



## James Earl Hess Jr.

January 31, 1961 - May 13, 2025

James Earl Hess Jr., 64, passed away peacefully at Riverside Hospital on May 13, 2025. Born on January 31, 1961, in Kankakee, Illinois, Jim was the son of James E. Hess Sr. and Patricia Buss.

Jim proudly served his country in the United States Air Force as part of the 965th Security Police Squadron. Following his military service, he pursued a successful career as an electrician through IBEW Local 176, earning a reputation for his dedication to hard work and attention to detail.

Jim had a lifelong passion for building things with a creative eye. He was a devoted NASCAR fan and proud Corvette owner, he found joy in the roar of engines and the thrill of the open road. He was never one to sugarcoat his words and often spoke his mind. Those who knew him best understood that beneath his rough exterior, was a person of fierce loyalty and sharp wit.

He was a devoted father and grandfather, always looking out for his children, grandchildren, and his beloved mother.

Jim is survived by his three children, Rebekah Mabe, Courtney Myers, and Jamie Hess, all of Florida; and by his five cherished grandchildren: Caleb Mabe, Jacob Mabe, Isabella Myers, Odin Velasquez, and Aveida Velasquez. He is also survived by his father, James Hess Sr.; his sisters, Donica Messier,

Lisa Motlow, and Stephanie Denoyer; his brothers, James "Tiger" Hess, Chris Denoyer, Russ Denoyer; and special mother, Nancy Carter; as well as many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Patricia Denoyer, and his stepfather, Russell Denoyer.

Jim will be deeply missed and remembered by all who knew him.

Visitation will be at Mound Grove Garden of Memory in the Chapel/Mausoleum from 3-4pm on Friday, May 23, 2025. We will conclude with the Air Force Honor Guard and their presentation of the American Flag to his children at 4pm.

# Cemetery Details

## Mound Grove Gardens Cemetery

1000 N. Greenwood  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 933-6726

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

MAY **23**. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Mound Grove Gardens Cemetery  
1000 N. Greenwood  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 933-6726

*Chapel*

# Tribute Wall



“ Steve Vance lit a candle in memory of James Earl Hess Jr.



Steve Vance - May 31, 2025 at 07:43 PM



Rest Easy Brother  
End of Watch ❤️

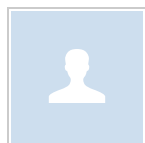
Steve Vance - May 31, 2025 at 07:45 PM



“ James Thomas lit a candle in memory of James Earl Hess Jr.



James Thomas - May 17, 2025 at 12:32 PM



“ I Have You In My Heart Plush Blanket was purchased for the family of James Earl Hess Jr..



May 15, 2025 at 02:14 PM