



Mr. Charles Jodie Eakins

January 22, 1936 - May 11, 2026

Charles Jodie Eakins, 90, of Plant City, born on January 22, 1936, in Lakeland, entered into eternal rest on May 11, 2026. A proud Veteran of the United States Army, he dedicated his life to service and community. After a long career on the road, he retired as a truck driver with Albertsons. His commitment to the community was evident through his many leadership roles, including serving as a long-time gate manager for the Florida Strawberry Festival and as a Past President of the Plant City DAV. A man of deep faith, he served as the Sunday School Director at Countryside Baptist Church and found great joy in the simple pleasure of cooking for those he loved. He was preceded in death by wife, Shirlene Eakins; and son, Randy Eakins. He is survived by children, Cindy Eakins Smith of Plant City, Lawrence Eakins (Heather) of Turkey Creek, and Michelle Davis (Steve) of Lake Placid; grandchildren, Bill, Shayla, Dustin (Diana), Clayton (Jessica), Aaron, and Elizabeth; 8 great-grandchildren; and sister, Martha Jean Alderman. A funeral service will be held Saturday, May 23 at 11:00 A.M. at Countryside Baptist Church, 13422 Sydney Road, Dover, where the family will receive friends beginning at 10:00 A.M. Interment at Hopewell Memorial Gardens, Plant City. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Countryside Baptist Church at <https://www.cbcdover.org/>. Expressions of condolences at www.HopewellFuneral.com.

Cemetery Details

Hopewell Memorial Gardens

6005 County Road 39 South
Plant City, FL 33567
(813) 737-3128
office@hopewellfuneral.com
<https://www.hopewellfuneral.com>

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 23. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Countryside Baptist Church
13422 Sydney Rd
Dover, FL 33527-5906
(813) 571-8200

Funeral Service

MAY 23. 11:00 AM (ET)

Countryside Baptist Church
13422 Sydney Rd
Dover, FL 33527-5906
(813) 571-8200

Tribute Wall



“ Hopewell Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Charles Jodie Eakins



Hopewell Funeral Home - May 27 at 08:37 AM



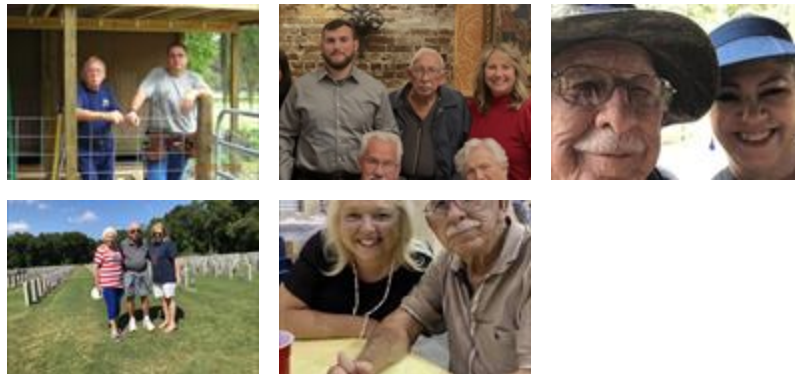
“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mr. Charles Jodie Eakins.



May 22 at 01:58 PM



“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Heather Eakins - May 20 at 03:32 PM



“ 9 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Hopewell Funeral Home - May 20 at 12:39 PM



“ 57 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Hopewell Funeral Home - May 20 at 10:57 AM



“ *I worked closely with Charles at the Florida Strawberry Festival. He was a wonderful person and I am proud to have known him. He will be missed.*

Royce Yancey - May 20 at 04:10 AM

SK

“ Susan and Tom Kleinhanzl purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Charles Jodie Eakins.



Susan and Tom Kleinhanzl - May 19 at 03:10 PM

CK

“ So sorry to hear of Charlie's passing. He was a very kind soul. Countryside won't be the same without him but if there is one thing I know, he is fully healed and in the presence of our Lord and Savior. Praying for his family

Chip and Ellen Krenn - May 15 at 07:37 AM



“ Met Charlie in 2017 at Country Side Baptist Dover. This gentle man had a Godly Word for everyone he met. Many times I would sit with Charlie in the foyer and he would share his life's blessings with me. No matter how life was being played out, he never had a negative word to say. He loved his family, and his church family. Most important was his Love for God. Charlie had a great sense of humor, it was a humor that left you feeling blessed.

