



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.

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.



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

FW

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



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

FW

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

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