



## James Marshall "Jim" Ponder

May 3, 1954 - March 21, 2021

James Marshall "Jim" Ponder, age 66, of St. Augustine, passed away unexpectedly on March 21, 2021 at the Memorial Emergency Center Julington Creek. Jim was born in Baytown, Texas, and grew up in the Houston area, graduating from Crosby High School with the class of 1972. While in high school, he met the love of his life, Jill Dawson, and they married on February 2, 1973. Jim began his working career with Exxon right out of high school and had a successful 38-year career in which he navigated many positions within the company. He started off as a Process Operator and quickly moved into a supervisory position after only five years with the company. He served as a Lube Oil Blender, Crude Oil Coordinator and completed his tenure as a Motor Gasoline Coordinator. Jim and Jill raised a family of three daughters, and he was always very active in their lives; coaching their softball teams, supporting them in all their endeavors; never missing a single event. This never wavered even throughout their adulthood. He was also a strong role model in his community and became a mentor and father figure to many. He was an accomplished carpenter and could build just about anything. Jim loved all animals and was known as a loyal and patriotic citizen. He trained for and ran marathons, even qualifying for the prestigious Boston Marathon. He enjoyed boating, fishing, hunting, golfing, bowling, and sporting clays, the latter in which he was a Master Classman. In 2012 Jim and Jill moved to St. Augustine, Florida to retire. One of the greatest gifts he ever received was the birth of his granddaughter, Addison Kate. To his surprise, this blessing arrived

on the date of their 40th wedding anniversary. It was from her that he was given the title he loved the most, "Pops". He will be remembered as a family man, the Patriarch of his family, a loving husband, father, grandfather, and friend to many. He will be deeply missed.

He was preceded in death by his father, Harley Dwight Ponder. He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Jill Ponder of St. Augustine; daughters, Lianna Knight (David) of Jacksonville, Lisha Ponder (Jenn Bradley) of Trinidad, Colorado and Tedra Jones (Alja) of Cypress, TX; his mother, Annell Taylor (Gary) of Baytown, TX; stepmother, Jayme Ponder of Burton, TX; brothers, Richard Ponder (Becky) of Dallas, TX, and Michael Ponder (Angel) of Baytown, TX; a sister, Angela Heard (Malcolm) of Deer Park, TX, his beloved granddaughter, Addison Kate Knight, as well as many nieces and nephews.

A funeral service will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, March 29, 2021 at St. Johns Family Funeral Home. A visitation beginning at 10:00 a.m. will precede the service. In lieu of flowers, donations in Jim's memory can be made to the charity of your choice. Those unable to attend can view the service live streamed at <https://iframe.dacast.com/b/156599/c/549019> .

St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Evergreen Cemetery

505 N Rodriguez Street  
St. Augustine, FL 32084

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 29. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Johns Family Funeral Home  
385 State Road 207  
St. Augustine, FL

## Funeral Service

MAR 29. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Johns Family Funeral Home  
385 State Road 207  
St. Augustine, FL

# Tribute Wall



“ *St. Johns Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of James Marshall "Jim" Ponder*



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**St. Johns Family Funeral Home** - March 29, 2021 at 01:23 PM



“ *St. Johns Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of James Marshall "Jim" Ponder*



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**St. Johns Family Funeral Home** - March 26, 2021 at 01:28 PM

AI

*A wonderful man, a very special family. We feel very grateful to have had the pleasure of crossing paths. Our hearts are with you all.*

*Art and Gina Ivy*

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**Art and Gina Ivy** - March 26, 2021 at 02:24 PM

PB

*So much love and wonderful memories captured in this video. Sending love and prayers.*

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**Pam Blaha** - March 27, 2021 at 12:53 PM

JJ

*So many memories. Y'all are in my prayers. We had so many good time being neighbors for all those years. Love ya*

**Janna + Johnnie** - March 27, 2021 at 02:50 PM

AK

*Lianna, this is a beautiful tribute to your father. My thoughts are with you as you adjust to losing him too soon. That's something I experienced as well. The memories are everything 🙏❤️*

**Ann Kazaleh** - March 28, 2021 at 04:01 PM

CH

*Sweet Jill and family, our hearts and prayers go out to you for your loss. Love Claudia and Tommy Hobbs 🙏❤️*

**claudia coggins hobbs** - March 29, 2021 at 12:52 PM

MB

“ *Jill , please know that you and your family are in my prayers . May God send his Angels to surround you during this difficult time . Love Margie*

**Margie Bushaw** - March 29, 2021 at 11:49 AM

DP

“ *I am having a difficult time trying to comprehend Jim's passing. I can only imagine the pain his family is going through. My thoughts and prayers for all of you.*  
*Other than my own father, there has never been a man who I admired and respected more than Jim Ponder. He was the perfect friend and I'm sure he was an even better husband, father, brother and son. Rest in peace my friend and may God eternally bless you and your family. "Hop-Sing" will always miss "Massa Ben".*

*David Poitras*

**David Poitras** - March 29, 2021 at 11:06 AM

MR

“ Jill, hugging you in my he

Melanie Ransom - March 29, 2021 at 09:56 AM

MR

Jill, hugging you in my heart and keeping you and your family in my prayers. Love you so....

