



Nathan Joy James

August 4, 1953 - July 19, 2023

Nathan Joy James died on July 19, 2023, at his home in Racine, Wisconsin. He was 69 years old.

He was the son of Joy and Betty (Whitfield) James of Fort Worth, Texas, born on August 4, 1953.

Nathan and Susan (Garrison) James were married in Great Falls, Montana on July 26, 1975. She survives him.

He is also survived by his children Malachi (Carissa) James of Sofia, Bulgaria; Moriah (Ethan) Davis of Racine, Wisconsin; Jeremiah (Lydia) James of Mindanao, the Philippines; Isaiah (Jo Anna) James of Springfield, Oregon; Isaac (Elizabeth) James of Pickford, Michigan, and Benjamin (Rhyanna) James of Chiang Mai, Thailand. Further survivors are 18 grandchildren.

Nathan is also survived by his mother, five sisters and two brothers.

He was preceded in death by his father, Joy James, and his sister, Leah Gower.

Nathan was a pastor for over 50 years, 32 of which were at the Calvary Memorial Church in Racine from 1988 to 2020. He often referred to himself as "just a preacher." He took great joy in teaching the Bible to people, whether formally or informally, and watching God use it to transform lives.

Funeral services will be held at the Calvary Memorial Church, 4001 Washington Avenue, Racine, WI on Friday, July 28, 2023. Visitation will be 1 P.M.-4 P.M. with the service to follow at 4 P.M. with Pastor Ethan Davis leading the service. Burial will be private with the family.

Memorials are suggested to Gideon's International, Camp #U21195 or Calvary Memorial Church Missions.

Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of His saints. – Psalm 116:15

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 28. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Calvary Memorial Church
4001 Washington Avenue
Racine, WI 53405

Funeral Service

JUL 28. 4:00 PM (CT)

Calvary Memorial Church
4001 Washington Avenue
Racine, WI 53405

Tribute Wall



“ *Sturino Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Nathan Joy James*



Sturino Funeral Home - July 26, 2023 at 05:52 PM

DL

Absolutely great video. Love that smile.

Dave Legas - July 27, 2023 at 10:04 PM

JA

Beautiful tribute video! We certainly miss Nathan - a dear relative, family man, friend to many, and most importantly a strong and faithful man of God. We'll miss his humor and poignant insights. God bless you, Sue, and the entire James family. What a legacy Nathan has left - Born Again children who are raising their own families in a like manner, literally around the world! Looking through these photos only hints at the scope of his experiences. Nathan lived life to the fullest here on earth and is now in awe in the very presence of our God and Creator. With Love ~ Jack & Jean

Jack & Jean Allen - July 28, 2023 at 08:58 PM

JS

“ I was a youth pastor in Nathan's family's church in Fort Worth TX. Back in the 1980's. I knew of Nathan but he was serving God up North at that time. I ran into Nathan, however, at a mission's conference in Wheaton, IL. In 2011. He was such an incredible encouragement to me. I had been struggling with some hurt over the years, as a pastor, and he brought healing to my soul. I have thought about our time together, that week, on many occasions since. I am praying for you, this family, that you will find comfort in our Lord and continue to pass along his legacy as a comforter and peace maker in other people's lives. I thank God for the time I had with this special servant. I have also thanked God for his father, in several of my sermons, over the years.

Joe Scro November 1, 2023.

Joe Scro - November 01, 2023 at 03:56 PM

EE

“ We are very saddened with the news of Pastor James' passing. His long and fruitful ministry at Calvary Memorial Church impacted so many lives--not only those living in Racine and regularly attending there, but also the many missionaries supported by the church around the globe. The way he personally reached out to me when we were on our home ministry assignments was a tremendous encouragement.

Then there was his incredible sense of humor. One Sunday morning when I was sitting up front with him before I preached, he lessened my tension by whispering, "What's your position on the ordo salutis?"

