



## Mr. James Edward "Mule" Lay

May 22, 1945 - February 23, 2021

James Edward Lee, Jr. (Lay) was born May 22, 1945 in Kosciusko, Mississippi. He passed away on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at the age of 75 years.

He was the child born to James E. Lee, Sr. and Jewel (Mallett) Lay, and later raised by Grant Lay, Sr., who all preceded him in death. James Lay was full of joy and always giving of himself to help others. He was a dedicated husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

James moved to Saginaw, Michigan in 1964 where he married the love of his life, Bertha Cole. They were married for 54 years, and to this union, they were blessed with five wonderful children; Charles Lay of California, Marvin Lay of Indiana, Lavetta Lay (Reginald) Biddle of California, Erwin Lay (Shameah) of New Jersey, Jamie Lay of Grand Rapids and a special daughter, Denise McKinley of Grand Rapids.

James Lay aka "Mule" to his friends and co-workers worked for General Motors for 40 years before retiring on March 31, 2005. He was a member of U A W Local 668. James transitioned from this life, but before leaving, he accepted Christ as his personal Savior and then he took his rest after a brief illness. He will be truly missed by ALL.

James Lay also leaves to cherish his memory, 11 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; five brothers, Grant Lay, Jr. of Saginaw, Larry (Inez) Lay of Flint, MI, Thomas Lay of Illinois, Dates Lee of Mississippi and Willie Lee of Texas; three sisters, Clydie Powell of Saginaw, Guranda Anderson of Flint, MI and Delores Austin of Missouri; six great-grandchildren; one aunt, Nora Turner of Saginaw, MI; a host of nieces and nephews; sisters and brothers-in-law, other relatives and friends.

Mr. Lay was also preceded in death by two sisters, Shirley Lay and Agnes McDaniels; two brothers, James and Robert Lee.

Funeral service will take place at 11:00 A.M. on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at Word of Faith International Ministries 500 North Washington Avenue, Saginaw, Michigan 48601. Dr. Byron Hayes will officiate with interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery, 3210 S. Washington, Saginaw, MI 48601. Friends may call at the Evans & Browne's Funeral Home on Monday, March 8, 2021 from 2:00 until 6:00 p.m.

# Cemetery Details

## Forest Lawn Cemetery

3210 S. Washington Avenue  
Saginaw, MI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 8. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Evans & Browne's Funeral Home  
441 N. Jefferson Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48607  
(989) 754-0481  
evansbrownes@gmail.com  
<https://www.evansbrownesfuneralhome.com>

## Funeral Service

MAR 9. 11:00 AM (ET)

Word of Faith International Ministries  
500 N. Washington Ave.  
Saginaw, MI

# Tribute Wall

EL

“ We the Brooks / Lewis Family sending prayers to the Lay Family:  
James, Mary, Don, Emma and Allen.

-----  
**Emma Lewis** - March 09, 2021 at 01:27 PM

LR

“ Larry And Sabrina Russell lit a candle in  
memory of Mr. James Edward "Mule" Lay



-----  
**Larry and sabrina Russell** - March 09, 2021 at 11:04 AM



“ Juanita Boyd lit a candle in memory of Mr.  
James Edward "Mule" Lay



-----  
**Juanita Boyd** - March 09, 2021 at 10:07 AM

EK

“ Gonna miss you at our store. Circle K. Was looking forward to  
bringing out the bikes. RIH. Kemp, Parham families

-----  
**Edward J (EJ) Kemp** - March 09, 2021 at 08:49 AM

RF

“ REDEEMAR FAMILY sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. James Edward "Mule" Lay



---

**REDEEMAR FAMILY** - March 08, 2021 at 06:41 PM

FD

“ I would like to send my deepest condolences to the lay family whom i have had the great pleasure of knowing for almost 35 yrs...Mr lay wasn't a man of many words but was a very humble man also very orientated and love his family. I can remember on the weekends especially walking to their house and halfway there i can hear the BLUES. The adults just enjoying themselves after a work week mann such memories he may be gone physically but never forgotten mentally...RIP Mr.Lay 😞



---

**Felicia Dawkins** - March 08, 2021 at 10:18 AM

WK

“ My condolences to Burt and the family, may God see you all through. Praying for you all. I love y'all.

---

**Wayne and Trena King** - March 07, 2021 at 07:31 PM



“ *Deepest sympathy and my prayers to the Lay family. Enjoyed all the childhood memories from family gatherings. May God continue to give you all the peace that surpasses all understanding. Comfort your hurting hearts and give joy for the spirit of heaviness. His music playing in his garage will be missed.*



---

**Linda Burt-Robinson** - March 07, 2021 at 02:48 PM



“ *Joanie Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. James Edward "Mule" Lay*



---

**Joanie Williams** - March 07, 2021 at 02:58 AM



“ *I will miss my dear Uncle James and the memories of visits to see him and Aunt Bert on any given day. I will always remember him as happy go cherry and cool, calm, and collected. Never once have I seen him angry. It's been an honor to know such a wonderful person. My love and support goes out to my beloved aunt and cousins during this difficult time, and may The Most Highest mend all of your broken hearts, and fill them with joy.*

---

**Tawanda Ckark** - March 06, 2021 at 10:17 AM

TH

“ Tee-Ar Hines lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Edward "Mule" Lay



Tee-Ar Hines - March 02, 2021 at 07:42 PM

WH

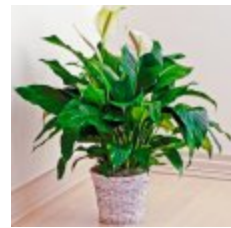
“ Walter/Dorothy Harris lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Edward "Mule" Lay



Walter/Dorothy Harris - March 02, 2021 at 06:04 PM

TW

“ The Riley Family, Lambert MS and Hudson Wisconsin purchased the Floor Plant for Sympathy for the family of Mr. James Edward "Mule" Lay.



The Riley Family, Lambert MS and Hudson Wisconsin -  
March 02, 2021 at 03:48 PM

CJ

“ Chris, Wayne Jernigan sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. James Edward "Mule" Lay



Chris, Wayne Jernigan - March 01, 2021 at 09:42 PM

LC

“ LARRY BOBBIE CLEMMONS lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Edward "Mule" Lay



LARRY BOBBIE CLEMMONS - February 28, 2021 at 05:25 PM

BN

“ Bridgett Neloms lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Edward "Mule" Lay



Bridgett Neloms - February 26, 2021 at 10:15 PM

DG

“ To the family my condolences to you, I will keep you in my prayers  
🙏❤️

Don Green - February 26, 2021 at 09:11 PM

TO

“ TomekiaWillis lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Edward "Mule" Lay



TomekiaWillis - February 26, 2021 at 03:48 PM

GB

“ *Glenda Booker sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. James Edward "Mule" Lay*



---

**Glenda Booker** - February 26, 2021 at 12:00 PM

DW

“ *Debby Walker lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Edward "Mule" Lay*



---

**Debby Walker** - February 26, 2021 at 11:53 AM



“ *Elizabeth Hudspeth lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Edward "Mule" Lay*



---

**Elizabeth Hudspeth** - February 24, 2021 at 01:37 PM

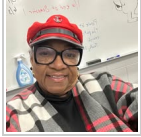
BF

“ *Condolences to the Lay family.... you are in our prayers*



---

**Ben Frazier** - February 24, 2021 at 12:34 PM



“ *My condolences to my family! Praying for Bert, Lavetta, Ervin, Charles and Jamie. Look to the hills! Your help , comfort and strength comes from the Lord!*



---

**Diane Holliman** - February 24, 2021 at 07:31 AM

BM

“ *Jamie to you and your family....I'm sending my deepest condolences....Thoughts and prayers...*



---

**Barbara McMillan-Hargrow** - February 23, 2021 at 08:33 PM

CB

“ *Charles&Sheverna Burt sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. James Edward "Mule" Lay*



---

**Charles&Sheverna Burt** - February 23, 2021 at 08:20 PM

DT

“ *Denecho Turner lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Edward "Mule" Lay*



---

**Denecho Turner** - February 23, 2021 at 07:34 PM

WW

“ Words may not suffice to express the heartfelt sorrow that I feel for the passing of your husband James but please accept my condolences and I will be sure to include him in our daily prayers.

-----  
**Wilma Weems** - February 23, 2021 at 06:46 PM

CC

“ Sorry for your loss, praying for the family.

*Clifford and Jacqueline Carter*

-----  
**Clifford Carter** - February 23, 2021 at 06:31 PM

PW

“ Bertha, Words may not suffice to express the heartfelt sorrow that I feel for the passing of your husband James but please accept my condolences and I will be sure to include him in our daily prayers.



-----  
**Pasror W. Weems** - February 23, 2021 at 06:29 PM

TF

“ Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord:

7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

8 We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

Please know that earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal.

We love you family and we are praying for your strength



---

**The Anderson Family** - February 23, 2021 at 05:41 PM

RC

“ Ralph & Shirley Culpepper sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. James Edward "Mule" Lay



---

**Ralph & Shirley Culpepper** - February 23, 2021 at 05:13 PM

SF

“ R.I.H Pops Prayers for The Family



---

**Sonny Moten & Family** - February 23, 2021 at 03:34 PM