



## James Robert Chafin

January 1, 1947 - October 15, 2017

James Robert Chafin, 70 of Delbarton, WV went home to be with the Lord following a lengthy illness on October 15, 2017 at Tug Valley ARH Regional Medical Center with his beloved wife and daughter by his side in South Williamson, KY. He was born January 1, 1947 at Ragland, WV. James was the son of the late Mason and Marie (Preece) Chafin. He was also preceded in death by a brother Danny Chafin. He is survived by his loving and dedicated wife of 45 years Sandra (Hall) Chafin and his pride and joy, his daughter Kelli Chafin, both of Delbarton, WV. He is also survived by 2 sisters, Joyce (Wayne) Smith of Gretna, VA and Janice Van Houweling of Virginia Beach, VA. and 2 brothers, David (Patricia) Chafin of DeMotte, IN and Hershel (Susan) Chafin of Chapmanville, WV. Also surviving are his mother-in-law Hazel Hall of Delbarton, WV brother-in-law Orville (Libby) Hall of Delbarton, WV and sister-in-laws Elizabeth (Roger) Hackney of Phelps, KY and Carol (Joe) Carver of South Shore, KY. He is also survived by an uncle, Jimmy (Jean) Chafin of Chattaroy, WV and an aunt, Maudine Chafin of Red Jacket, WV, many nieces and nephews and a large number of great nieces and nephews who called him Pappy James.

James gave his life to the Lord and was baptized at the Caney Church of Christ where he attended until his health worsened. James proudly served his country in the US Army. He retired from the Mingo County Board of Education after more than 25 years of service at various positions in the school system including Football coach, Baseball coach, teacher, Assistant Principal, and

Principal. He worked at Lenore High School and Burch High school and finished his teaching career at the Mingo County Vocation and Technical Center where he served as the Principal and Director. While at Lenore High School, he started their football program.

James was well loved and respected by many of his former students. Many have said that he helped them turn their lives around. He was like a father figure to many.

James loved his family, friends and colleagues and would do anything for them. He also loved riding his Harley Davidson motorcycles and going on bike trips with his friends.

The family wants to extend heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Sandy Turner for her dedication and kindness in the care of James over the last 2 years and to Dr. Ali and the staff at Tug Valley ARH Regional Center for the care and support given during our trying time.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday Oct. 17, 2017 at 12:00pm at the Chafin Funeral Home in Delbarton with Minister Dennis Ooten officiating. Burial will follow in the Mt. View Memory Gardens at Maher, WV. Visitation will be at the funeral home chapel Monday evening from 6-9pm. Pallbearers will be friends and family. Online condolences can be made at [ChafinFuneralHome.Com](http://ChafinFuneralHome.Com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **16**. 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Chafin Funeral Home  
215 Riverside Drive  
Delbarton, WV 25670  
(304) 475-2071  
chafinh@frontier.com  
<https://www.chafinfuneralhome.com/>

## Service

OCT **17**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Chafin Funeral Home  
215 Riverside Drive  
Delbarton, WV 25670  
(304) 475-2071  
chafinh@frontier.com  
<https://www.chafinfuneralhome.com/>

## Burial

OCT **17** (ET)

Mt. View Memory Gardens  
Maher, WV

# Tribute Wall



“ *James Robert Chafin*

November 21, 2022 at 02:05 PM



“ *Saundra, I am so sorry for your loss.*

*Elizabeth (Curry) Estepp*

**Elizabeth Estepp** - October 22, 2017 at 07:56 AM



“ *He was a good man , And one of my favorite teachers st Lenore High School , He will surly be missed , Prayers for the family .*



**Drema Spradlin Deskins** - October 19, 2017 at 03:05 AM



“ *So sorry for your loss, thoughts and prayers for the family.*  
*John and Deb Farley*

**John Farley** - October 17, 2017 at 08:48 PM



“ *Saundra and Kelly, I am so very sorry for your loss. The world has lost a very wonderful man that always left a lasting impression in their lives. I will always remember him. My love to the both of you.*



**Judy Bailey** - October 17, 2017 at 08:35 PM

RM

“ *A man of honor and integrity! I'm glad to have. Called him a mentor and friend. May you Rest In Peace And I hope we will meet again....With all due Respect I am Carol Rose Marcum*

Rose Marcum - October 17, 2017 at 02:58 PM

SH

“ *Hate to hear this news about James. May he rest in peace. Prayers for his family!!*



sharon Hopkins - October 17, 2017 at 08:07 AM

PD

“ *Patricia Davis lit a candle in memory of James Robert Chafin*



Patricia Davis - October 16, 2017 at 11:35 PM

PD

*So sad to hear. He was my teacher and was also my Asst. Principle he taught me and a lot of students when we where in school our way to our future he was a good man, family man, teacher and so much more. I never for got the teaching he taught me along my way in school. (Prayers to all of the family GOD BLESS) Patricia Davis Lenore WV*

