



Franklin "Frank" Hay James

September 5, 1930 - July 24, 2023

After 92 years of shenanigans, Franklin "Frank" Hay James embarked on his final adventure early in the morning of July 24, 2023. He is survived by son, Mark James and wife, Alice; Melinda James Doyle and husband, Ron; 8 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren and 3 great great grandchildren.

He was born September 5, 1930 in Albany, Georgia to Alfred Mapp and Laura Ethel (Hay) James.

The family eventually settled in Carrabelle, Florida where Frank met his future wife, Wenoka "Tim"

Putnal. They married September 9, 1950 and raised two children on the Forgotten Coast of the

Florida panhandle before moving to Tallahassee in 1995. After 57 years of marriage, she preceded him in death after a courageous battle with cancer.

Somewhat of a local legend, Frank led a full and adventurous life. He had several careers that

included working on a boat offshore in the Gulf of Mexico, owning and operating Frank's Service

Station in Carrabelle, and eventually becoming a long-distance truck driver.

He taught us many important things with the following lessons being especially memorable. When hunting alligators, make sure it's not just stunned before loading the gator into the cab of your truck. When using a lawnmower engine on your boat, make sure you have some paddles on board before sailing away. When watching for tornadoes, the roof has the best vantage point. When attending potlucks, choose your seat strategically based on proximity to the best casseroles. When you're in your 80s and people expect you to slow down, join the church mission teams and serve in Cuba and Guatemala.

A celebration of life is being planned with details to come. In the meantime, in Frank's honor, eat dessert first and in lieu of flowers, go on an adventure.

Dayne Parker of Bevis Funeral Home (850-385-2193 or www.bevisfh.com) is assisting the family with their arrangements.