

## James Ritter

February 23, 1923 - August 31, 2013

James Wesley Ritter was born February 23rd, 1923 in rural Stevens County, Kansas to James Albert Ritter and Lillie Mae Hudson Ritter. He completed the Eight Grade at Banner Township School in Stevens County.

In 1937, he moved with his parents to a farm east of Springdale, Arkansas. He graduated from Springdale High School in 1941 and attended the University of Arkansas. He entered the United States Army during the Second World War and served until 1946. After his military service, he returned to Springdale and re-entered the University of Arkansas where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration in 1949.

After college, he joined Preferred Risk Insurance in Fayetteville beginning a life-long insurance career. Later, he joined high school classmate and long-time friend, Joe S. "Sandy" Boone to form Boone Ritter Insurance Agency in Springdale.

James was active in Junior Chamber of Commerce and Kiwanis Club. He served the community on the Public Library Board, the Museum Board and the Salvation Army Board. He was a life-long member First United Methodist Church where he served the Lord in many capacities.

He was a passionate gardener, cultivating a large garden each year. He loved

camping, fishing and trail riding. He was a member of the Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies and participated in annual trail rides through Banff National Park for many years.

On March 26, 1955, he married Kathryn Bernice Strickland. They enjoyed 52 years of marriage. Survivors include two sons, David Wesley Ritter and wife Emily of Katy, Texas, Charles Brent Ritter and wife Connie of San Mateo, California, and daughter, Sandra Jean Engelking and husband Ernst of Newkirk, Oklahoma.

Grandchildren include, 1st Lt. Zachary Jordan Ritter, Minot, North Dakota, Olivia Ellen Ritter, Katy, Texas, Devon Lee Mobley-Ritter of San Mateo, California, James Nicholas Mobley-Ritter of San Mateo, California, John Clayton Morgan and wife Beth of Ponca City, Oklahoma, and Kelly Nicole Morgan of Stillwater, Oklahoma. James has one great granddaughter, Piper Elizabeth Morgan of Ponca City, OK.

James was preceded in death by his wife, Kathryn, brothers, Kenneth Ritter, Lynn Ritter, Wilbur "Bill" Ritter and Virgil Ritter and sisters, Laura Ritter, Louise Connor, Wanda Davis and Jean Wilmoth.

Visitation will be Friday, Sept. 6 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Sisco Funeral Chapel of Springdale. The funeral service will be at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, Sept 7, at First United Methodist Church followed by burial at Bluff Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Circle of Life Hospice 901 Jones Rd., Springdale, Arkansas 72762 or to First United Methodist Church-Bread of Life Ministry 206 West Johnson Avenue, Springdale, Arkansas 72764.

On line condolences may be made to [www.siscofuneral.com](http://www.siscofuneral.com)



# Tribute Wall



“ *James Ritter*

January 21, 2023 at 02:29 PM



“ *Dearest Em:*

*I just want you to know how sorry I am about Wes's dad. Please know how much I love you! Your family will be in my prayers as you go through these difficult days.*

*Love you always;  
Kathy*

**Kathy Whelchel (Hastings)** - October 21, 2013 at 03:02 PM



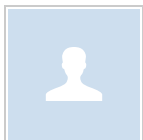
“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.*

**Tom and Lynn Reed** - October 21, 2013 at 03:02 PM



“ *Jim was my friend. I liked him the very first time I met him. He was a mild and considerate man. I will remember him smiling.*  
*John Philpot*

**John Philpot** - October 21, 2013 at 03:02 PM



“ *Grew up with Jim and debated many subjects and memories with him over coffee. May God bless you. Harold C. "Preacher" High*

September 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM