



Tommy Horace Sorrells

June 13, 1939 - December 17, 2024

Tommy Horace Sorrells
Easley, South Carolina

Tommy Horace Sorrells peacefully passed on Tuesday, December 17, 2024.

The Reverend H.F. Sorrells and Lila Sorrells welcomed their son, Tommy, on June 13, 1939. Tommy joined a family of his sisters Carolyn Ann and Sue as well as a brother, Lewis. Later, little sister Patricia was born and Tommy was thrilled because he was no longer called the baby. He even helped name Patricia.

Tommy married Janie Winchester in 1960. They were married for sixty-four years. Both promoted faith, education (sixteen years), and service. Tommy and Janie set their three children-Tony, Debbie, and Tim on a path to success. His legacy as father, mentor, and friend lives on in his children. He instilled a deep sense of gratefulness in all things, at all times.

Tommy was a victim of the polio virus, which left one leg paralyzed and uncooperative, but he never played the victim while living his eighty-four years. After a dear friend on the polio ward passed away, Tommy never failed to appreciate living and breathing.

Shortly after his bout with polio, Easley High School elected him student body president.

Although Tommy worked thirty-three years at the Singer Company and Ryobi as a Purchasing Manager, his main focus was his faith, his family and his community.

If the church doors were cracked, his family was there. He promoted Bible study at home and when the children were on the younger end, he held family devotions. He taught his children how to live a Christ centered life and provided an example of faith in action. At Elljean Baptist Church, he was music director, Sunday School director, Training Union teacher, Bible School teacher, and deacon. He was never one to sit on the sidelines. At First Baptist Church, he was a deacon, Sunday School teacher and choir member.

He loved worshipping in song and his greatest joy was being a choir member at Pickens First Baptist Church. He embraced his choir and orchestra family, lovingly directed by Bryan Hester. Over the last year, when he was bedridden, he still sang with the choir virtually. Nothing stopped his joyful singing.

Tommy's devotion to community revolved around Foothills Theater. He designed sets, constructed sets and acted in many productions. He volunteered at Foothills for over twenty years, averaging thirty hours a week.

In his younger years, he served as assistant scoutmaster, Pickens High band booster president, chaperone for school field trips, and running coach to son Tim. Tommy created a cross-country team at Pickens High School, so his son Tim would have a team. PHS continues to have a cross-country team to this day.

Tommy was an avid hunter. He hunted deer and turkey while mostly enjoying

the camaraderie of fellow hunters. In his younger years, he was a national championship archer.

The joy of his life was the role of Papa to his four spectacular grandchildren: Conor McManamon, Cierra Sorrells, Brendan McManamon and Maci Sorrells. Tommy also enjoyed his children, Tony (Tammy) Sorrells, Debbie McManamon and Tim (Shonda) Sorrells.

Tommy may have had one less leg than others, but being differently abled never stopped him. His perseverance, determination, and grit inspired many around him. He will be missed.

A joint memorial service will be held for both Janie and Tommy Sorrells at Pickens First Baptist Church on Friday January 17. Visitation will be from 1pm-3pm in the Fellowship Hall, with service to follow in the Sanctuary at 3:15pm. The address is 406 East Main Street, Pickens, S.C.29671.

Mountain View Funeral Home – Pickens Chapel is serving the Sorrells family.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 10. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Pickens First Baptist Church
406 East Main Street
Pickens, SC 29671

Memorial Service

JAN 17. 3:15 PM (ET)

Pickens First Baptist Church
406 East Main Street
Pickens, SC 29671

Tribute Wall

RC

“ Sorry that I was not aware of Tommy's passing until recently! Tommy and I were close friends in high school and kept in touch for several years following our high school graduation! I pray for the family he leaves behind!

Robert Couch - December 28, 2025 at 08:43 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Tommy Horace Sorrells.

January 02, 2025 at 01:42 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Tommy Horace Sorrells.



January 02, 2025 at 01:42 PM

EW

“ This is Royce and Ellen Walsh sending our deepest sympathies to all of the family. Royce was Minister of Music at Pickens First Baptist Church for 14 years. Tommy was a great asset to the choir and a pleasure to know. He was so kind and friendly. Royce especially remembers what a great job Tommy did singing a solo/acting in *The Seven Last words* in the mid-90's. We are so thankful to have known Tommy and Janie. May God bless their family. Love and Hugs!!

Ellen and Royce Walsh - December 29, 2024 at 06:51 PM

JE

I met Tommy when I was in high school around 1998, I auditioned for a play at the foothills playhouse, The Foreigner, though I didn't get to finish the production because of my own laziness, Tommy never gave up on me. Tommy was gracious with his time and he invited me back to learn about how a production really works, from construction, to sound, and lighting, and everything else.. I guess he saw something in me I was too young to realize at the time, he was a great man and I never for got him, he will be missed <3

Jeremy Ellenburg - January 03, 2025 at 04:12 PM

JC

“ *Debbie , my thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time. I am sure your parents were welcomed with "Well done, good and faithful servants", by our Lord and Savior. Praises for such parents as yours.*

Joan Cothran - December 29, 2024 at 03:53 PM

PL

“ *Sweet childhood memories of Elljean Baptist Church Preacher Sorrells Ms Lila and their family.What a grand reunion for all of you!!!! The Family of Walter G.and Pauline C.Porter.*

Paula Porter Leslie - December 28, 2024 at 06:31 AM