



## Mr. Robert James Rusher Sr.

April 13, 1939 - December 22, 2023

Robert James “Sonny” Rusher, Sr. died peacefully, surrounded by family, at his home on December 22, 2023. Born on April 13, 1939, he was the son of the late Robert L. and Stella Hagler Rusher. Sonny will be remembered for his dry, quick wit and gentle, generous nature.

Sonny graduated from East Spencer High school and received an Associates degree from Salisbury Business College. Sonny worked tirelessly to provide for his family beginning with working the family farm with his father, running the family service station, performing multi-operational duties at Holden Brothers and retiring as an oil driver for Home Oil and Coal Company,

Family was the most important thing to Sonny, beginning in 1958 when Sonny married the love of his life, Peggy Rusher. Together they had four children: Susie Byam (Pete), Robbie Rusher (Robin), Dana Rusher and Mitzi Rusher. He was also a loving Papa to five grandchildren and six great grandchildren: Joshua Robert Heid (Serena), Allie and Jordan “Fireball Robert”; Courtney Dickson (Mitchell), Addi and William Gray; Emily Heid (Dahlia) and Lavender; Cody Robert Rusher (Dalton), Sydney Robertson (Tyler) Reiif. Receiving pictures and videos of his grands and greats brought Sonny much joy, especially during his recent illness. He truly lit up with joy and love when he saw their faces.

Sonny enjoyed reading his Bible and his daily devotion to learn more about his Lord and Savior. His favorite activities were working in his yard each season, grocery shopping while using his coupons, giving to others, and fishing from the surf in the spring and fall.

Preceding him in death in addition to his parents, were his beloved wife, Peggy, and sister Dixie Lee Cauble.

A celebration of Sonny's life will be held Thursday, December 28, 2023 at 12:00 pm at Summersett Funeral home. Officiating the service will be Pastor Sy Ponds and brother- in law, Stanley Stodard. Family will greet friends and family after the service.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Sonny's memory to the building fund at Providence Baptist Church, Salisbury, NC or Rowan Hospice and Palliative Care, Salisbury, NC.

# Cemetery Details

## Rowan Memorial Park

4125 Franklin Comm Center Rd  
Salisbury, NC 28144  
(704) 636-8751

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

DEC 28. 12:00 PM (ET)

Summersett Memorial Chapel  
1315 W. Innes St.  
Salisbury, NC 28144

# Tribute Wall

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“ On behalf of Mayor Barbara Mallett and the East Spencer Board of Aldermen We send our heart felt condolences to the Rusher family. Mr. Robert Loved East Spencer and thoughts and Prayers are With You all and His Legacy will always be here in the Original Southern City..my regards Alderman Shawn Rush

Alderman Shawn Rush - December 27, 2023 at 10:48 AM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Robert James Rusher Sr..



December 27, 2023 at 09:01 AM

EC

“ Eric & Larry Byrd (Sandlapper Carwash) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Robert James Rusher Sr..

Eric & Larry Byrd (Sandlapper Carwash) - December 27, 2023 at 09:01 AM

JH

“ It was truly an honor to care for Mr. Rusher and to get to know his beautiful daughter's over the last few weeks. I was blessed to know all of you and I'm praying for your strength and comfort during this enormous loss.

Jean Helms, Novant hospice - December 26, 2023 at 09:42 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Robert James Rusher Sr..*



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December 26, 2023 at 09:31 PM



“ *Heavenly Light was purchased for the family of Mr. Robert James Rusher Sr..*



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December 26, 2023 at 05:11 PM



“ *The Seaford & Settle families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Robert James Rusher Sr..*

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**The Seaford & Settle families** - December 26, 2023 at 05:11 PM