



## James "Leon" Waggoner

January 4, 1936 - February 22, 2026

James "Leon" Waggoner, age 90 of Mattoon, IL passed away on February 22, 2026, at Hilltop Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation in Charleston, IL.

A funeral service in his honor will be held at 1:00 PM on Thursday, February 26, 2026, at Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home, 1200 Wabash Avenue, Mattoon, IL 61938. A committal service will immediately follow at Calvary Cemetery in Mattoon, IL. Military Rites will be conducted by Mattoon VFW Post 4325. The visitation will be held from 11:00 am until the time of service at the funeral home.

Leon was born on January 4, 1936. In Moultrie County, IL to the late Charles Francis "Bill" and Bernice Tressie (Pifer) Waggoner. He married Theresa Jackson; she preceded him in death in 1992. He later married Beverly A. (Storm) Pippin on September 22, 1993; she survives and resides in Mattoon, IL. He is also survived by one son, James Anthony "Tony" Waggoner of Gays, IL; one stepson, Keith Pippin and wife Rhonda of Mattoon, IL; one stepdaughter DeeDee Thornton and husband Darrell of Trilla, IL; five grandchildren: Chris Murphy and wife Roxanne of Charleston, IL, Mike Pippin and wife Sara of Kansas City, MO, Mike Williams and wife Miranda of Mohomet, IL, Marc "Andy" Murphy and significant other Mara Hutchcraft of Charleston, IL, Donnelle Darling and husband Nate of Greenup, IL; six great-grandchildren; two sisters, Lila Zimmerman of Weatherby, MO, and Linda Bushert of Sullivan, IL. He was preceded in death by one daughter, Marcia Waggoner and one sister, Delores Hopper.

Leon was a proud veteran of the United States Army. He was a faithful member of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Mattoon, IL. Throughout his working life, he was a dedicated machinist for Columbia Machines in Mattoon, IL, for many years, later transitioning to a Building Service Worker at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, IL, until his retirement.

A passionate outdoorsman, he was proud of his skills as both a bow and shotgun hunter. He spent his happiest hours fishing and boating. In the winter months, he and his wife Beverly embraced the snowbird life in Southern Texas, finding peace in the simple joy of feeding the birds, surrounded by the nature he loved. Having a natural talent for gardening, he loved to see his abundance of fruits and vegetables in his orchard come to fruition.

Leon leaves behind a legacy of love and laughter that will live on in the hearts of his family and friends. He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him

Please visit [www.mitchell-jerdan.com](http://www.mitchell-jerdan.com) or [www.facebook.com/mitchelljerdanfuneralhome](https://www.facebook.com/mitchelljerdanfuneralhome) to light a virtual candle in his honor or share a memory with the family.

# Cemetery Details

## Calvary Cemetery

Mattoon, IL 61938

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **26**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home Ltd.  
1200 Wabash Ave  
Mattoon, IL 61938  
(217) 234-8828  
contact@mitchelljerdan.com  
<https://www.mitchell-jerdan.com/>

## Service

FEB **26**. 1:00 PM (CT)

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# Tribute Wall

MH

“ *What a great human!! As the song says A simple man simply laid to rest — a good decent honest hard working family man!! Mark Hutti*

Mark Hutti - February 26 at 07:56 AM



*My Dad Larry Dallas sends his deepest condolences to the family. He remembers the good times they had at Ft Lee Virginia and then 5 yrs at Camp McCoy in Wisconsin.*

*To y, so sorry to hear about your Dad, but we both know he is in a better place. God Bless you and your Family Always, I'm currently in the Nursing Home and Won't be able to make the service, but thinking of you all.*

Lori Kimmons - February 26 at 01:11 PM

DK

“ *We will miss our cousin Leon Dianne King and family, Lynn and Ruth Maxedon and our sister-in-law and former school mate of his Jean Maxedon*

Dianne King - February 25 at 10:27 PM

MW

“ *Mike, Miranda & Oliver Williams purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of James "Leon" Waggoner.*



Mike, Miranda & Oliver Williams - February 25 at 03:55 PM

MW

“ Mike, Miranda & Oliver Williams planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James "Leon" Waggoner.

Mike, Miranda & Oliver Williams - February 25 at 03:55 PM



“ 47 files added to the album Life Tributes



Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home - February 24 at 06:32 PM