Eric & Marlies Ernst - September 26, 2023 at 12:17 PM

JW

“ I am grateful to have known Nathan Joy James and his family. All are godly examples of God’s love for each one of us. Thank you for being faithful to Him.

Judy Wilson - July 31, 2023 at 04:56 AM

DR

“ Please know we are praying for all the family as you begin your journey of grief. The service was a wonderful tribute to Nathan's life on earth. And what joy to know he is with his Savior. Your entire family speaks to the glory of God.
Doug and Janice Rhodes, Ottawa Bible Church

Doug and Janice Rhodes - July 28, 2023 at 06:35 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Nathan Joy James.



July 27, 2023 at 09:45 AM

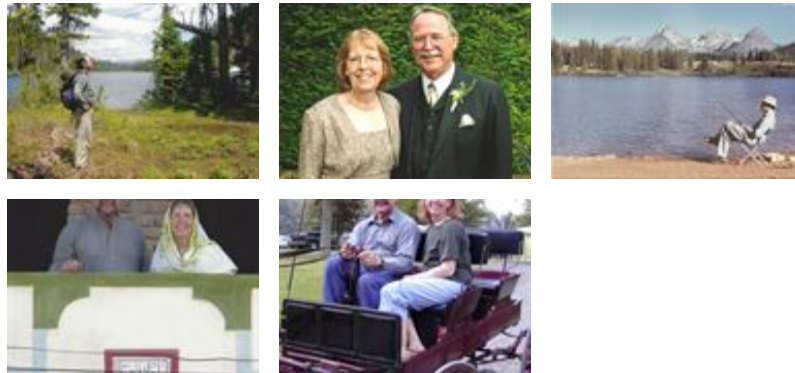


“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Nathan Joy James.

July 27, 2023 at 09:45 AM



“ 117 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Sturino Funeral Home - July 26, 2023 at 05:48 PM

SU

“ *Nathan Joy was a student of mine for a number of years at Calvary Bible College in Kansas City, MO. His inquiring mind raised the level of the discussions in a number of my classes. His goal of biblical certainty in the theological arena helped to shape and sharpen my own understanding of our infinite God. I will ever cherish those times over coffee that we settled the major issues of our time. His legacy appears to be continuing in the lives of his children. I cannot imagine a greater tribute to a life well lived.*

Stanley Udd - July 26, 2023 at 03:34 PM

CB

“ I have many fond memories of fun surrounding the James family. If my memory serves me well, I was taken in my first ‘Snipe hunt’ in the back pasture of their home with Nathan as the instigator. I knew for sure it was a joke but had no clue what the adventure held I also remember the wonderful singsperations we had as a youth group and the inspiring scripture discussions. He was a wonderful friend and example of God’s Love, Grace, and Mercy. Grief never ends ... but it changes. It’s a passage, not a place to stay. Grief is not a sign of weakness, nor a lack of faith .. it is the price of having loved.” He demonstrated love to those with whom his life’s path crossed, now we grieve, but not without purpose and hope.
Carolyn Huff Boggs

Carolyn Huff Boggs - July 25, 2023 at 11:12 AM

JW

“ Pastor James was my "senior" pastor for only a short time since my family started attending Calvary Memorial my senior year of high school (and then I left for college). However, the impact he and his family left on me will last a lifetime.
I always knew when listening to his sermons that I was being taught by a godly man who loved the Lord and was passionate about teaching others God's Word. In some ways, I felt like his sermons were preparing me for my college Bible classes because he would truly dig deep into the Bible. :-)
I'll forever be grateful for his ministry and the way he led his church. My time in the EVIDENCE youth group at Calvary Memorial changed my life.
My deepest sympathies to the James family. Praying for you all as you grieve your loss and heaven's gain.
Julie (Wymer) Woodall

Julie (Wymer) Woodall - July 25, 2023 at 11:08 AM

WL

“ Pastor James was the gold standard in Christian ministry and leadership. Also a “man’s man” and a classic American personality. We could always count on him for warm encouragement and earnest counsel. Always wish we lived closer, but know we were privileged to know him and have him and Susan as friends and cheerleaders in our lives. Amazed at the legacy he has left his family and all of us. Nathan has now entered his eternal Joy!

