



Mr. James Copeland Day, CAPT (Ret.)

May 10, 1951 - February 27, 2026

James Copeland Day, Captain, United States Navy (Retired), Surface Warfare Officer, passed away February 27, 2026.

Captain Day spent twenty-seven years in the United States Navy and retired in 2000.

Captain Day began his career in NROTC at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In 1973, Jim was commissioned and received a fleet appointment in the USS Fortify. He attended the Surface Warfare Officers School in Newport, Rhode Island.

During his tenure as a Naval officer, he served on many ships including the USS Spruance 1976-1978, USS Caron 1979-1980, USS Portland 1981-1983, USS De Wert 1985-1997, and as commanding officer of the USS Reuben James from 1990-1992.

Captain Day also served in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations at the Pentagon from 1982-1985 and again from 1987-1990. From 1992-1996 Captain Day worked for the United States Pacific Command in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. From 1996-2000 Captain Day worked for the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA).

Captain Day received numerous military commendations including two Defense Superior Service Medals, three Meritorious Service Medals, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, four Joint Meritorious Unit Awards, Navy Unit Commendation, USCG Unit Commendation for Caribbean Anti-drug efforts known as Operation "O", Meritorious Unit Commendation, two Battle Efficiency "E", Navy Expeditionary Medal, three National Defense Service Medals, and Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (six 90 plus day deployments). Jim was an associate member of the Lewis G. Wakins #1131 Marine Corp League Detachment in Seneca SC. He received the honor of being selected as the Associate Member of the year in 2023 for both the Seneca and the State Marine Corps League Detachments.

After retiring from the Navy, Jim continued to work for DISA from 2000-2014.

Following retirement, Jim continued to volunteer his time in the community always looking for ways that he could better the lives of those around him. He was a contributing force with the Toys for Tots program as well as Baby Read. He built furniture for the DAR and made beds for the group "Sleep in Heavenly Peace". Jim also faithfully supported the Wounded Warrior Project, contributing to the organization on a monthly basis in honor of those who served.

He is survived by his wife of thirty-six years, Pamela Ann Day of Jackson, Michigan; two daughters, Christina Saucedo of Jackson, Michigan and Cassandra Colvin of San Diego, California; a sister, Rebecca Sue Day of Front Royal, Virginia; two brothers, Laurence S. Day of Seneca and Randy Day of Front Royal; and one grandchild, Erin Nicole Saucedo.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Lara Brooks Day.

Jim Day lived a life of faithful dedication. He loved his family fiercely, served

his nation honorably, and uplifted his community humbly. In the end, his life stands as a testament to steady leadership, enduring love and selfless service.

A memorial service will be held at 1:00 PM, Friday, March 13, 2026 at Davenport Funeral Home Chapel, West Union, SC.

Flowers are accepted or memorials may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project by visiting the following link https://support.woundedwarriorproject.org/Default.aspx?tsid=11585&ovr_acv_id=16821&campaignSource=ONLINE&source=BS26001AAABRXAA&gclsrc=aw.ds&gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=1755672625&gbraid=0AAAAADg1WjrTm1LkM57Vt1rPpncAI_Oe4&gclid=CjwKCAiAtq_NBhA_EiwA78nNWKOXCUNSQPC7frh9ufWJGNVK8wf4KlpAKcA4iyWxs9QuZm7L9fY1oxoCf3MQAvD_BwE

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAR 13. 1:00 PM (ET)

Davenport Funeral Home
311 S Highway 11
West Union, SC 29696
(864) 638-3611
davenportfhome@gmail.com
<https://www.davenportfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall

DR

“ Deepest condolences to Pam and the entire family. Jim was the quintessential good man, funny, loving, always there to lend a hand, Wish I had known him better, but grateful for knowing him as I did. Godspeed, sir! Bravo Zulu!

David Rodgers - March 13 at 11:51 AM

DR

“ David R. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. James Copeland Day, CAPT (Ret.).

David R. - March 13 at 11:48 AM

TB

“ My dear Pam and family,

Chris & I are still in shock to know Jim is no longer with us. What a truly honorable, caring and wonderful man he was--we are truly better people for having known him and to have called him bother.

We send our love and sympathy and will continue to keep Jim and all of you in our prayers...

