

JAMES HERBERT PHELPS



James Herbert Phelps, 64, of Callahan, passed away April 1, 2021 following a brief illness. James was born September 27, 1956 in Tampa, Florida, to Margaret Lois Phelps and Henry Pasco Phelps. He was the third of seven children and they had a big loving family. During his younger years, his family moved to Jacksonville.

While working at JC Penney he met his future wife Janet. Not long after, he married the love of his life on December 31, 1976 in Kingsland, Georgia. After living several years in Jacksonville, James bought property in Callahan to make it their home. The family, now with two daughters, cleared and prepared their land for their new home. James was in the printing industry. He worked in Jacksonville most of his career and then found a job at Florida Sun Printing, just 4 miles from home. He took a lot of pride of doing a good job at what he was doing. He had great work ethics and faced each day as a challenge to do better. He was employed with Florida Sun as a Press Operator for 13 years. On weekends, he would go play golf at places all over Jacksonville and in south GA. His idea of rehab after surgery on both knees was to build a full size playhouse for his grandchildren, his third one. The first one, built 33 years ago, still stands at the family home. His joy in life was to be the best husband, father and papa that he could be and he succeeded! He was well known around town in CVS, the Chicken House, etc. as people recognized him and his shirt with James on it. He loved his kin and assumed his role of patriarch with pride. He was taken too soon. He was a member of Highlands United Methodist Church in Jacksonville where he sang in the choir. He will be dearly missed by his family, friends and coworkers and their dog Grace. He is preceded in death by his father Henry Pasco Phelps.

He is survived by his loving wife Janet Phelps; two daughters Erin (Geoff) Foster and Jaimie (Wayne) Grega, all of Jacksonville; grandchildren Skylar, Teagan, Blayne and Camryn; mother Margaret Lois Phelps; six siblings; mother-in-law Hazel Fleming of Jacksonville; sister-in-law Gloria Smith; brother-in-law Robert Fleming and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, May 29 at 4:30 p.m. at Highlands United Methodist Church, 1955 Broward Road in Jacksonville.

James loved college sports and he also loved to go on cruises. The family requests, for people attending the service, to wear your team colors or cruise attire in memory of James.