



## James Franklin Escott, Jr.

January 20, 1938 - January 28, 2026

James Franklin Escott, Jr, age 88 of Merrillville, formerly of Gary, IN., passed away January 28, 2026. He was born in Gary and a graduate of Lew Wallace High School. Jim was a U.S. Army Veteran. Jim retired from U.S. Steel Gary Works, after 39 years of service, from 1961- 2000. He loved woodworking, bowling and fishing. Jim was a loving husband and father. He was always supportive, gave wise advice, reliable, organized, well-educated and a real family man. Jim loved music, played the accordion and played in a band with friends and schoolmates. Jim was a member of Bethel Church in Crown Point. Jim was preceded in death by his parents, James Franklin Escott, Sr. and Opal Pearl (Crane) Escott; brother, Thomas Lee Roy Escott Sr., great niece, Jessica Ashley Soderlund. He is survived by his loving wife of 64 years, Bonnie Kathleen Escott; daughter, Penny Leigh (Escott) Plowman; son, Troy Franklin Escott; niece, Yvonne Lee Escott, nephew, Matthew Stephan Knish, Jr.; great niece, Addison Brittney Soderlund; great nephews, Thomas Lee Roy Escott Jr., many other loving family members. A celebration of life will take place on Thursday, February 26, 2026, at 10 a.m. at Bethel Church, 10202 Broadway, Crown Point, IN. Pastor Steve DeWitt officiating. [www.burnsfuneral.com](http://www.burnsfuneral.com).

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

FEB **26**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Bethel Church  
10202 Broadway  
Crown Point, IN 46307

# Tribute Wall

SP

“ Steve & Penny Plowman lit a candle in memory of James Franklin Escott, Jr.



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**Steve & Penny Plowman** - February 12 at 12:26 PM

FW

“ First Baptist Church of Winamac planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Franklin Escott, Jr..

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**First Baptist Church of Winamac** - February 10 at 10:01 AM

FW

“ First Baptist Church of Winamac purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of James Franklin Escott, Jr..



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**First Baptist Church of Winamac** - February 10 at 10:01 AM