



*Bobby "Bob" James
Franklin*

Feb. 25, 1938 - Jan. 20, 2026

Bobby "Bob" James Franklin, 87, of Morganton, NC, passed away Tuesday, January 20, 2026. Bob is now reunited with the love of his life, Norma, where he longed to be for many years.

Born in Burke County, NC on February 25, 1938, he was the son of the late Vernon William Franklin and Minnie Lou Byrd Franklin.

Mr. Franklin was a veteran of the US Navy and a member of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church. For numerous years, he was the bus driver for the senior citizen church group trips his wife planned. Bob worked in the furniture business for over 40 years and retired from Akzo. He was a hard-working man who loved being outside mowing or in his garden, enjoyed time at his camper at Lake James, or being out on his boat.

Those left to cherish his memory include his sons, Mike Franklin (Wen) and Sam Franklin (Annette); grandchildren, Brandon, Benjamin, Daniel, Lindsay, and Jayme; sister, Ann Detz; and numerous nephews and nieces.

In addition to his parents, Bob was preceded in death by his wife, Norma P. Franklin; daughter, Donna G. Franklin; and sisters, Jean F. Shaw and JoLynn Fillerup.

The graveside service will be held at 1 p.m., Wednesday, January 28, 2026 at

Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church Cemetery with Rev. Bradley Johnson officiating. Military honors will be provided by the US Navy.

Memorial contributions may be made to Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1159, Morganton, NC 28680 (morgantonprbc.com/give).

The family would like to express their appreciation to the staff of The Berkeley, especially to Felicia and her careteam staff for their compassion, kindness, and smiles given to Bob every day. The family would also like to thank the staff of Via Hospice, especially Tiffany, Ashley, and Katie for their patience and gentle guidance to the family.

Sossoman Funeral Home and Crematory Center is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Tribute Wall

Mike and family, I am sorry to hear of your father's passing. Sending a HUGE

—Denise Reep

Bob and Norma were two of the most humble people I have known. Please find comfort and peace in knowing they along with Donna are together once again. May God be with you in this difficult time. David and Lynda Wilson.

—David and Lynda Wilson

Sam his son is a dear friend of mine. My heart goes out to him and his whole family. Praying for you all

—Kathy Mclean

Bob Franklin was the epitome of a good man, a gentleman. I always admired him and am now thankful he's in Heaven enjoying a long awaited reunion with his beloved wife and daughter. God has a place prepared for those who love and live for Him. Bob believed that, lived that and that's where he is. God is good.

—Tommy Sain

I want to thank the family for sharing Bob with us and trusting us with his care. Bob you will not be forgotten and you will be greatly missed at the Berkeley. We Love You Felicia

–Felicia Lasalle



Thank you to the family for sharing Bob with us and trusting us to take care of him. He will be missed at The Berkeley and he will not be forgotten.

So very sorry to hear about Bob. Sending our thoughts and prayers to the family. We will miss his friendly waves every morning at the front door when he would drive by.

–Benge Family



It was such a pleasure meeting & taking care of you Bob !
We will miss you at The Berkeley

–Tamia

I am so sorry for your loss of Bob. I am keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers. Kris

–Kristie R Crawford