



Patrick Lee Pelham Jr.

July 22, 1947 - January 23, 2026

Patrick Lee Pelham Jr., 78, of Graceville, Florida, passed away peacefully on January 23, 2026, in his hometown surrounded by those who loved him.

Born on July 22, 1947, in Graceville, Patrick was a lifelong resident of the community he cherished. He graduated from Graceville High School in 1965 and earned an Associate of Arts degree from Chipola Junior College in 1967. He continued his education at Florida State University, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Insurance and Risk Management in 1969.

Patrick began his professional career with the State of Florida Department of Insurance in Tallahassee, where he worked from 1969 to 1975. In 1975, he returned to Graceville and purchased an insurance agency, founding Pat Pelham Insurance. As a dedicated businessman and trusted advisor, Patrick served his community's insurance needs for over 4 decades until his retirement in July 2018.

A man of deep faith and unwavering commitment to service, Patrick was a lifelong member of Graceville First United Methodist Church. His devotion to the church was evident through his many roles: Chairman of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee for many years, member of the Administrative Council and various other committees, choir member, Sunday School teacher for both youth and adults, and active participant in the United Methodist Men. He

raised his family within the church's nurturing environment and remained a steadfast presence throughout his life.

Patrick's love for people was matched only by his love for life. Known for his humor and warm personality, he had a gift for making others feel welcome and valued. He was a passionate Florida State Seminoles fan and rarely missed an opportunity to cheer on his team. Whether fishing on quiet waters or singing among friends and family, Patrick found joy in simple pleasures. He also loved traveling—exploring new places with those closest to him brought him great happiness.

Above all else, Patrick treasured his family. He shared 57 wonderful years with his beloved wife, Carol Pelham. Together, they built a loving home filled with laughter and faith. He is also lovingly remembered by his children: daughter Kerri Pelham Barfield (David), daughter Holly Pelham, and son Matt Pelham (Kristin); grandchildren Katherine Waller (Javy), Tristan Moerkerken (Olivia), and Troy Moerkerken; great-grandchildren Addie, Wade, and Grant Waller; sister Becky Kelly; nieces and nephews, as well as numerous cousins who were dear to him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Patrick and Musette Pelham; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Durelle and Miriam Johnson; and brother-in-law, Jimmy Kelly.

Patrick's legacy is one of faithfulness—to God, to family, to community—and he will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

May his memory bring comfort to those who knew him and continue to inspire lives rooted in kindness, service, and love.

A Celebration of Life will be held on January 27, 2026, at 11:00 AM at

Graceville First United Methodist Church, 1111 8th Avenue, Graceville, Florida. Visitation at 10 AM until 11:00 AM. No public graveside service.

In lieu of flowers family request memorials be made to the Graceville First United Methodist Church.

Cemetery Details

Marvin Chapel Cemetery

1048 White Avenue
Graceville, FL 32440

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 27. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church
1111 8th Avenue
Graceville, FL 32440

Celebration of Life

JAN 27. 11:00 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church
1111 8th Avenue
Graceville, FL 32440

Tribute Wall

GL

“ My condolences to Carol, Pat's children and his sister Becky. I grew up in Graceville and attended Graceville High School with Pat, Carol and Becky. I have many fond memories of those years. May he rest in peace.

Glenda Sue (Adams) Livingston - February 07 at 09:30 AM



“ I met Pat through my best friend and Pat's lovely wife Carol during my many visits to Cambellton and my precious Grandmother, Lucille Woodham. Pat had such a big personality and quick wit that kept me on my toes. Known as Bud to his family, I have so many memories of his humorous antics and his love for Carol. Rest in the Peace of God's Arms...and say hello Tom for me...two men who are truly Angles.

Karen Bethea - January 31 at 12:25 PM

BJ

“ Pat was the kind of guy that everyone loved. He was smart, kind, humorous, compassionate to those who need him, a hard- worker, one who loved his family and friends. He usually had a smile on his face and always made me feel better just from being in his presence. The Jones girls love you Patrick.

Brenda R Jones - January 26 at 02:57 PM

BC

“ always knew him as "Buddy". It was the nickname his daddy gave him. Buddy was a very special friend throughout the years. Annette and I shared many memories with Carol and Buddy during our early years as young married couples. We both lived in Tallahassee and moved back to this special area where we grew up. Buddy will be missed. We are so thankful to have had someone one as he in our lives.

Bill Clark - January 26 at 07:57 AM

SC

“ On behalf of the extended Pelham clan, I extend my condolences to Pat's immediate family. I have only known Pat through our annual Pelham Reunion, which he faithfully attended as long as he was able to, but counted him as a friend as well as a distant cousin.

Sandy Pelham Collar - January 26 at 06:19 AM

LB

“ I always went to his office and talked about seminole football when I went to pay my insurance. I would always ask him for his seminole stuff. He would laugh and tell me to go to work. He was a good man. He will be missed.
Larry Barefield

Larry Barefield - January 25 at 01:11 PM

GM

I'm so sorry for you guys, Kerri , Holly and Matt and Mrs Pelham . I have no words only I understand and it hurts so much losing such a wonderful figure in the family , he will be missed. Sending prayers and love and if there's absolutely anything I can do to help don't hesitate to reach out to me

greg morris - January 25 at 07:57 PM

LJ

Mr. Pat was a great person to work for. I'm so glad I was part of his employment. Always treated us with respect. Your family is in our prayers. Lynn Jackson

Lynn Jackson - January 25 at 09:42 PM

CT

We're so sorry to hear about Pat. He was a staple in Graceville. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.

Children of Melton and Vernell Tindel - January 27 at 08:35 AM

MW

Our sincere condolences to the Pelham family in the loss of a really great guy. Pat was a true gentleman and almost always had a smiling face and found humor in every conversation. We enjoyed him in the office even when he and Dr. Woodham would go a little long and everyone waiting could not avoid hearing all the laughter. He was also very empathetic sharing how God had helped him through the rocky times. What a good example he was for his children and grandchildren that he talked about A LOT. Prayers for his family.

Marsha Woodham - January 27 at 11:19 AM