

Norman James Jr.

Norman Crawford "NC" James Jr., 83, of 2661 Fines Creek Drive, Statesville, died Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2009, at Iredell Memorial Hospital. He was born and raised a Baptist in the Fines Creek Community of Haywood County, moving to Statesville in 1948. He was the son of the late Norman Crawford James Sr. and Nellie Green James. "NC" was Valedictorian of Fines Creek High School and a North Carolina State College graduate. He joined the Navy at 17 and served on the USS Muliphen during World War II, seeing action at Iwo Jima, Guam and Okinawa. In Statesville, he went into the dairy business with his dad and brothers, later branching out into the International Harvester business, trucking and land development. He was a member of The Statesville Exchange Club and First Baptist of Statesville. Mr. James was the developer of Nelly Green Estates and Deer Creek Estates. "NC" loved N.C. State football, talking politics, breakfast at IHOP, family gatherings with lots of food, and watching the latest on CNN. He loved his family and community. Mr. James was preceded in death by his brothers, William, Max and Ted James; and sisters, Lucy Ferguson and Frances Stamey. Survivors include his wife, Frances H. James; a sister, Hilda James of Statesville; three children, Norman James and wife, Deanne, of Raleigh, Pat Vining and husband, Jim, of Rock Hill, S.C., and Sandra Madison and husband, Doug, of Statesville; eight grandchildren, Ben, William, and Seth Vining, Camden Drash, Gavin Smith, Kristi Madison Pfeufer, Matthew Madison, and Lt. Jonathan Madison; and four great-grandchildren, Kayla, Aaron, Morgan and Jackie Madison. Services celebrating his life will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday at First Baptist Church with Dr. Jeff Porter officiating. Burial will precede the service at 10 a.m. at Oakwood Cemetery. The family will receive friends at the church in Adams Hall following the service. Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church of Statesville, 815 Davie Avenue, Statesville, NC 28677; or Hospice and Palliative Care of Iredell County, 2347 Simonton Road, Statesville, NC 28625. Condolences may be sent to the family online at www.mem.com. Bunch-Johnson Funeral Home is entrusted with the arrangements.