



Jackie Lee Fant

September 6, 1938 - January 2, 2026

Jackie Lee Fant age 87, of Springdale Arkansas, passed away peacefully at Regency Hospital on Friday, January 2, 2026.

Husband of 69 years to Louise, the love of his life; father of Tony (Sheila) Fant, Michael Fant (deceased), Melissa (Brandon) Myers, Michele (Brian) Richman; doting grandfather of James (Laura) Fant, Glen (Anne-Marie) Fant, Joel (LeAnne) Bowman, Alyssa Fant, Warren (Gladys) Myers, Felicia Fant, Patrick (Samantha) Fant, Paige (Dustin) Robertson, Mary Fant, Addison Richman, and Ashtyn Richman; great-grandfather of Leo Fant, Ethan Fant, Harley Fant, Jamie Fant, Harper Bowman, Noah Bowman, Asher Bowman, Owen and Felix Myers; son of the late Harlan and Mary Fant; brother of Virginia (Forrest) Bruce (deceased), William (Patsy) Fant, Elaine (Wayne) Walker.

Jack joined the Navy and married Louise House two months later. He said he joined the Navy to see the world. Jack served fourteen years in the Navy, achieving the highest enlisted rank of E-9, Master Chief Petty Officer. He began his distinguished service training as a member of TACRON-21 at Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek. He served with Tactical Control Squadron 21 in Lebanon, Operation Blue Bat, and with Military Assistance Advisory Group (MAAG) in Vietnam. TACRON-21 would become part of the "Navy Seals," which was adopted in 1962. He flew on the A3d Skyhawk and P-2 developing

a communication protocol named "Leap Frog." He said that there was no greater high than being catapulted off an Aircraft Carrier. In 1972 he was selected as Sailor of the Year at U.S. Naval Communications Station, Rota, Spain.

After the Navy, he moved his family back to Arkansas, working for the Frisco and Burlington Northern Railroads. He then worked for the U.S. Postal Service, where he retired.

Jack was a gifted athlete. In 2012 he was inducted into the Benton Athletic Memorial Museum as a member of Benton's first Cross-Country team, for their extraordinary 2nd place finish in the 1955 State Championship against powerhouse Little Rock. During his Navy service he excelled in Basketball, perfecting his hook shot, fast pitch softball and flag football. Jack excelled well into his golden years as a multi-gold medalist in the Senior Olympics, and Veteran's Games, specializing in the Javelin throw. He studied the art of the Javelin, earning five Gold medals. He loved coaching and teaching basketball, coaching at the Fayetteville and Springdale youth centers for many years, leading his teams to championships. He also loved fishing, was a life-long Razorbacks fan, and a writer and a poet. He loved spending time with his family.

Family and friends will be received on Friday, January 9, 2026 from 5-7pm at Sisco Funeral Chapel. Funeral services will be Saturday, January 10, 2025 at 1pm at Sisco Funeral Chapel of Springdale with Pastor Jay Foley officiating. Burial will follow in Bluff Cemetery in Springdale.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions be made to the Boys and Girls Club of America, 1275 Peachtree Street NE, Atlanta, GA 30309-3506

Online condolences may be left at www.siscofuneral.com

Cemetery Details

Bluff Cemetery

795 N. Shiloh Street
Springdale, AR 72764

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 9. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Sisco Funeral Chapel
705 W Meadow Ave
Springdale, AR 72764

Funeral Service

JAN 10. 1:00 PM (CT)

Sisco Funeral Chapel
705 W Meadow Ave
Springdale, AR 72764

Tribute Wall



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jackie Lee Fant.*



January 16 at 09:34 AM



“ *Shaylinn & Dustin Jones planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jackie Lee Fant.*

Shaylinn & Dustin Jones - January 16 at 09:34 AM



“ *Coach Fant was my 7th grade basketball coach about 40 years ago. Had a great time with him and still remember things he taught me. Ive volunteered coach several seasons and dedicate it to him and other great coaches I've had. I just learned of his death today or I would have went to his funeral.
Thank you Coach Fant you were one hell of a man!*

