



## Johnny 'J.C.' Meador

October 24, 1933 - April 19, 2018

J.C. Meador died April 19, 2018, in Bolivar, Missouri, after a short illness. He was 84.

Johnny Christopher was born in 1933 to Arlin Isaac and Opal May Burks Meador. His sister, Alrene Iris, joined the family in 1935. He was saved at Calvary Missionary Baptist Church in Bolivar when he was 13.

A love of farming was instilled in him as a youth when his family lived on a small farm and continued to be his life-long passion. He always said, "I want to leave the land better than I found it."

The family later moved to California before returning to Bolivar.

A member of the graduating class of 1951, he was inducted into the Bolivar High School Hall of Fame in 2007. J.C. was a member of the Bolivar Rotary Club, the Bolivar Masonic Lodge #195, and was on the board of the Bolivar Educational Advancement Foundation.

He married Fleet Joan Barham in 1952, and they moved to Kansas City, Missouri, where he worked for Westinghouse for three years. He and Joan returned to Polk County where they began farming and milking 10 cows in 1955, on a rented farm. He was awarded the Outstanding Young Farmer award by Hoard's Dairyman. J.C. and Joan bought a farm on the Pomme de Terre River in 1957 and in 1976 he bought a larger dairy and farming

operation. They had four children: Janell, Jeffery Christopher, Jodie, and Jill.

He opened Meador Farm Supply in the late 60s and continued to farm his land. In 1976 he began The Seed House, a fescue seed buying and cleaning business. In partnership with Carroll McCracken, he created M&M Farm Supply, a Ford-New Holland farm equipment business. He continued his career, becoming a real estate developer, which he continued until his death.

An enthusiastic traveler, J.C. toured the United States, Canada, South and Central America, Mexico, Europe, and Asia. Riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle from Bolivar to places as far Nova Scotia and Alaska, as well as on many trips to the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally, in South Dakota with his best friend, Bob Wilson and many others, gave him great happiness.

Martha Gillam, his beautiful companion for many years enriched his life. Together they travelled, danced, laughed, loved and created a winter home in South Padre Island, Texas. There they enjoyed entertaining and he developed an interest in playing golf. He continued playing 18 holes a day whenever they were in Texas, and he also played at the Silo Ridge Golf and Country Club, and the Bolivar Golf Course.

Always young at heart, J.C. never stopped enjoying life. A quiet philanthropist, he supported causes from individuals who needed help to the Polk County Historical Society and the American Legion Howard S. Keeling Post 138, in Bolivar.

Admired and loved by many, he will be greatly missed. He is survived by his love, Martha Gilliam, the mother of his children, Joan Simmons, sister, Arlene Wrinkle, his children: Janell Meador, Jodie and Tim Young, and Jill and Kevin Pierce; his grandchildren: Meleah Christine Black, Jesse Christopher Thompson, Molly Jean Carr, Vince Isaac Meador, Dylan Joel Young, Sara

Joan Lipsey, Clayton Jeffrey Young, Caleb Thomas Young, Johnny Thomas Scott, and Madison Kate Young; his great-grandchildren: Payton Grace Nutter, Coraline Rae Black, Isaih Sebastian Black, and Georgia May Meador. He was preceded in death by his son, Jeffery Christopher Meador.

A visitation will be held from 5:00 -7:00 PM, on Tuesday, April 24, 2018, at the Butler Funeral Home, in Bolivar, Missouri.

Funeral services will be at 2:00 PM, on Wednesday, April 25, 2018, at the Butler Funeral Home, in Bolivar, Missouri, with Kerry Douglas, Jerry Ross, and Randall Wrinkle officiating, and special music by J.C.'s granddaughters, Meleah Black, Molly Carr, and Sara Lipsey.

Burial will follow the funeral, at Greenwood Cemetery, in Bolivar, with J.C.'s grandsons serving as casket bearers, Jesse Thompson, Vince Meador, Dylan Young, Clayton Young, Caleb Young, and Johnny Scott. Honorary bearers are Gregg Scott, Thane Kifer, Randall Wrinkle, Tim Young, Kelly Welch, Brent Coleman, Bob Wilson, and Richard Fink.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Bolivar Educational Advancement Foundation, care of Butler Funeral Home, 407 E Broadway, Bolivar, Missouri, 65613.