Wayne Losey - July 25, 2023 at 07:26 AM

JR

“ Nathan James connected with me last year, after many years. I enjoyed visiting with him and with a distant Sidebottom relative. I know that Nathan served the Lord Jesus in the Gospel ministry for many years. I knew him and his godly family in Ft Worth, Texas as a child. God bless his family and those he served in ministry.

*Joe Rightmer
Aurora, CO*

Joe Rightmer - July 25, 2023 at 12:09 AM

MA

“ My wife and I didn't know Pastor Nathan for very long at Oelwein when he was interim, but in that short time, he showed us the real love and compassion of Jesus and I know what it means to be truly obedient to the Father and the joy that brings. I know Pastor Nathan will have quite the crowd wanting to say hi to him when we get home, but I pray I can at least give him a hug. Thank you for sharing him with Beckie and I, and we pray your grief is brief and replaced with the joy that he is finally home and you will get to see him again.

Jesus Forever!

Matt and Beckie Andersen - July 24, 2023 at 08:41 AM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Nathan Joy James.*



July 23, 2023 at 10:56 PM



“ *My family always enjoyed going to the James's house to visit. Nathan's family had so many brothers and sisters and it was always so lively. I was impressed that they were all involved in scripture memory. It does not surprise me that after 50 years in the ministry, many of his offsprings have followed in missionary service and ministries of different kinds. Rest in peace, my brother, until the coming of our Lord. Bruce & Sharon Langley.*

J. Bruce Langley - July 23, 2023 at 03:41 PM



“ *Sending deepest condolences to all of you as you are going through this earthly separation from your loved one. May you find comfort and peace that passes all understanding in knowing Nathan is truly home now with our risen Savior, Jesus! Love, from Nick and Cindy Maragos and family.*

Cindy Maragos - July 23, 2023 at 04:51 AM

JG

“ Although I was a little boy, I can still remember a strong man of conviction and love for the Lord. I went to school with his son Jeremiah and can remember Jeremiah sharing Gods grace,salvation, with a fellow student at school. Had to of been 2nd grade or so. I often wonder what the conversation was between Father and Son leading up to that. It was a special time at Ottawa Bible at that time with very special families. What an example of Christ you were Pastor Nathan James. You will be missed

Joshua Garcia - July 22, 2023 at 09:44 PM

JG

“ Our family learned a great deal of biblical truth under Pastor James. Our children grew up together for awhile until they moved to WI. Many memories will always be in our hearts for him n his family! Our love is being extended to the James family at this time! We love you Susan n your special family! ❤️

Jimmy n Jeanne Garcia
OTTAWA, KS

Jimmy n Jeanne Garcia - July 22, 2023 at 05:42 PM

JO

“ I loved having Nathan as a pastor at Ottawa Bible Church before you all moved to Racine. He was an amazing pastor! I was so glad when you came back to visit a few years ago - I treasure that memory. I am lifting up the entire family with prayer right now. rom Jenny Obrecht

Jenny Obrecht - July 22, 2023 at 03:34 PM

JB

“ Love you, Pastor. Can't wait to see you again! You started at a Calvary right around when I was born. You were there when I grew up, and you were there for some of my toughest times. Thank you for your years of dedication to your family and church family. And thank you so much for praying for me. You will be sorely missed until we meet again. But I am thankful that you have finally gone home from this "nuts" world of ours :) Love you!!!!

Justin Beaton - July 21, 2023 at 10:37 PM

WR

*Remembrance: When Nathan's boys were in high school they ran track. He would always try to make the meet as he had to give them the same sound advice. " Don't look back, keep your eye on the finish line". Good advice for the race and good advice for life. 2 Timothy 4:7
You did well.
Wayne Riley*

wayne riley - July 27, 2023 at 04:44 PM