Shannon Pope - January 11 at 12:00 PM



“ *Our deepest condolences on the passing of Jack. He was an extraordinary person. May his memory be a blessing to his wonderful family. Lynn & Gene Merritt*

Lynn Fant Merritt - January 11 at 09:51 AM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Jackie Lee Fant.*



January 09 at 09:41 AM



“ *Lauren Conolan-Richards purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Jackie Lee Fant.*



Lauren Conolan-Richards - January 08 at 04:02 PM



“ *Lauren Conolan-Richards planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jackie Lee Fant.*

Lauren Conolan-Richards - January 08 at 04:02 PM



“ *Your loving wife Louise and children planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jackie Lee Fant.*

Your loving wife Louise and children - January 07 at 10:52 PM

YC

“ Your loving wife Louise and children purchased the Heavenly Grace Spray for the family of Jackie Lee Fant.



Your loving wife Louise and children - January 07 at 10:52 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Jackie Lee Fant.



January 07 at 05:08 PM

KZ

“ Kathy & Greg Ziegler planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jackie Lee Fant.

Kathy & Greg Ziegler - January 07 at 03:57 PM

JT

“ Janette Taylor planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jackie Lee Fant.

Janette Taylor - January 07 at 02:54 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Jackie Lee Fant.



January 07 at 02:54 PM



“ *Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jackie Lee Fant.*



January 07 at 11:25 AM



“ *Ellis Y. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jackie Lee Fant.*

Ellis Y. - January 07 at 11:25 AM



“ *Ben M. purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Jackie Lee Fant.*



Ben M. - January 07 at 06:51 AM



“ *So sorry for your loss. Praying for your family. Jack was a fighter and a true patriot*

ben myers - January 07 at 06:40 AM

BP

“ Briana (and Pippa) purchased the Celestial Love for the family of Jackie Lee Fant.



Briana (and Pippa) - January 06 at 11:03 PM

BP

“ Briana (and Pippa) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jackie Lee Fant.

Briana (and Pippa) - January 06 at 11:03 PM

LP

“ Lisa Stewart. & Gabby Allison Potter planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jackie Lee Fant.

Lisa Stewart. & Gabby Allison Potter - January 06 at 10:05 PM

LP

“ Lisa Stewart. & Gabby Allison Potter purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Jackie Lee Fant.



Lisa Stewart. & Gabby Allison Potter - January 06 at 10:05 PM

WS

“ With Love, Bobby and Lillian Scotton purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Jackie Lee Fant.



With Love, Bobby and Lillian Scotton - January 06 at 03:58 PM

WS

“ With Love, Bobby and Lillian Scotton planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jackie Lee Fant.

With Love, Bobby and Lillian Scotton - January 06 at 03:58 PM



“ Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of Jackie Lee Fant.



January 06 at 03:30 PM

AW

“ All our love, Mike and Sandy Ward purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Jackie Lee Fant.



All our love, Mike and Sandy Ward - January 06 at 03:24 PM

SM

“ Stasia Myers purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Jackie Lee Fant.



Stasia Myers - January 06 at 03:13 PM

LC

“ Lori, Brian, Henri & Charlie planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jackie Lee Fant.

Lori, Brian, Henri & Charlie - January 06 at 12:54 PM

LC

“ Lori, Brian, Henri & Charlie purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Jackie Lee Fant.



Lori, Brian, Henri & Charlie - January 06 at 12:54 PM

GF

“ Grandlife Hotels family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jackie Lee Fant.

Grandlife Hotels family - January 06 at 12:49 PM

GF

“ Grandlife Hotels family purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Jackie Lee Fant.



Grandlife Hotels family - January 06 at 12:49 PM



“ Tony, Sheila and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jackie Lee Fant.

Tony, Sheila and family - January 06 at 12:16 PM



“ Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Jackie Lee Fant.



January 06 at 12:16 PM