Patricia Davis - October 16, 2017 at 11:44 PM

DF

“ We Daphne and I and family are sad by the loss of Jim he was principal and teacher and coach to our kids at Lenore high school and friend to us all he was a truly gifted man dedicated loyal always that friendly smile he was a man for all season his was a life well lived he did it right and we loved the man gone to soon rest well old friend to family our hearts go out you Dodie&DaphneSlone family Williamson ,Wva 25661

Dodie&Daphne Slone family - October 16, 2017 at 10:23 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Robert Chafin.



October 16, 2017 at 09:34 PM

AS

“ Art Sparks lit a candle in memory of James Robert Chafin



Art Sparks - October 16, 2017 at 08:33 PM

AS


Keeping family in our prayers

Art Sparks - October 16, 2017 at 08:34 PM

KB

“ *Saundra, so sorry to hear of James's passing. We met while going to Marshall Branch in Williamson and from that time he never forgot a friend.*

**Karen Varney Bevins** - October 16, 2017 at 07:50 PM

  
Vanessa  
Fowler

“ *Writing for Sharon White Baisden, a former student from Lenore High School... my prayers for comfort for the family of Mr Chafins*

**Vanessa Fowler** - October 16, 2017 at 07:01 PM

FG

“ *We are so sorry for your loss,he was a good teacher,coach and mentor...so many lessons learned! !  
Sincerely  
Jerome Akers and Felicia*



**Felicia gilman** - October 16, 2017 at 06:11 PM

DS

“ *Hershel sorry for the lost of your brother. Jame was a wonderful person. Prayer a for you and your family. Delores Spicer (Bowers).*



**Delores Spicer** - October 16, 2017 at 04:05 PM

BM

“ *Barbara Marshall lit a candle in memory of James Robert Chafin*



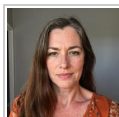
Barbara Marshall - October 16, 2017 at 03:26 PM



“ *Nancy Schimelpfening lit a candle in memory of James Robert Chafin*



Nancy Schimelpfening - October 16, 2017 at 12:43 PM



*He was one of my favorite teachers back in high school. I loved it that he had a nickname for everyone. So sorry to hear of his passing.*

Nancy Schimelpfening - October 16, 2017 at 12:44 PM

BM

“ *Hershel we are so sorry for your lost our prayers and love are with you and your family. We love you and Sue. Mike, Becky, and Steve.*

Becky Mccloud - October 16, 2017 at 11:52 AM

LH

“ *Lilly Jane Hall lit a candle in memory of James Robert Chafin*



Lilly Jane Hall - October 16, 2017 at 11:27 AM

SP

“ How I remember Mr. Chafin when I first arrived at Lenore High School to begin my career as a teacher. His kindness and concern for the kids were so very evident, as well as toward me. He always had such a smile and calming influence, and I am proud to have known him. So sorry for the loss.

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**sonya picklesimer** - October 16, 2017 at 07:19 AM

PD

“ My deepest condolences to Mr. Chafin's wife and daughter. May God give you peace and comfort in your memories.  
Mr. Chafin was a wonderful teacher with such care and compassion for everyone. I was so Blessed to have had him for a teacher. He was a great role model.  
It pleased my heart to have had the opportunity to worship with him at the Caney Church Of Christ, when my husband and I would be back in the area visiting from Ohio. It is a wonderful comfort knowing that he was my brother in Christ and I will see him again one day in heaven.  
So sad for all of us but a sweet rest for you Mr. Chafin.  
Pam (Hall) Dempsey

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**Pam (Hall) Dempsey** - October 16, 2017 at 01:34 AM



“ I will never forget Mr. Chafin walking around Lenore High School wearing his Panama Jack hat. Everybody thought it was the coolest thing back then, late 1980's. Many of us always called him "Jungle Jim" after that. He was always kind and fair to us kids at Lenore; a good man. I would see him from time to time after I was older, as did many others. I don't think he ever forgot a single student he was over, remembered us all by name and there had to have been hundreds in his time there. There were very few like him and he will be sorely missed by all. My deepest heartfelt sympathy to his family. You will be in my thoughts and prayers continually.

