



## James "Jimi" Turner

February 11, 1935 - December 11, 2013

James Leon "Jimi" Turner, 78, of Marietta, passed away on Wednesday, December 11, 2013 at Greenville Memorial Hospital. Jimi was also affectionately known as "Captain Corn" being one of the founders of the Travelers Rest Corn Festival and founder of the Captain Corn and the Cornfield Angels Foundation.

Born in Greenville County, he was the son of the late Joseph Earl and Maggie Markum Turner. Jimi was a retired Air Force Veteran, serving in the Vietnam Conflict and later at the US Pentagon in Washington DC. He was a graduate of the Greenville Technical College Criminal Justice Program and the South Carolina Police Academy, and in 1985, was the oldest graduate of the Academy. He later became a S.C. State Constable. He retired from Greenville Technical College where he was the Chief of Public Safety, and he also worked for the Greenville County Recreation District as a stone mason. In 2011 the GCRD renamed the "double fields" in Marietta as the Jimi Turner Park.

He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Rosilee "Rosi" Walsh Turner; daughters: Joni (Moses) Landeros of Boiling Springs, Cheli Turner of Mauldin; son: Clint Turner and companion Amy McHone of Marietta; grandson: Dillon Turner; and furry friends: Maggie and Gatsby.

Along with his parents, he was predeceased by 3 brothers: Lewis (his twin), Bobby and Johnnie; 3 sisters: Sarah, Othella, and Edna.

The family will receive friends Sunday afternoon from 1 until 4 p.m. at The Howze Mortuary.

Funeral services will be Sunday afternoon at 4 p.m. at The Howze Mortuary Chapel. Burial will be at M.J. Dolly Cooper Veterans Cemetery in Anderson on Monday at 3 p.m.

The family will be at the home.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Captain Corn and the Cornfield Angels Foundation at any Bank of Travelers Rest.

Online condolences may be expressed to the family at [www.thehowzemortuary.com](http://www.thehowzemortuary.com).

The Howze Mortuary, Travelers Rest is in charge of the arrangements. (864) 834-8051.

# Cemetery Details

## M.J. Dolly Cooper Veterans Cemetery

140 Inway Drive  
Anderson, SC 29621

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 15. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

The Howze Mortuary  
6714 State Park Rd./P.O. Box 369  
Travelers Rest, SC

## Service

DEC 15. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

The Howze Mortuary Chapel  
6714 State Park Rd./P.O. Box 369  
Travelers Rest, SC

## Burial

DEC 16. 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM (ET)

M.J. Dolly Cooper Veterans Cemetery  
140 Inway Drive  
Anderson, SC 29621



# Tribute Wall

PH

“ I am sitting here looking at a picture of one of the most special people I've have ever known. I just found out that I had lost my dear friend and my hero. I really got to know him when we were at the first meeting for a Travelers Rest festival that would become the Corn Festival. In my opinion, Jimi was the heart of the festival. He wasn't just a man who showed up in a costume. HE WAS CAPTAIN CORN. When I was freaking out, he calmed me down. Nothing scared him. When we ran into problems, he not only figured out what should be done, he did it. I can't even tell you all he did to make the festival happen. Everything from clearing property and building a water fountain. Whatever was needed, he did it. He was the same steady man every day. No drama, just hard work. The festival was just a small part of his accomplishments. Besides his honorable service to his country, he wore many hats or hoods (Captain Corn). He had a huge servant's heart and he used it by collecting toys and distributing to kids for Christmas. He was a talented artist and made signs for any car or float in the Travelers Rest and Marietta parades. One of my favorite memories is of Jimi pushing a handicapped person in his wheel chair the entire route of the TR parade. When or wherever he saw a need, he was there. His hard work inspired others to be better people. He brought people, communities and towns together to accomplish things that they didn't think could be done. Thank you Rosie, Joni, Cheli, Clint and Dillon for sharing this precious man with all of us. I speak for so many when I say we will always miss you. I love you my dear friend, Penny D. Hester

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Penny D. Hester - December 16, 2013 at 10:34 PM



“ I knew him as your daddy and then as CAPTAIN CORN....then as an amazing man and great influence to my community.... my heart aches for your loss and my eyes cry for the community!! Love and prayers to you all!....Dianne J.

Dianne Julian Hall - December 15, 2013 at 09:13 AM

BF

“ Bobbi Elaine Lee & Family - Jan Bishop & Family purchased the Let It Snow for the family of James "Jimi" Turner.



Bobbi Elaine Lee & Family - Jan Bishop & Family - December 14, 2013 at 01:40 PM



“ The entire Turner family is in my thoughts and prayers during this time. Another angel in heaven.

