



**Reverend James  
Blackwell, PhD.**

May 19, 1941 - April 4, 2025

Celebrating the Life of  
**Reverend James Blackwell, PhD.**

Tuesday, April 8, 2025 2:00 p.m.  
North End Baptist Church  
Beaumont, Texas

*“Majesty”*

Welcome  
Mary Collier

Obituary  
Reverend David Cross

*“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”*  
Phil & Wanda Brooks

Message  
Reverend Eric House

Closing  
Lile Blackwell

*“Amazing Grace”*



**R**everend James Blackwell, PhD, 83, of Beaumont, died Friday, April 4, 2025, at Beaumont Health Care Center, Beaumont. He was born on May 19, 1941, to Margie Ragsdale Blackwell and Ben Blackwell, in Visalia, California.

James was married to the love of his life, Carolyn, for over sixty-three years. Together, James and Carolyn raised a daughter, Tracy, whom he lovingly called Gretchen, and a son, Lile. He adored both and enjoyed any chance to talk about them to others. He also was blessed with two grandchildren, Camden and Brittany. He loved his family to the fullest and will be missed greatly.

He served in ministry for over sixty-two years with Carolyn at his side. During his time in ministry, he served at over six different churches. His last full-time ministry position was at South Park Baptist Church in Beaumont. While serving at South Park, he also taught Greek at Lamar University. James knew his Bible well and was well versed in English, Greek, Hebrew, and Cuneiform. After he retired from his ministry, he still had the need to serve others. He taught his Sunday School class at North End Baptist

Church in Beaumont for thirteen years. He loved his class and its members. The class is called “Bold Not Old” and the members are going to miss his wisdom and knowledge tremendously.

James was a spiritual leader to many. He also knew where to go in the Bible to give the answer that was needed to comfort others. He led so many in their journey to salvation and was always there for anybody and everybody. He never met a stranger.

James also had great joy in telling stories of his childhood to others. He has been a guest speaker on many occasions and entertained to the fullest with these tales. He also enjoyed playing his Gretsch guitar and piano. He once was even able to play with Chet Atkins. Chet was very impressed with James and his skills on the guitar. He played at numerous nursing homes and many times at church. He lost his hearing in his later years and had to give up music.

James loved his wife and the many memories they made together. He loved traveling and fishing with her. James and Carolyn formed many friendships during the years, but one very special one was with Norma Williams. He loved to pick at her and tell her she was one letter short of being normal. His love for others will be deeply missed.

Survivors include his wife, Carolyn Blackwell; children, Gordon Lile Blackwell and his wife, Kathleen, of Baton Rouge, Louisiana and Tracy Blackwell and her husband, Triton, of Tullahoma, Tennessee; grandchildren, Camden Lile Blackwell and Brittany Lanelle Blackwell; brother, Leroy Blackwell and his wife, Norma, of Locust Grove, Oklahoma; sister-in-law, Martha Blackwell; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents and brother, Ronald Blackwell.



## **Pallbearers**

Lile Blackwell

Camden Blackwell

Linda Buser

Mike Collier

Doug Porter

Norma Williams

## **Interment**

Forest Lawn Memorial Park

Beaumont, Texas

Reverend Bert Shivers

## **Memorial Contributions**

Operation Christmas Child

Through North End Baptist Church

5115 Eastex Freeway

Beaumont, Texas 77706



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Please sign Dr. Blackwell's guestbook and share your memories at  
[broussards1889.com](http://broussards1889.com)