

In Loving Memory of Jerry L. Hawkins

Jerry L. Hawkins of Sewanee, Tennessee peacefully passed away on July 6, just three days after celebrating his 81st birthday. Born at home in South Pittsburg, TN, Jerry ultimately made his home in Sewanee, where he built a beautiful mountain retreat for his wife and son — complete with acres of land and his cherished self-made lake.

A proud veteran, Jerry served in the U.S. Navy from February 15, 1962 to June 10, 1965 as an Aviation Boatswain Fuels Petty Officer 3rd Class, continuing his service in the Naval Reserves until 1968. He was a founding member of the USS IWO JIMA Class Association, where he sat on the Board of Directors for 20 years and attended annual reunions with his beloved wife and son.

His professional career spanned more than 30 years with Combustion Engineering in Chattanooga and its successor, ABB. Even in retirement, Jerry stayed active, working for 15 years as head of maintenance and grounds at St. Mary's Convent in Sewanee. Alongside his son, he founded Jerry Hawkins Home and Property Management, continuing to serve his community with the same dedication and care he was known for.

Jerry was deeply loved by all who knew him. Surrounded by loyal friends, he was always generous with his time, his stories, and his laughter. With a knack for storytelling that could fill a room with joy, he made everyone feel welcome — especially if they came hungry.

An avid outdoorsman, Jerry embraced life with a spirit of adventure. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, 4 wheeling, and exploring the world with his son and friends — often with his wife Lavonne by his side. He traveled across the country collecting rocks from every

destination, choosing the open road over airplanes to savor every mile of the journey.

A guiding influence in his life was his beloved uncle, Cecile Barns, who was like a father to him. Jerry fondly shared stories of their adventures and the lessons that shaped him.

He leaves behind his devoted wife Lavonne, his son Jerry “Scooter,” and his cherished dog, Chrissy.

Jerry’s legacy lives on in the hearts of those who loved him. He will be remembered for his warmth, generosity, and unforgettable presence — forever missed, and forever beloved.

A celebration of life for Jerry will be held August 23.
Please call 931-691-7881 for details and location.

Please send condolences to:

Lavonne Hawkins
17069 S Pittsburgh Mountain Rd
Sewanee, TN 37375-5016