Tanette Mann - December 14, 2013 at 01:39 PM



“ Sending prayers. Your family has always been there for all us...xoxox



Pauline Segar - December 14, 2013 at 04:44 AM

RS

“ For several years, Jimi would come to the final retreat of Leadership Greenville to demonstrate the impact one person could have if he approached life with passion and an unselfish commitment to others. Every time, he brought tears to Greenville's leaders, and became the inspiration for many of Greenville County's leaders to get involved and make a difference.

We at Greenville Forward honored him as one of our Heroes Next Door. Of all the honorees in the last five years, Jimi is the one we talk about the most as one who has probably had the most impact. It shows in his video I have attached.

My favorite is "No child in Greenville County should every wake up Christmas morning without Santa Claus. Don't ever stop believing in Santa Claus and you will have a happier life."

Thank you, Jimi. Greenville County is going to miss you, but your legacy will live on.



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**Russell Stall** - December 13, 2013 at 09:03 PM

CW

such a great man reminds me of my father , first met him at the corn festival in tr as captian corn such a wonderful man he will be missed

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**chuck winchester** - December 15, 2013 at 01:01 PM

LL

“ *Louanne And Jim Lunny lit a candle in memory of James "Jimi" Turner*



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**Louanne and Jim Lunny** - December 13, 2013 at 08:33 PM

JE

“ *Jimmy was a special man that I'm glad to have known ,lot ball field memories,RIP Jim. Clint and family are in our prayers,Jeff,Tondra Young*



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**jeffyoung** - December 13, 2013 at 04:50 PM

RB

“ *Dear Turner family, we would like for you to know you are all in our prayers and thoughts. There will never be a person more caring and had a heart of gold. We all loved Jimmy and will miss him greatly. There was never anything you would ask Jimmy to help with that he would do all he could to see that it was done. Heaven's sweeter today because he is there. Love in Christ, Curtis and Rachel Branch, Seneca, S.C.*

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**Rachel Branch** - December 13, 2013 at 03:51 PM

JC

“ *Janet Chandler lit a candle in memory of James "Jimi" Turner*



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**Janet Chandler** - December 13, 2013 at 11:19 AM

LL

“ Our community is at a Great Loss at the passing of everyone's Friend. We will all miss him greatly. My heart goes out to his family and they are in our prayers. Linda Ledford

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**Linda Ledford** - December 13, 2013 at 08:59 AM

JW

“ Rosie,  
My heart is heavy of the loss of such a wonderful man. "JT" as I called him was very special to me and my daughter years ago when I worked at the old Bakers Pharmacy in Marietta. "JT" was always my favorite part of the day. He would come in drink coffee and draw his funny pictures of the cast and crew of the coffee crowd at the drug store. Life was slower then and we had time to talk and just visit. As the years have passed "JT" continued to be the great man I always remembered and continued to remember the less fortunate. I know his crown is so big he has a string of angels helping him carry it. Everytime he helped someone or just smiled God took notice and added a jewel to his crown.  
Thank you Rosie and family for sharing him with us. He will be greatly missed.  
Love, Jan Weast

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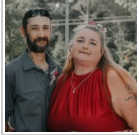
**Jan Weast** - December 12, 2013 at 09:57 PM

SE

“ There are so many memories....how do I choose? One of my favorite memories is of Jimi holding Sara's hand at Disney World as they headed to the next ride....so much fun together over the years. Rest in peace my sweet friend.  
Sharon Edge

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**Sharon Edge** - December 12, 2013 at 09:51 PM



“ Sorry for you loss. Jimi was a good man and wil be greatly missed. My prayers are with you all.

Tammy Phillips - December 12, 2013 at 09:50 PM



“ Jimi was a great man and with a heart of Gold , Things will never be the same without him . But one thing is for sure we will see him again one day soon again & he will have a new body , there will never be no more pain nor death all will be made new. I pray the Lord wraps his loving Arms around this family and comfort them in your time of sorrow and in the days & weeks to come. God Bless each of you ,Cindy Kay



Cindy Kay - December 12, 2013 at 08:21 PM

AD

“ I will never forget you Mr.Turner you have done so much for the children including my own in Marietta. I loved hearing your stories. Love Andrea Derosier.

andrea derosier - December 12, 2013 at 04:49 PM

CB

“ Clint and Dillon,  
My heart breaks for you guys. I know how close you both were to him. I love you both and will keep you in my prayers.  
Carol

carol barkley - December 12, 2013 at 03:23 PM