



# Julius Ranson "J.R." Campbell

August 20, 1942 - November 20, 2024

Julius Ranson "J.R." Campbell, 82, of Astor, Florida, passed away after a short illness on November 16, 2024, surrounded by loving family.

J.R. was born in Leon, WV, on August 20, 1942, the son of Clarence and Lottie (Thornton) Campbell.

J.R. graduated from Point Pleasant High School, WV, in 1962. He was active in Future Farmers of America, serving as president during his senior year. He was also a Golden Gloves boxer throughout high school and for a short time after graduation.

On May 11, 1962, he married his high school sweetheart, Patsy (Keefer). Together, they enjoyed hunting, fishing, bowling, archery, vacationing, boating, raising two daughters, and home building until she died in 1989.

To the relief of their two daughters, J.R. was lucky to find the second love of his life, Gloria! They married on June 1, 1991, bringing three more daughters into the mix to pile on the teasing that J.R. cherished and vigorously returned. After retirement, J.R. and Gloria built a beautiful life together in Florida. They enjoyed making friends, traveling to visit family, helping neighbors with projects, snow skiing in Colorado, drinking margaritas, fishing off their dock, and pontooning on the St. John's River. J.R. had a great eye for spotting wildlife while touring family and friends through "alligator alley." Ah, the life of retirement!

J.R. was a highly regarded union ironworker and member of the Northwest Indiana Local 395 for more than 30 years. When he wasn't ironworking, in his free time, as a licensed contractor and tradesman, J.R. built numerous houses and duplexes around Portage that, due to his high standards and meticulousness, still stand today! After retirement, he was able to relax and loosen his standards when helping build, remodel, or repair any of his daughters' houses (which he did often). While working on their projects, he would stand back, observe his work and gleefully exclaim, "Good enough for [enter daughter's name here]'s house!"

He was an excellent and beloved “Grandad,” “Papa,” “Po Po,” and “Papa J.R.” to his grandkids and great grandkids.

Remaining to cherish J.R.’s memory are his wife, Gloria; his five #1 daughters who were all made to feel like they were his favorite, Dorinda (Jeff) Sattler, Betina (Mike) Beverly, Chyrl Wilson, Cyndi (Phil) Bogdan, Kelly (Bryan) LaFollette; grandchildren, Allison (Chris) Gomez, Jeffrey Sattler, Egan Mergl, Judah Mergl, Elliot Bogdan, Isaac Bogdan, Mya, and Vincent; great grandchildren, Wyatt, Willow, Charlie, Jack, and Adeline; sister, Judy (Warren) Hart; and many nieces and nephews. Preceding him in death are his first wife, Patsy, his brother, Cam, and his parents and in-laws.

Visitation for J.R. will be held from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Sunday, November 24, 2024, at Edmonds and Evans Funeral Home, Portage Chapel, 6941 Central Avenue, Portage. A celebration of life will follow visitation beginning at 3:00 p.m. at the funeral home. A dinner will follow immediately at The Fireside Room in Portage. To celebrate his life and memory, the family invites anyone who wishes to share their favorite memories of J.R. at the Celebration of Life or dinner. In honor of the life J.R. enjoyed in Florida, we request attendees consider wearing tropical-themed or colorful casual attire. He’ll also dress accordingly!

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the youth charity at First Baptist Church, 24731 Ann St., Astor, Florida, 32102, in J.R.’s memory. Online condolences may be made to the family at [www.ee-fh.com](http://www.ee-fh.com).

# Upcoming Events

## Visitation

NOV **24.** 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Edmonds & Evans Funeral Home  
6941 Central Ave.  
Portage, IN 46368

## Funeral Service

NOV **24.** 3:00 PM (CT)

Edmonds & Evans Funeral Home  
6941 Central Ave.  
Portage, IN 46368

# Tribute Wall

RH

“ Randy and Karen Handley purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Julius Ranson "J.R." Campbell.



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**Randy and Karen Handley** - 2 hours ago

TH

“ Gloria, Betina and Dorinda,  
We are so very sorry for your loss. We will miss JR very much. He was a joy to be around. We will miss the Friday happy hours on his deck or ours, enjoying each other's company on the beautiful St. John's River. Know that he is at peace and resting in eternal comfort now. Love, Bill and Terry

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**Terry House** - 4 hours ago

YF

“ My sincere condolences for the loss of your beloved father. Know he is in heaven at the table of the Lord at peace.

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**Yanta family** - Yesterday at 10:19 PM

PH

So sorry to hear about JR.  
I had the honor of JR and Don frame my home. JR was the best we had so much fun.



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**Pat Haman** - 2 hours ago