



Johnny Laverne Thornton

May 20, 1961 - June 15, 2026

Johnny Laverne Thornton, known to many as JT, of Wilmer, Alabama, passed away on June 15, 2026 at the age of 65. Johnny was born in Mobile, AL. on May 20, 1961.

Johnny was preceded in death by his parents, Jacklyn (Smith) Thornton and Shade Thornton and by Tina Marie Schmitz, the mother of his only child.

Johnny lived his life between Gulf Shores and Mobile, Alabama, occasionally traveling with well-known bands in his younger days. He spent his later years in Wilmer, Alabama with his three dogs, who brought him years of companionship and happiness.

Johnny loved tinkering and fixing things. Anything from mechanical to electrical and everything in between. He enjoyed finding out how things worked. He also never met a stranger and made many lifelong friends just by striking up conversations. Johnny would do anything for his family or friends at the drop of a hat. You could call him and he would figure out a way to help, no matter the problem.

Of all the things Johnny loved, nothing meant more to him than his son, Jonathan. After the loss of Tina when Jonathan was just a young boy, Johnny devoted himself to raising Jonathan and the two shared a closeness that never faded. Jonathan was his pride, his joy, and without question, the person he loved most in this world.

Johnny is survived by his son, Jonathan Thornton and wife Melissa; three grandchildren Matthew Thompson, Austin Thompson (Isabella), and Cassidy

McGee; three great-grandchildren Madden Jones, Kehlani Thompson, and Easton Thompson; and many friends who will miss him dearly.

In accordance with his wishes, Johnny will be cremated. The family will arrange a celebration of life at a later date.