Love, Chris & Terry

Terry Burkey - March 13 at 11:40 AM

C&

“ Chris &. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. James Copeland Day, CAPT (Ret.).

Chris &. - March 13 at 11:24 AM

LB

“ Lynn Bradford purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Mr. James Copeland Day, CAPT (Ret.).



Lynn Bradford - March 12 at 04:12 PM

LB

“ Lynn Bradford planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. James Copeland Day, CAPT (Ret.).

Lynn Bradford - March 12 at 04:12 PM

HL

“ Fairwinds and Following Seas . You will live on in our hearts.

Holly and Larry - March 12 at 01:16 PM

BJ

“ Butch, Tune, and Jason purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mr. James Copeland Day, CAPT (Ret.).



Butch, Tune, and Jason - March 11 at 08:33 PM

LH

“ Larry and Holly purchased the America the Beautiful for the family of Mr. James Copeland Day, CAPT (Ret.).



Larry and Holly - March 10 at 11:11 AM

LH

“ Larry and Holly planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. James Copeland Day, CAPT (Ret.).

Larry and Holly - March 10 at 11:11 AM

SW

“ Sally Willisms purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mr. James Copeland Day, CAPT (Ret.).



Sally Willisms - March 09 at 06:57 PM

SW

“ Sally Willisms planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. James Copeland Day, CAPT (Ret.).

Sally Willisms - March 09 at 06:57 PM

SW

“ Jim was not only the best neighbor anyone could ask for , but he was a dear friend to both Del and I. He was my Guardian Angel after Del passed away. He was one of the kindest men I have ever known and made it his life’s mission to help others of which he far surpassed. He was a very special person and will be missed by many. Prayers for my dear friend Pam , daughters and all of the family.

Sally Williams - March 06 at 07:33 PM

MD

Sally, my deepest heartfelt thank you for your message and your love for Jim and I. You are a true friend and confidant. We hold you deep in our hearts.

Mrs Pamela Day - March 10 at 10:50 AM

RZ

“ Jim was a fine man and will be missed by the many people whose hearts he touched and whose lives he helped. Deepest condolences.



Rory LaGrotta & Debra Zilavy - March 06 at 05:37 PM

PD

Thank you Rory and Debra.

Pamela Day - April 29 at 04:42 PM

YD

“ *Your DLOM. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. James Copeland Day, CAPT (Ret.).*



Your DLOM. - March 06 at 05:20 PM

BW

“ *Jim
It was a honor to serve with you at the Lewis G. Watkins #1131 Detachment. I enjoyed the few short years we got to serve together.
Bob Walker
Commandant #1131*

Bob Walker - March 04 at 02:43 PM

JP

“ *I didn't know Mr. Day but thank you for your service to the USA 🇺🇸🇺🇸. From reading the obituary you sounded like a honorable man may you rest in peace.*



Janet Pelfrey - March 04 at 07:32 AM

PD

Thank you Janet!

Pamela Day - April 29 at 04:43 PM

JH

“ *Judy Higgins sent a virtual gift in memory of James Day, CAPT (Ret.)*



Judy Higgins - March 03 at 08:35 AM

PD

Thank you Judy.

Pamela Day - April 29 at 04:44 PM

HA

“ *A friend, a brother in arms and life, the finest man I've ever known and the gent I proudly asked to be my best man*

Harts - March 02 at 09:24 PM

CT

*God Speed Captain Day.
Your footprint on earth, will always remain. Prayers for Pam and family*

Cathy Gibson Taylor - March 04 at 08:11 PM

DC

“ *Will never forget Jim Day. He was a great friend. We met him at the Marine Corps League. Can't say enough good things about Jim. May God bless and comfort the family.*

Doris and Morris Carver - March 02 at 05:15 PM

PD

Thank you Doris and Morris:-)

Pamela Day - April 29 at 04:45 PM

JB

“ Jimmy Barker lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Copeland Day, CAPT (Ret.)



Jimmy Barker - March 02 at 01:41 PM



Jim Day is my best friend /brother I love Jim and Pam thay we were like family, He was someone I could take To and he made me feel good. I love you bother

Joey Hunsinger - March 11 at 09:41 AM