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**Carlos Crabtree** - October 15, 2017 at 11:32 PM



“ Carlos Crabtree lit a candle in memory of James Robert Chafin



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**Carlos Crabtree** - October 15, 2017 at 11:25 PM



“ Dora Miller lit a candle in memory of James Robert Chafin



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**Dora Miller** - October 15, 2017 at 11:04 PM

DM

*I'm so sorry for this families loss , I had him for a teacher and I remember when we was talking on day in class when another a teacher came into the class. He was so upset when they left, he was like line up and get your licks lol I got into the end of the line thinking that I would not get it as hard but I got more licks lol lol He was such an awesome role model. I Loved this man I remember him singing in class " Turn Your Radio On" I'm so heart broken to hear about this . RIP MR. CHAFIN*

**Dora Miller** - October 15, 2017 at 11:09 PM

SC

*I didn't know Mr. Chafin personally. I was with his mother and family member at her apartment. She was in distress & I told the family member she needed to go to the emergency department. She called Mr. Chafin and an ambulance. She said he was coming here. I said the ambulance is so close have him to go to WMH. The EMT's were very young, walked in at what seemed slowly to me. Out of all the 8x10 pics they looked at, one said "What is coach Chafin's picture doing here? Libby, the family member said "this is his mother", I said and he is waiting at the hospital. Wow they had her loaded and out the door so fast even I was impressed. Not by their actions but by the respect and need to do their very best for coach Chafin. My heart felt condolences to Sandra & Kelly. Prayers of comfort for all who love him.*

**Susan Ferrell Courtney** - October 16, 2017 at 03:09 PM

BM

“ *Bitha Kay Miller lit a candle in memory of James Robert Chafin*



**bitha kay miller** - October 15, 2017 at 10:57 PM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of James Robert Chafin.*



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October 15, 2017 at 09:25 PM



“ *Love and prayers to all the family. James always made me laugh whenever I saw him. One of my favorite memories was him dancing with my mother at Shriners dinner, right after my father had passed away. He was sweet and kind. I know you will miss him. He will always be in your hearts*

*Love and prayers,  
Dianna Lockard Davis*

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**Dianna Davis** - October 15, 2017 at 09:21 PM



“ *Shennie Marcum lit a candle in memory of James Robert Chafin*



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**Shennie Marcum** - October 15, 2017 at 09:14 PM

DT

“ I remembered I 1970 when I got back from Vietnam I bought a 1967 Chevelle super sport, it had a blown engine and I found an engine Virginia, James took myself and Roger Akins to Virginia pick up the engine, James had I think a 1965 or 66 green chevy pickup. James was all about helping his friends I'll never forget it we had a good time and I really appreciate it. RIP James Dave Thompson

Dave Thompson - October 15, 2017 at 09:09 PM

TH

“ Teresa Hurley lit a candle in memory of James Robert Chafin



Teresa Hurley - October 15, 2017 at 08:55 PM

PJ

“ Mr chafins was a great teacher at Lenore high school a man we all looked up too . We all could talk to him at anytime . At our 40 year class reunion we talked a lot how much he inspired so many students at our school . Prayers for the family . A former student pat Conn jewett

pat conn jewett - October 15, 2017 at 08:51 PM

DB

“ Donetta Blackburn lit a candle in memory of James Robert Chafin



Donetta Blackburn - October 15, 2017 at 08:30 PM

B(

“ *Mr.Chafin was a very loved and respected man he did care for his students at Lenore high school where he was assistant principal my son Kenneth Mahon and John Allen Hall was two boys he headed them in the right direction tech. School and then to Ben Franklin technical college help these boys get started and encouraged them to make something of them self he was well loved by many of his students , praying for the family sending prayers to all may you Rest In Peace Mr.Chafin. Brenda Mahon(Jenkins)*

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**Brenda Mahon (jenkins)** - October 15, 2017 at 08:14 PM

TS

“ *One fine man. A positive influence to many, including myself. Praying for the family. RIP, Mr.C.*



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**T Sheppard** - October 15, 2017 at 08:08 PM

N(

“ *So sorry for your loss you all are in my thoughts and prayers*



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**Nora (Runyon)Meade** - October 15, 2017 at 08:04 PM

FJ

“ *Floyd Farley Jr lit a candle in memory of James Robert Chafin*



Floyd Farley jr - October 15, 2017 at 07:51 PM

MP

“ *Margie Parsley lit a candle in memory of James Robert Chafin*



margie parsley - October 15, 2017 at 07:30 PM

MP

“ *To Sandra and Kelly so sorry for your loss. James was one of my best teachers at Lenore High School. He was a joy to be around, he will be greatly missed by all who knew him. Paula Newsome Runyon*



margie parsley - October 15, 2017 at 07:29 PM

WM

“ *Wanda Mccoy lit a candle in memory of James Robert Chafin*



wanda mccoy - October 15, 2017 at 07:08 PM

SM

“ So many fond memories of Mr. Chafin both on the field and walking the halls of Lenore! His smile would light up a room as well as his voice when he wanted it to! Both my brothers Larry & Freddie Mullins have wonderful stories of their playing days with their "Ball Coach" -- but what they didn't understand at the time they were playing for a Legend!! Please take comfort knowing his legacy will live well beyond the hills of Wv --

