



James Rodger Holcombe

April 14, 1955 - June 16, 2026

James Rodger Holcombe
Pickens, South Carolina

Lovingly known by his grandchildren as “Papa Rodge,” James Rodger Holcombe, 71, went home to be with his Lord on Tuesday, June 16, 2026. He was a faithful member of Holly Springs Baptist Church for many years and could usually be found sitting on the back pew, like any “good, self-respecting Backrow Baptist.”

Many knew him for his quiet demeanor, but those who knew him best could often see mischief behind his quick smile and were probably, more than once, victims of his dry wit. He loved to joke around; sarcasm was his love language. You just had to listen closely, or you might miss it and be left to wonder why everyone around you was laughing. A native of Pickens, Rodger was born April 14, 1955, to the late James Brandon and Margaret Anne “Peggy” Chastain Holcombe. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his only brother, Gregory “Gus” Holcombe.

He was a graduate of Pickens High School, and, when he wasn’t driving his hot rod, he drove the high school bus while still attending as a student. Rodger went on to work in tool and die factories but spent most of his years driving 18-wheelers, providing well for the family he loved so dearly.

Rodger is survived by his wife of almost 45 years, Frances Louise “Nana” Holcombe, and four sons: James Robert Holcombe (Amy) of Pickens, S.C., Cimeron Heath Holcombe (Joy) of Pickens, S.C., Jeremiah Brandon Holcombe of Spartanburg, S.C., and Mitchell Dwayne Holcombe (Candace) of Easley, S.C. An old friend of Rodger's once told him in jest, “You can't raise four boys and go to heaven”, but it is firmly believed, that Rodger has disproved that saying. And instead, he has probably received a much deserved reward for having raised four boys with great patience, withstanding the tribulations which come with such a task.

Romans 5:3-4 KJV - “And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope.”

He is also survived by ten grandchildren, most of whom have fond memories of riding around the pasture with him on his old, red Massey Ferguson tractor: Caelan Holcombe (Ashley), Christian Holcombe, Adeline “Kenzie” Holcombe, Rose “Karlyn” Faires (Jacob), Dustin Davis, Darren Holcombe, Daniel Holcombe, Starla Holcombe, Kailee Holcombe, and Roseanne Holcombe; one great-grandchild, Elizabeth Holcombe; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A graveside service will be held at 3:00 PM on Friday, June 19, 2026, in Hillcrest Memorial Park. Family and friends are invited to remain following the service, when the family will receive visitors.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Holly Springs Baptist Church Youth, by mailing 3450 Table Rock Road, Pickens, SC 29671 or by visiting the following link: <https://hsbc.churchtrac.com/give>.

Success is when Christ writes your name in His Book of Life. Amen!

Mountain View Funeral Home is serving the Holcombe family.

Upcoming Events

Graveside Service

JUN **19**. 3:00 PM (ET)

Hillcrest Memorial Park
2410 Gentry Memorial Hwy
Pickens, SC 29671

Tribute Wall

SD

“ *Sammy Dodgens lit a candle in memory of James Rodger Holcombe*



Sammy Dodgens - 1 hour ago

JP

“ *I enjoyed picking at him when he drove trucks for the County. R.I.P my friend.*

Jimmy Patterson - 3 hours ago

JG

“ *Janet B Gravely lit a candle in memory of James Rodger Holcombe*



Janet B Gravely - 4 hours ago



“ *Our loss, Heavens gain! Roger was just a plain ole Pickens boy who never changed. Nothing but fond memories, hanging out and cruising around Pickens, Gauley Falls and those drag races on Highway 11! We shared the love of 18 wheeling, RIP my brother....till we meet again!!*

Ricky Powell - 4 hours ago

FM

Sorry to hear about Roger just know I'm thinking about you keep your head up love you girl

Florine Morgan - 2 hours ago