



James Earle Burris

March 3, 1937 - October 8, 2024

James Earle Burris, 87, widower of the late Mary Carol Glunt Burris, a noted local architect and long-time Frankfort, KY, resident, passed away Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2024, at St. Joseph Hospital in Lexington.

He was born March 3, 1937, in Williamson, WV, to the late John Lafayette Burris and Mildred Christina Hatfield Burris. He graduated from the University of Kentucky with degrees in both Civil Engineering and Architecture. He was also active in diverse mission work, including the Frankfort Honduras Medical-Dental Mission. He attended First United Methodist Church Frankfort and was a member of United Methodist Men.

Surviving are two sons, James David Burris and John Christopher Burris; and a grandson, John Aubrey Burris.

Services will be held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, 2024, at First United Methodist Church Frankfort by the Rev. Tom Corum with interment in Frankfort Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Frankfort Honduras Medical-Dental Mission.

Cemetery Details

Frankfort Cemetery

215 E. Main
Frankfort, KY 40601

Previous Events

Funeral Service

OCT **12**. 1:00 PM (ET)

First United Methodist
211 Washington Street
Frankfort, KY 40601
<http://www.firstumcfrankfort.com>

Tribute Wall

KR

“ Jim was an Angel to our family. In 2004 my family needed to leave Honduras because of Violence. Thanks to Jim and many others we came to Kentucky. If it wasn't for him we wouldn't be here today. I am sorry we couldn't be there today with you. Please know we will be for ever thankful.

Keren Rodriguez - October 12, 2024 at 11:16 AM

PH

“ Jim was one of the most compassionate and kind people I have ever known. Working with him was always a pleasure. I loved Mary Carol and still miss her. It will be nice to think they are together again. Blessings to all the family. God's speed my friend.

Peggy R Hutcherson - October 11, 2024 at 08:56 AM



“ Fall Fantasia was purchased for the family of James Earle Burris.



October 11, 2024 at 06:41 AM

JA

“ Jase and Aaron planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Earle Burris.

Jase and Aaron - October 11, 2024 at 06:41 AM



“ A Tribute to Jim on behalf of Water By Women, by Arnie LeMay and Sr. Lorraine Lauter:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Rn9eOEa13Hcb9owaOmL_nL17VQ2ILrep81odE9HZkJK/edit?usp=sharing

Lorraine Lauter - October 09, 2024 at 02:22 PM

RP

Jim worked with me on a part time basis until I retired in about 2005 from Ro-Tech, a consulting engineering company in Louisville Kentucky and he very competent and dependable.

Rick Panther - October 13, 2024 at 07:49 PM

LS

“ Lauren Summitt sent a virtual gift in memory of James Earle Burris



Lauren Summitt - October 08, 2024 at 09:52 PM

JJ

Was one of the designer of the first COLLINS LANE SCHOOL, where I spent fifteen wonderful years as Principal, In fact, school started before completion. Number of students was small enough we could move about as unused rooms werebeing finished.

james Johnson - October 10, 2024 at 07:03 PM

CL

I worked for Jim for several years at KHC and he was absolutely the nicest and most compassionate man I think I've ever known, so good to work for. I know how much he loved going to Honduras to help others. I will never forget the day he called me at work and told me he wouldn't be in that day. He was driving himself to the hospital because he thought he was having a heart attack. I'm thinking, Jim why are you driving yourself? But, he didn't like to be what he thought would be a bother to others. Rest In Peace my Friend. Say "hello" to your dear Mary Carol for me. Cheri Lynn

Cheri Lynn - October 11, 2024 at 09:15 PM



I wrote this today and read it at the funeral. It will be strange, very strange. The world without Jim Burris will be strange, indeed. For years I have relied on Jim for sage advice, recommendations, and opinions about life, architecture, my Christian journey, and particularly about missions. I will no longer have him to confer with, but, fortunately, Jim planted a lot of seeds while he was here on earth: seeds of missions and seeds of spiritual growth for us all. He laid the groundwork that has become and will continue to be the Frankfort Honduras Mission. His kind, gentle and loving manner established and grew the mission to what it is today and his vision of what it can become lives on. I have spent many a mission trip rooming with Jim. When one lives so close to another for several days, one finds out what a person is really like. Jim was always kind and generous, insisting that I have the best bed in the room and offering to get water for me when I was recovering from orthopedic procedures. He always worried about others before he worried about himself and was dedicated to serving God by serving others, an example to which we can all be inspired. Jim made the Great Commandment and the Great Commission the focus of his life: a great example for all of us to follow. As we say farewell to Jim today, we can be thankful that in this strange new world without him, we are inspired by the example he set and the seeds he planted. Those of us who seek humility, service, and being Christ-like can look to Jim for our inspiration. WWJD (what would Jesus do?) is a common Christian motto. In addition to What Would Jesus Do, when we have difficult questions about missions and life, we can now contemplate, "What Would Jim Do?" The world is certainly a better place because of Jim Burris.

Roger Strunk - October 12, 2024 at 10:00 PM

JS

*Well said Roger. I know I have been blessed by knowing Jim Burris for a relatively short time. Jim walked the walk and if anyone is going to hear those words, it's Jim, "Well done my good and faithful servant."
Joe*

Joe D Sanderson - October 14, 2024 at 08:49 AM