*Please know we are keeping you and your family in our thoughts and prayers!!*

*Sonja Jo Mullins - Christmas  
Sparr, Florida*

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**Sonja Mullins-Christmas** - October 15, 2017 at 06:29 PM

RC

“ *Richard Curry lit a candle in memory of James Robert Chafin*



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**Richard Curry** - October 15, 2017 at 06:03 PM

DC

“ *Sandra and Kelly sorry to hear of James passing ..he was loved by many and will be sadly missed ....love to you and the family ....prayers for all. Danie, Drema Colegrove*



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**Drema and Danie Colegrove** - October 15, 2017 at 05:22 PM

PC

“ *Pamela Gregory Chapman lit a candle in memory of James Robert Chafin*



pamela Gregory Chapman - October 15, 2017 at 04:31 PM

PC

*Prayers for you ,Saundra , Kelly and family ...*

pamela Gregory Chapman - October 15, 2017 at 04:33 PM

NR

*So sorry to get this news. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.  
Nancy Ramey*

nancy ramey - October 15, 2017 at 05:32 PM

AB

“ *I'm so sorry for your loss, Saundra. God bless you and your family.*

Annarose Browning - October 15, 2017 at 03:55 PM

ST

“ *Saundra, I am so sorry for your loss, you and your family will be in my thoughts & prayers.*

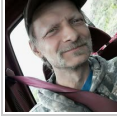
Sheila Trippett - October 15, 2017 at 03:55 PM

TS

“ *It saddens me to hear that James has past. He was a great teacher, principal and friend! Go rest high on the mountain my friend you will be missed my many !😭*



Tracy Staley - October 15, 2017 at 03:21 PM



*I am so sorry about your loss let me know if I can do any thing at all for you I am so so sorry I'll miss him deeply*

**Lee Bowen** - October 15, 2017 at 03:50 PM

CB

“ *Saundra and Kelly, we are so saddened by your loss. James was a great friend and co-worker. He will be missed greatly. Our love and prayers to you both. Charleta and Melvin*

**charleta Brooks** - October 15, 2017 at 03:14 PM

AB

“ *To say he was an amazing person wouldn't give him enough credit. I'll never forget all the days I spent at Lenore High School with him. He was one of the most kind men ever. He always had nice things to say to everyone. He will never be forgotten by me, "John Henry" as he called me. May the family have the strength to make it through. I'll be praying for you all.*



**Angie Browning** - October 15, 2017 at 03:07 PM

TH

“ *So sorry for your lose, Saun and Kelly. I will remember you guys in my prayers!*

**Tonga Hunt** - October 15, 2017 at 02:46 PM

MB

“ *Malena Browning lit a candle in memory of James Robert Chafin*



Malena Browning - October 15, 2017 at 02:44 PM

Danny  
Kozee

“ *Remember Mr Chafin when he was still an assistant teacher to Mr Williams. Really good man.*



Danny Kozee - October 15, 2017 at 02:28 PM

JB

“ *John Brewer lit a candle in memory of James Robert Chafin*



John Brewer - October 15, 2017 at 02:24 PM

JB

*I am so sorry the world has lost a good man and friend. My prayers for his family*

John Brewer - October 15, 2017 at 02:27 PM

RH

*I am sorry Sandra for your loss. James went to Burch High School when I was the secretary there. May God comfort you and the family. I have known the family for many years. Love, Ruth (Hensley) Crigger*

Ruth Hensley - October 16, 2017 at 03:11 PM

WS

“ so sorry to hear of Mr Chafins passing he was a great guy and will be missed by many



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**wendy smith** - October 15, 2017 at 02:11 PM

BR

“ So sorry for your loss but our loss is heavens gain and just for a short time until we can reunite. God bless you and Kelli is our prayers

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**Brenda Runyon** - October 15, 2017 at 02:01 PM

MJ

*Our family and I extend our condolences to the family. Mr. Jim Chafin was not only one of the most dedicated and respected teachers and principals in the school system, but he was also one of the best people I have ever known. He was a true friend to me and a great principal. He had the highest respect from co-workers and from students. I pray that God will bless this family with peace and comfort that surpasses all understanding. Mr. Chafin was a man that I have great respect and love for. Heaven is surely a much sweeter place now. Melbourne and Brenda Jude*

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**Melbourne Jude** - October 17, 2017 at 12:22 AM