



James Kennedy Thornton

December 17, 1963 - February 25, 2021

SUNRISE

James Kennedy Thornton was born on December 17, 1963, in Halifax, North Carolina to the late James William Thornton and Sarah Betty Minggia Thornton. He was brought up in the church and was baptized at Mt. Gillian Baptist Church, Littleton, NC in Halifax County at an early age. Being a military family they often found themselves moving between North Carolina and Virginia.

James graduated from Green Run High School in Virginia Beach, VA in 1980. He then went on to receive an Associated Degree at Chowan University in Murfreesboro, NC in 1982, and furthered his education to graduate in 1985 with a Bachelor Degree in Business Management from Elon University in NC. James joined the Army and served in the Reserves until Honorably Discharged in 1996.

Throughout his lifetime, James proved to be a dedicated employee, blessed with several opportunities to work in IT and management in the restaurant industry.

In 1985 James met the love of his life, Tara Sanders. They were married on his birthday, December 17, 1988 making their home in Virginia Beach, VA until moving to Georgia in 1996. Born out of their love for each other were five children.

James and his family joined Salem MBC under the leadership of Pastor

Richard B, Haynes, where he regularly worshipped, attended 6:30 am Sunday School, Wednesday Night Bible Study, second Saturday Men's Prayer Ministry and Evangelism Ministry. He graduated from Salem's School of Ministry and became a part of the Christian Education Department as a Teacher. He had a heart to follow the teachings of Jesus by blessing those in need of physical and spiritual food.

SUNSET

James transitioned to be with the Lord on February 25, 2021, preceded in death by his parents and one brother Eric Thornton. He leaves a legacy of memories to his loving and devoted wife Tara and their five children, Andre Sebastian, James Kennedy II, Veronica Dunte, Vanessa Elizabeth Ann, and Marcus Dwight Thornton; brother Troy Thornton and sister Jay Johnson of VA; mother-in-law Savannah Green; brother-in-law Cosmo Green and sisters-in-law Monique and Nikki Green of TX as well as well as a host of nieces, nephews, extended relatives and friends.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 20. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Salem Baptist Church
4700 Church Street
Lilburn, GA 30047

Celebration of Life

MAR 20. 12:00 PM (ET)

Salem Baptist Church
4700 Church Street
Lilburn, GA 30047

Tribute Wall



“ *Tara Thornton lit a candle in memory of James Kennedy Thornton* ”



Tara Thornton - March 24, 2021 at 06:49 PM



To my love I will miss you very much my heart is heavy with out you I thank GOD for the 32 years we shared together you still live on in the faces of our kids so now you rest in GOD hands I will see you later love always tara

Tara Thornton - March 24, 2021 at 06:58 PM



“ *Gail Johnson lit a candle in memory of James Kennedy Thornton* ”



Gail Johnson - March 20, 2021 at 01:29 PM



“ *I'm so sorry for your lost praying for your family I'm a friend of Jay and she always talk about her family she loved and how her and her brother were close in age and how y'all travel due to y'all father being in the military* ”



Gale Carney - March 20, 2021 at 12:19 PM



“ *Gale Carney lit a candle in memory of James Kennedy Thornton*



Gale Carney - March 20, 2021 at 12:15 PM

PM

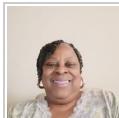
“ *To Tara and the entire family of James Thornton;
May God comfort you and strengthen you during your time of need.
We know that God is still in control. He knows your pain and He
knows your need. We thank God that when one of His believers are
called home we can celebrate. For his soul shall find rest in the
Lord. We pray for the entire family as you celebrate James' life.
Remember that earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal. I
looked forward to hearing James preach his first official sermon, but
truly a life well lived is a sermon in itself. May God bless you and
keep you is our prayer. Pastor E. J. Morris, (Uncle Eddie)*

Pastor Edward J. Morris - March 20, 2021 at 11:36 AM

JJ

“ My dear brother kenny we was only 11 months and two days apart you caught up with me on December 17th and we was twins till my birthday Jan 15th .Our dad did 24 years n the army me and you traveled the world all over Germany we went to high school there.The best time I’m going to remember is when you found God and so did I we talk often and we said prayers before we got off the phone. I’m miss our conversation and our prayers helping me thew your nice shay health issues.Covid is so bad but my twin brother it help bring us closer with me out of work and you as well we talk more and we prayed more.When you put God n anything it all works out and you can found peace the gifts you sent us this year we well we’re them necklaces and think of you.Your wife Tara is your soul mate and my lovely nieces and nephews they well miss you but you left them with so many lovely memories and laughs and prayers and good advice and peace.Well God said on the 25th God said come home my son your time is up.I’m so proud of you my twin brother for founding God and peace .I love you my twin brother tell our mom snd dad and our brother Eric hello I’ll see y’all again one day.kenny keep looking over my baby Shay she well miss your pep talks and prays.Rest In Peace no I love you very much. Rest In Peace we love you and miss you thanks for all your support Jay and Girls.

Jay johnson - March 19, 2021 at 11:36 PM



I'm so sorry for your lost praying for you and your family 🙏🙏🙏🙏

Gale Carney - March 20, 2021 at 11:09 AM

JJ

Thank you

Jay johnson - March 20, 2021 at 07:29 PM

SM

“ Tara, my wonderful niece and my wonderful great-nieces and nephews, I love you and may God be with you as we celebrate the life of James. He will be missed. I thank God for all the contributions that he has made to our family. James has been a blessing! And thank God for sending him our way. James was a Blessed man to be called to preach the gospel! What a blessing!! He will be missed but one day! We will meet him on the other side. But for now, I just want to say goodnight and rest in peace with the Lord.No more pain and no more suffering because joy comes in the morning. Family hold on to those precious and funny memories that you all shared and if you do for every tear, soon after will be a smile of those precious memories. May the peace and love of God be with you all my Tara and my precious nieces and nephews. Love Aunt Stephanie. Pastor Haynes and the church family we thank you for all your love, support, and kindness to the Thornton family. May God continue to bless you. James and Tara love their church family.

Stephanie Morris - March 19, 2021 at 09:55 PM

PM

To Tara and the entire family of James Thornton;
May God comfort you and strengthen you during your time of need. We know that God is still in control. He knows your pain and He knows your need. We thank God that when one of His believers are called home we can celebrate. For his soul shall find rest in the Lord. We pray for the entire family as you celebrate James' life. Remember that earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal. I looked forward to hearing James preach his first official sermon, but truly a life well lived is a sermon in itself. May God bless you and keep you is our prayer. Pastor E. J. Morris, (Uncle Eddie)

Pastor Edward J. Morris - March 20, 2021 at 11:34 AM

JJ

Uncle Eddie thank you for your prayers I also was looking forward to my brother first sermon .

Jay johnson - March 20, 2021 at 07:34 PM

EF

“ We would like to extend our condolences to the family. May the God of all comfort help to ease the pain of your grief. Truly sorry for your loss.

Evans family - March 19, 2021 at 12:17 PM

DS

“ Tara may you and the children find comfort in knowing that your husband's believe in Jesus as his savior was reflected in the way he showed love for others. “Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.”

James 2:24 KJV

Deacon Donald & Shannon Wise

Donald & Shannon - March 19, 2021 at 11:36 AM

TF

“ Sending prayers for God's peace and provisions during this challenging time.



The Wilson Family - March 18, 2021 at 03:14 PM

