



***James Leslie Watts, Jr. (Jimmy)***  
December 17, 2025

**James Leslie Watts, Jr. (Jimmy)**, of Northport, Alabama passed away peacefully at home on December 17, 2025. Despite several lengthy health issues, Jimmy always had a smile on his face and kept his sense of humor.

He was preceded in death by his father, James Leslie Watts, Sr., his mother, Marian Attwood Watts, infant sister, Donna Attwood Watts, and his first wife, Mary Alice Hoots Watts.

Jimmy is survived by his wife, Paula Colburn Watts and step daughter, Jessica Erin Howard, sisters Karen Watts McCombs (Wade), Kaye Watts Ridgway (Miles), nephews William Lance Hocutt, Matthew Tyler Ridgway (Carrie), James Adam Ridgway, Niece Leslie Kaye Hocutt, and great nieces Maggie Hocutt Arnold (Matthew), Laney Alice and Jamie Virginia Hocutt, Mia Karis, Lexi Kate, and Lola Claire Ridgway, and great nephew William Lance Hocutt Jr.

Jimmy grew up in Tuscaloosa and was a member of the Tuscaloosa High School Black Bears Class of 1963. He never met a stranger. As a young man he worked for various companies until he found his niche in the real estate world. He partnered with Bob McKee in McKee Watts Realty, and also worked with Patton Realty and Blue Creek Realty. He really enjoyed searching for homes that would be "just right" for his clients and loved organizing the realtors' caravans to showcase new homes on the market.

He and Paula could often be seen enjoying dinner at various restaurants, especially those that offered Karaoke, and the opportunity to watch Alabama football games with their friends. If anyone mentioned the beach, especially Panama City, he was the first one packed! In addition, he was always ready to travel anywhere.

A memorial service will be held at Calvary Baptist Church at 3:00 on Sunday, January 25, with visitation from 2:00 to 2:45.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a charity of your choice.