Charlie will remain in my heart forever. I am so blessed to have crossed paths with such a Godly Man

Un uomo che ama veramente Dio - in Italian (a truly God loving man)



Dominic Michele - May 14 at 08:13 PM

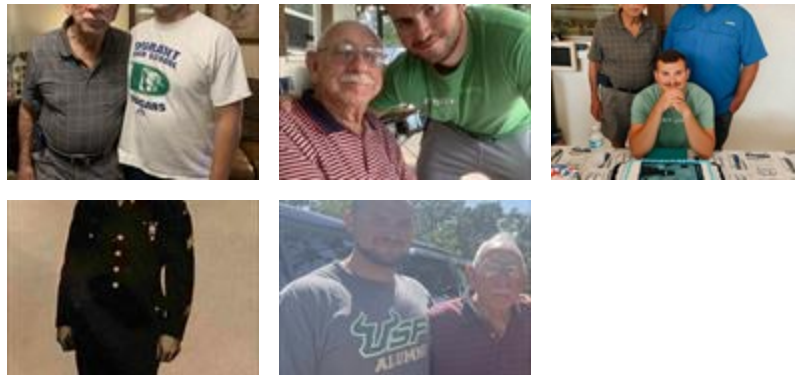
MC

“ I met Charles at the Florida Strawberry Festival in 2019. We both worked at Gate One. He was always very pleasant and from what I could tell everyone wanted to work at "Charlie's gate." He would make a big pot of chili for everyone at his gate and although I worked inside at the concert window he always offered us a bowl, and boy was it good. He had a servant's heart for sure! He will be missed by so many. Gate One won't be the same without him. RIP sweet Charlie.

Martha Cribbs - May 14 at 03:17 PM



“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Aaron Eakins - May 14 at 02:49 PM

DV

Mr Eakins.life was a true demonstration of God's love. He was always smiling or joking with us. He and my Sister Barbara worked closely together for years. He always had gifts of food and love. I always admired his relationship with his grandson Aaron, who I have the pleasure of working with at the festival as well. His time here on earth was well spent showing his pleasant demeanor. I'll forever remember him. Praying continuously for his family and loved ones to allow our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to be who is the God of Comfort.

Deborah Vasser - May 14 at 08:32 PM

RJ

“ *My sincerest condolences.
Charles was the finest of men.*

Robin Johnson - May 14 at 02:47 PM

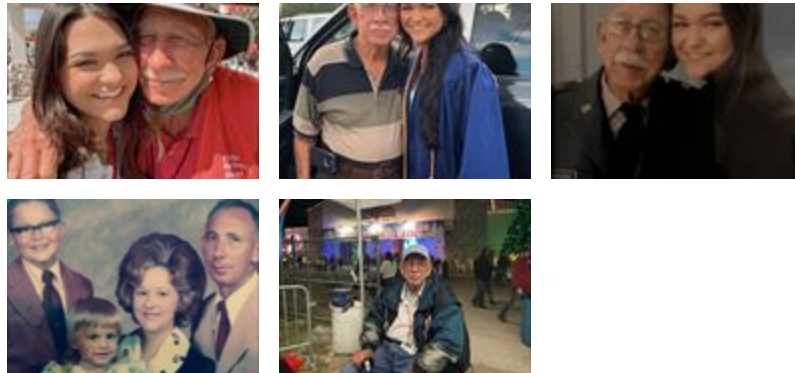
KH

“ *I met Mr Charles about 6 or 7 years ago at Christmas Lane. He was a Sweet Sweet soul and would happily share his Christian walk with you. Thoughts and prayers for his family I know he will be missed.*

Kathleen Hill - May 14 at 01:22 PM

EE

“ *11 files added to the tribute wall*

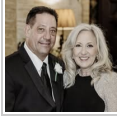


elizabeth eakins - May 14 at 01:16 PM

PH

What wonderful pictures and memories for you 💕💕

Patty Hines - May 14 at 01:58 PM



We loved Mr Eakins. He would always would ask about my kids everytime we saw him. We could stand and chat with him for a very long time. He was one of the nicest people. We will miss seeing him at the Festival. May our Heavenly Father wrap his family in the comfort that only He can give.

Sharon Ours - May 14 at 03:53 PM

CR

What a great man. He was a mentor that I could never forget. He joins Lamar in a very special place in my memory and my heart.

Carl Rupp - May 14 at 04:32 PM