Melanie Ransom - March 29, 2021 at 09:58 AM

AK

“ So sad to be losing my 2nd dad. The Ponder house on Landmark Dr. was my 2nd home in High School. So many memories with Lisha from football games, to marching competitions, to just being bratty teenagers and Jim was always there with his camera to capture it all. Beautiful picture and beautiful memories. Love you all!!

anicia kuchesky - March 29, 2021 at 09:11 AM

SW

“ Though I didn't really know Jim that well, I've known Mike and Angel for many years. My thoughts and prayers are with the entire Ponder families in this unfortunate time. May God's love comfort you all now, and in the days to come.

Scott Wilson - March 28, 2021 at 06:19 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of James Marshall "Jim" Ponder.



March 27, 2021 at 11:19 PM

MS

“ I’m very sorry to hear about the passing of Jim. My prayers are with his family during this sad time.

Mike Snyder - March 27, 2021 at 03:35 PM



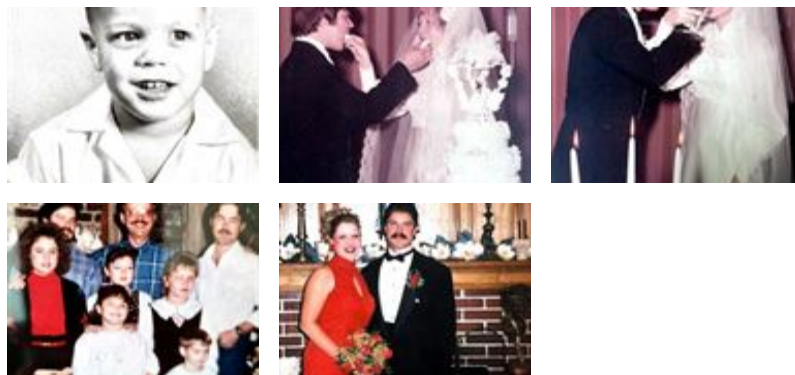
“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of James Marshall "Jim" Ponder.



March 27, 2021 at 10:46 AM



“ 72 files added to the album Life Tributes



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - March 26, 2021 at 01:26 PM

DN

“ We are so saddened by Jim’s passing. We have so many wonderful memories...limo rides...River Oaks Christmas lights..San Antonio Riverwalk! Love and memories never go away. Thoughts and prayers for all. Love you much Jill

Dale and Jackie Nevil - March 26, 2021 at 01:21 PM

PB

“ I remember when I meeting Jim and Jill when they moved to Crosby in the 7th grade. We became fast friends and have continued the friendship. We made many memories together but one of the most fun times was when we as adults wrapped each other’s house. That was so fun! The many Christmas outings we had and times spent playing cards to name a few of our times spent together. Jim was one of a kind and had the best heart and he was proud of Jill and his family. He will be so missed by all that loved him.

Pam Blaha - March 26, 2021 at 09:44 AM

ST

“ OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO JILL and to the family . We met JIM briefly when he volunteered to help my sister clean up after a storm . A small look at the kind of man he was. The world has lost a good man. In sympathy . STEVE and CHERYL THIGPEN

steve thigpen - March 26, 2021 at 07:43 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Marshall "Jim" Ponder.



March 25, 2021 at 07:42 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James Marshall "Jim" Ponder.