# Cemetery Details

## Greenwood Cemetery

S. Dunnegan Ave.  
Bolivar, MO 65613

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR **24**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Butler Funeral Home - Bolivar  
407 E. Broadway  
Bolivar, MO 65613  
(417) 326-5233  
<https://butlerfuneralhome.com/>

## Funeral Service

APR **25**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Butler Funeral Home - Bolivar  
407 E. Broadway  
Bolivar, MO 65613  
(417) 326-5233  
<https://butlerfuneralhome.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ Johnny 'J.C.' Meador

October 05, 2023 at 05:18 AM



“ Johnny 'J.C.' Meador

January 26, 2023 at 04:15 PM



“ Will always cherish the memories of going with J C on his last trip to Sturgis in 2017. I will remember him leaving a trail of red wine down the back fender of his bike. We shared what was left in the motel room the first night out. Will never forget J C's smile.

**Dan Carman** - April 25, 2018 at 10:06 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Johnny 'J.C.' Meador.



April 25, 2018 at 12:34 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Johnny 'J.C.' Meador.



April 24, 2018 at 09:10 AM

TS

“ I will always remember these things about J.C: Fun, Trust and Terror. The fun part was when J.C. was at the Seed House and would drop Jodie and Jill off to play at my home. We played outdoors, ate Brach's candy, and rode bikes. That was the trust that J.C. and Joan put into my parents, Bob and Kay Curry, that the Meador children were in safe and loving hands. The terror part happened to myself, Tina Curry Sullivan. J.C. and Joan planned a trip to Nashville and invited my parents along. We lived in a very old, two-story home on Oakland and I always believed it was haunted. Well, the Meadors and the Currys took off for their Tennessee trip around 4:00 AM. I was probably seven years-old and I awoke at 5:00 AM to discover that my family had gone off and left me all alone in the big, scary house! Everyone returned the next day and all was fine. Lastly, our mother passed away last April and one of the final things she said to Ryan and myself ,was if we had any questions, any questions at all, we could always talk to J.C. J.C. and Martha attended my parent's funerals and Ryan and I had a lot of questions. J.C. always answered them and we felt trust and learned to have no fear of being in the world by ourselves. Thank you, J.C. for the good times with your daughters, your answers to Ryan's and my questions, and for taking my parents on a trip they surely loved.

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**Tina Curry Sullivan** - April 23, 2018 at 08:05 PM

ES

“ We have known J.C. for many years . Estal always enjoyed visiting with him. We are praying that God will give his family comfort and strength in the coming days. God bless you all.

*Estal and Bonnie Stewart*

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**Estal & Bonnie Stewart** - April 23, 2018 at 07:41 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Johnny 'J.C.' Meador.*



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April 23, 2018 at 12:11 PM



“ *J. C. was a neighbor to my grandparents and eventually bought their farm. He was always a pleasant and friendly person. His kindness was shown to me when on a flight home to be with my father during his illness. Springfield airport closed from snow and the flight was cancelled in Jefferson City. Was then I discovered J. C. was also on that flight. He offered me a ride to Bolivar with him and his friends in a rental car. I was so thankful to get home.*

*Thinking of you with Sympathy at this sad time.*

*Cathy A. Haralson Bleggi*

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**Cathy A. Haralson Bleggi** - April 22, 2018 at 06:54 PM



“ *Sharing our memories of trips to the Philippines will forever be in my heart. God bless you.*

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**Will Gibbs** - April 22, 2018 at 06:33 PM



“ *J. C. was our neighbor when I was growing up. He was a great friend to my grandparents(Hike & Lizzie Ballinger) and my parents( Lee & Charlene Ballinger). He was a special and kind man. He will be missed by so many!*

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**Shirley Taylor** - April 22, 2018 at 10:00 AM

LB

“ Jc was a great man and a true friend to me.I will miss him!!

Len Bays - April 22, 2018 at 09:38 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Johnny 'J.C.' Meador.



April 21, 2018 at 09:18 PM

LD

“ JC and I are first cousins. He, his sister Arlene and my older siblings Donna and Earl Gene were close in age and great friends. Coming along a few years later I heard many stories with JC being the daring and adventurous one-the leader of the pack. One of his stunts was grabbing the tail of a mean bull and riding that way all around the barnyard. The adults were mighty scared but not JC. His grin is what I remember-always the sparkling eyes and a mischievous grin. He worked so hard at whatever he did and knew times of loss, plenty, joy and heartache. He was generous with his time and family meant a lot. I remember a wonderful meal at his home for his aunts, uncles and cousins of pheasant, elk, deer and other wildlife and he welcomed my Dad, husband and grandson to hunt on his land. Larry and I pray that God will comfort his family, give them strength in the days ahead, and bless them with precious memories. Especially his grin. Our love, Larry and Kay McColm Davis

Larry and Kay McColm Davis - April 21, 2018 at 08:26 PM

RS

“ *I will miss JC. I have known him for years. Will miss him coming into the office and seeing him at the bank and around town. God bless your family*

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**Royce Slagle** - April 21, 2018 at 02:40 PM