



James Earl Blanchard

November 8, 1943 - August 30, 2026

Spartanburg, South Carolina

James Earl Blanchard died in Spartanburg on August 30, 2026. He was 82. Born in Spartanburg on November 8, 1943, raised among Franco-American manners that never needed a speech. He learned early that a day is something you finish, not something you wait for.

He graded leaf with hands that knew seasons. A soft grading glove outlasted fashion; buyers trusted his eye more than moisture meters. Colleagues still mention a grading glove soft as cloth.

He married Eula in 1967. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised three children through public schools and ordinary weather. After Eula died in 2019, he kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember quiet help with a stuck mailbox or a heavy trash can. He liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. He died in Spartanburg, among streets he never needed to explain. The tools are still hung where a hand can find them in the dark.

Services

A memorial gathering in Spartanburg with coffee afterward. In lieu of flowers, a gift to a local workers' fund, clinic, or neighborhood library is welcome.

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