March 25, 2021 at 07:11 PM

BS

“ *Butch and Elizabeth Smith purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of James Marshall "Jim" Ponder.*



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**Butch and Elizabeth Smith** - March 25, 2021 at 03:17 PM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of James Marshall "Jim" Ponder.*



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March 25, 2021 at 03:03 PM

JS

“ *So sorry for the families loss. he was a great man. I knew him as Jim Ponder. he was in the graduating Crosby High School class before me. he was the character of his class. because I was also in sports I knew him also because of his involvement in football...track and field...and baseball. he was the leader in all of these groups and he was a great mentor to all of his undergraduate friends. although I had not seen him in years...the announcement of his death...made all of the former thoughts flood thru me. and even back in high school I knew that Jim and Jill were made for each other and would spend the rest of their lives together. so again sending my sincerest condolences and praying for Jill and her family. RIP Jim and God Bless.*

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**Joseph Sherrod** - March 25, 2021 at 02:04 PM

KF

“ John and I are heartbroken in the loss of such a kind and gentle man. I will never forget our 4 legged Finnegan chasing Jim around the kitchen biting his pants as Jim cooked dinner for the babies. Jill, sometimes there are no words - you and the family are wrapped up tightly in our hearts and will be in our constant prayers. We love you and are so grateful to call you friend! John and Kate Fermani

Kate J Fermani - March 25, 2021 at 01:40 PM



“ Thoughts and prayers for Jill and all the family. Jim will missed by everyone who knew him. Always enjoyed shooting with him, a true ambassador of the sport.

BJ Fruge - March 25, 2021 at 01:13 PM

BB

“ Bob & Angela Bradshaw purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of James Marshall "Jim" Ponder.



Bob & Angela Bradshaw - March 25, 2021 at 12:54 PM



“ Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of James Marshall "Jim" Ponder.



March 25, 2021 at 12:30 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of James Marshall "Jim" Ponder.



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March 25, 2021 at 12:21 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of James Marshall "Jim" Ponder.



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March 25, 2021 at 11:05 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of James Marshall "Jim" Ponder.



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March 25, 2021 at 09:52 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden* was purchased for the family of James Marshall "Jim" Ponder.



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March 25, 2021 at 09:46 AM

MN

“ Jim was an extremely special member of my family and the light of Jill’s life and all that had the pleasure of knowing him. There will definitely be a void and my heart is heavy not to be ever be able to be in his presence again. Gone way too soon but the memories live on.

Mikell Nelson - March 25, 2021 at 09:37 AM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of James Marshall "Jim" Ponder.



March 25, 2021 at 08:54 AM

MS

“ Although it has been many years since we were together, time and distance will not take away the fond memories of our youth, in particular the unauthorized baseball team bus trip around town, without the coach, to name one. Jim was a great friend.  
Mickey Smesny

Mickey Smesny - March 25, 2021 at 08:32 AM

MS

“ Mickey and Lanell Smesny purchased the Rays of Light Spray for the family of James Marshall "Jim" Ponder.



Mickey and Lanell Smesny - March 25, 2021 at 08:12 AM

EP

“ David and I are so truly sorry to hear this sad news . You all are in thoughts and Prayers . 🌹 May Jim rest in eternal peace .

Elisa Poitras - March 25, 2021 at 06:49 AM

TS

“ I was deeply saddened by the news of Jim's sudden and untimely passing. The Ponder and Taylor family will always held a special place in my heart. Angela and I spent much time with Jim and Jill and the girls. He will truly be missed; but I know his beautiful family will carry his light forever in their hearts. Holding the family close to my heart and showering you all in much love and light and many prayers. Love never dies.

Teri Corbett - Swint  
Mont Belvieu, TX

Teri Corbett - Swint - March 24, 2021 at 11:24 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of James Marshall "Jim" Ponder.



March 24, 2021 at 09:53 PM



“ Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Marshall "Jim" Ponder.



March 24, 2021 at 09:49 PM



“ *Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of James Marshall "Jim" Ponder.*



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March 24, 2021 at 08:40 PM



“ *Jim was always a Gentleman and friend to many. He always made me feel welcome and his presence will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers are with you, Jill, as well as all of your Family. You are all remembered with fondness. God Bless Jim!*  
*Joseph Malchar*

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**joseph malchar** - March 24, 2021 at 08:34 PM



“ *Oh my goodness Jill, Liana, Lisha, and Tedra and the rest of the family, we are so very sorry over the passing of Jim..we were only together a few years but y'all were like family..I enjoyed so much watching him cook and also learning some of his recipes. Jim was always smiling and a friend to many. I know he will be sorely missed. Our love and prayers are with all of you. Heaven gained a new Angel..Love. Nina and Jack and Caleb*

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**Nina Barbee** - March 24, 2021 at 07:59 PM



“ *GOD SPEED JIM , REST IN PEACE , THANKS FOR YOUR KINDNESS AND FRIENDSHIP.*

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**Steve Roberts** - March 24, 2021 at 07:40 PM

KN

“ *Kathy, Ann, and Nancy purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of James Marshall "Jim" Ponder.*



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**Kathy, Ann, and Nancy** - March 24, 2021 at 02:20 PM