



## Mr. James Winfred Coats Jr.

May 13, 1953 - April 14, 2021

Mr. James Winfred Coats, Jr., 67, of Peoria, IL transitioned from this life to his heavenly home at 9:30 am on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at OSF ST. Francis Medical Center.

James was born on May 13, 1953 in Peoria, IL to James, Sr. and Evelyn (Character) Coats. He married the love of his life, JoAnn Costic.

James worked at Peoria Housing Authority and Caterpillar for many years. James was a 1973 Woodruff High School graduate and a great athlete. He was a member of the track team and a basketball player. He collected little antique cars. He was a sharp dresser and loved his shoes, which he had a great many. He loved watching basketball, especially his favorite team The Bulls and enjoyed listening to the blues. James loved his family and was a mentor to children in the community.

James leaves to cherish his most precious memories his loving and devoted wife, JoAnn Coats; his mother, Evelyn Coats; seven sons, Antonio (Feliciz) Gordon, James Coats, III, Robert Coats, Eddie Carroll, Allen Carroll, Edonta Coats and Charles Murray; four daughters, Cynthia Coats, Dinesha (Preston) Hogan, Rachel (Kendall) Hearn and Sharda Bailey; eight brothers, Marty Coats, Dewey Coats, Phillip Brown all of Peoria, IL, Freddie (Linda) Coats of Seattle, WA, Keith (Sharie) Coats of Beach Park, IL, Mark Coats, Cyril (Deborah) Coats and Robert Coats all of Peoria, IL; two sisters, Justine Coats of Peoria, IL and Diane (Carl) LeBlanc of Macon, GA; a host of grandchildren, great grandchildren, great-great grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews

and other relatives who adored him. He is preceded in death by his father, grandparents and one grandson.

A funeral service will be held at 11 am on Friday, April 23, 2021 at Sovereign Grace Baptist Church with a visitation beginning at 10 am. Associate Minister, Rev. Robert Costic of Higher Dimensions Praise & Worship Church will bring words of comfort to the family. James will be laid to rest at Lutheran Cemetery. Simons Mortuary has been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be made at [SimonsMortuary.com](https://www.SimonsMortuary.com).

The service will be live streamed on Simons Mortuary's Website or Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Simons-Mortuary-232095303487150> promptly AT THE TIME OF THE SERVICE.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, social distancing and attendance limits will be observed.

In accordance with the Illinois Department of Public Health, Funerals are limited to no more than 50% of the capacity of the or less.

To be consistent with recommendations from the National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA), funeral home directors have been instructed and should follow CDC guidelines on gatherings, including those directly related to funerals, visitations, or graveside services. Funerals are limited to no more than 50% of the decedent's immediate family members.

\*In an effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, we ask that everyone in attendance: wear a face mask and refrain from hugging, kissing and shaking hands (as hard as it is to see someone you care about and not touch them).

\*It is our responsibility as a Funeral Directors, to do everything we can to advise families in order to honor our beloved Families and to keep everyone as safe as possible. The sanctuary can socially distance and seat 50% of the capacity of the church. All others will be able to flow through prior to beginning of the service.

Thanks in advance for your cooperation!

# Cemetery Details

## Lutheran Cemetery

914 S Pleasant St  
Peoria, IL 61604-5954

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 23. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Sovereign Grace M.B. Church  
1505 W. Martin Street  
Peoria, IL 61605

## Celebration of Life

APR 23. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (CT)

Sovereign Grace M.B. Church  
1505 W. Martin Street  
Peoria, IL 61605

# Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. James Winfred Coats Jr.*



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**Simons Mortuary** - June 15, 2021 at 04:25 PM



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. James Winfred Coats Jr.*



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**Simons Mortuary** - April 22, 2021 at 04:02 PM

RH

*Although you are no longer here with us on this Earth you will forever live on in our Hearts, Daily Thoughts, and Prayers. What a mighty impact you left on the lives touched, I for one am Eternally Grateful that you were there for me cheering me along through all of my endeavors. I Grieve for you, but I remember our conversation and I am at peace knowing that you are not suffering anymore. A true Warrior your fight is over Rest In Heaven Dad.*

*Rachel*

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**Rachel Hearn** - April 22, 2021 at 07:23 PM



“ *Mr. James Winfred Coats Jr.*

January 29, 2023 at 06:10 AM



“ *Mr. James Winfred Coats Jr.*

January 29, 2023 at 03:12 AM



“ *Deborah Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Winfred Coats Jr.*



**Deborah Johnson** - April 23, 2021 at 12:32 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. James Winfred Coats Jr..*



April 23, 2021 at 10:04 AM



“ *I remember James from our high school days at Woodruff. He indeed was an outstanding athlete. We had PE at the same time and I remember playing flag football with him. Good high school memories. My condolences to his family.*

**Jim Sharpe** - April 22, 2021 at 10:29 AM

MR

“ *Mattie Risby lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Winfred Coats Jr.*



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**Mattie Risby** - April 21, 2021 at 01:22 PM

AT

“ *Angela Causey Thompson lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Winfred Coats Jr.*



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**Angela Causey Thompson** - April 21, 2021 at 12:50 PM

KA

“ *Karen Ashby sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. James Winfred Coats Jr.*



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**Karen Ashby** - April 20, 2021 at 11:15 PM

CF

“ *Carleta Faulk purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Mr. James Winfred Coats Jr..*



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**Carleta Faulk** - April 20, 2021 at 09:00 PM

RS

“ To The Family Of Mr. James W. Coats,

*I placed you All at The Foot Of Jesus Christ  
Who Will Place You Into The Arms Of God  
The Father! God is Our Father which is in  
Heaven, Holy is His Name, Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done!  
Amen!*



*I met back in the early 1964, we all lived in the same roll of  
apartments. In these apartments lived of a big family! Mr. Coats Jr.  
would become a good friend of our family! We played together, we  
fought together, now we are crying together. This brother is a  
brother to so many!*

*To his wife, I love you, I keep dropping tears for you and the Family!  
Hold your head up and I just look to God for help. You may feel that  
you can't make it, just ask The Father to Hold your hand because if  
He doesn't hold your hand you can't make it! Mrs. Joann I love you  
and your family forever!*

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Rev. John H. Lee Sr. - April 20, 2021 at 04:08 PM

CR

“ So sorry for your lost praying for you asking God to be your strength  
through it all God Bless you and your family.

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Carolyn L Reynolds - April 20, 2021 at 12:19 PM