hilliard High School and retired from Methodist Hospital in Jacksonville where he worked in engineering for 30 years. He was a member and prior pastor of Axson Evangelistic Church in Axson, Georgia, for 14 years. He had a never-ending love for Gaskin Springs Holiness Campgrounds to which he contributed well over 50 years of leadership and service, including serving as president for a few years. He is now in the arms of his savior in perfect peace. He was preceded in death by his parents Rev. James W. Drake and Corrie E. Drake; two sisters Carol Thompson and Joyce Tillman; and three grandchildren Mark Lucas, Melinda Lucas and Matt Lucas.

He is survived by his loving and devoted wife of 69 years, Ruby Lee (Crews) Drake; three daughters Sylvia Diane Thompson, Sandra Brantley and Deborah Walker; son James D. Drake; six grandchildren Michelle Gast, Linda Powers, William Kleinknecht, Diane Kleinknecht, Brandon Jordon and Caleb Drake; 15 great-grandchildren; 13 great-great-grandchildren; his dearest friend Dr. John Hundley; and many loved and cherished relatives and friends. We all loved him dearly and his memory will live on in our hearts forever. *"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee."* Isaiah 26:3 was his favorite Bible verse.

A funeral service was held June 11 at Axson Evangelistic Church in Axson, with Elder Walt DeLoach and Rev James D. Drake officiating. He was laid to rest at Oakwood Cemetery in Hilliard.

Arrangements by Sims Funeral Home, Douglas, Georgia.