



Rev John Edwin Burgess

August 9, 1926 - September 24, 2025

Rev. J. E. Burgess
Carthage, MS

John Edwin Burgess, Sr. was born August 9, 1926, in the home of a sharecropper in Manghum, LA. His father died halfway through the Great Depression, and the family moved to Mississippi, where starvation was a literal and constant threat.

These hard times marked him in ways that never left him. His birth placed him in that generation known as the Greatest Generation. The fires of the Great Depression were even more intense due to the death of his father, and they shaped a man of drive and work ethic that never changed.

He left home after school and went to work in the paper mill in Bastrop, LA. As he was leaving home, his mother put a Bible in his suitcase. A few years later, he

began reading this Bible, and God led him to a revival where he received the Holy

Ghost and was baptized in Jesus Name. He soon met Gloria Donaldson while attending a service in Hodge, LA, and the two fell in love. They married on April 15,

1949.

The newly married couple moved back to Mississippi, and he started a logging business with his relatives, but soon God began leading him to an old stump in the piney woods to pray. It was there that God called him to preach the gospel in the fall of 1949.

For the next 76 years, Bro. Burgess preached the gospel all across America. He spent several years evangelizing, and he pastored 10 different churches. He was well known for his ability to assume the pastorate of struggling and debt-ridden churches and turn them around before moving on to another challenge.

In 1975, Bro. and Sis. Burgess and their two sons, Johnny and Joe, moved to Carthage, MS, where he would remain for the next 50 years. In 1979, Bro. and Sis.

Burgess founded Carthage Christian Academy, which soon became a vital part of their ministry in Central Mississippi.

In addition to his ministry, Bro. Burgess has been a builder and a businessman.

His ethic of hard work and diligence marked every part of his life. In the 1980s, he opened a business at the request of the FBI to combat corruption. In 1990, the FBI presented Bro. Burgess with the Louis E. Peters Award, their highest civilian honor.

After retiring from pastoring at the age of 80, he continued to preach and work. He was an avid outdoorsman, with his primary hobbies being hunting,

beekeeping,
woodworking, and reading.

Bro. Burgess passed peacefully on Sept. 24, 2025. He is survived by his wife,
Gloria Burgess, his two sons, John Edwin Burgess, Jr (Wife Shanna) and
Joseph Terryl

Burgess (Wife Robin) Burgess, four grandchildren, Gloria Brooklyn Burgess,
John

Edwin Burgess, III (Wife Morgan), Jacob Samuel Burgess, and Jordan
Nathaniel

Burgess, and one great-granddaughter, Callyn Rain Burgess. He is preceded
in death

by his parents, Joseph and Eulala Burgess, and his grandson, Joseph
Blakeney

Burgess.

Services for Bro. Burgess will be held on Monday, Sept. 29, 2025, at First
Apostolic Church of Carthage, MS (111 Dona Drive). Visitation will be held
from 2:00

p.m. to 6:00 p.m., and the funeral service will take place at 6:00 p.m. Burial
will be on

Tuesday, September 29, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at Carthage Memorial Garden,
1218 North

Pearl Street.

Cemetery Details

Carthage Memorial Gardens

North Pearl St
Carthage, MS

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **29**. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

First Apostolic Church
111 Dona Dr
Carthage, MS 39051
(601) 267-8676

Service

SEP **29**. 6:00 PM (CT)

First Apostolic Church
111 Dona Dr
Carthage, MS 39051
(601) 267-8676

Burial

SEP **30**. 9:30 AM (CT)

Carthage Memorial Gardens
North Pearl St
Carthage, MS 39051

Tribute Wall



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Rev John Edwin Burgess.

September 28, 2025 at 05:18 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Rev John Edwin Burgess.



September 28, 2025 at 05:18 PM



“ We so Enjoyed Elder Burgess ministry the times he And Mom Burgess came to Hutchinson KS . My father Loved Squirrel hunting with The Elder many fun times were had in those day's and wonderful memories made!

Marsha Charles - September 27, 2025 at 11:34 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Rev John Edwin Burgess.

September 27, 2025 at 11:27 AM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Rev John Edwin Burgess.



September 27, 2025 at 11:27 AM



“ Greg and Rhonda Riggen and A2Z Missions planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rev John Edwin Burgess.

Greg and Rhonda Riggen and A2Z Missions - September 27, 2025 at 11:23 AM



“ Greg and Rhonda Riggen and A2Z Missions purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Rev John Edwin Burgess.



Greg and Rhonda Riggen and A2Z Missions - September 27, 2025 at 11:23 AM



“ Garrette & Shauna Foster purchased the Grand Meat & Cheese Gift Crate for the family of Rev John Edwin Burgess.



Garrette & Shauna Foster - September 26, 2025 at 03:52 PM

PC

“ *Pastor & Sister Peter Connell-Oakley, Ca planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rev John Edwin Burgess.*

Pastor & Sister Peter Connell-Oakley, Ca - September 26, 2025 at 02:28 PM

PC

“ *Pastor & Sister Peter Connell-Oakley, Ca purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Rev John Edwin Burgess.*



Pastor & Sister Peter Connell-Oakley, Ca - September 26, 2025 at 02:28 PM

PS

“ *Pastor James & Sandra Short purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Rev John Edwin Burgess.*



Pastor James & Sandra Short - September 26, 2025 at 02:09 PM

TF

“ *The Geoff Polacek Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rev John Edwin Burgess.*

The Geoff Polacek Family - September 26, 2025 at 09:27 AM

TF

“ The Geoff Polacek Family purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Rev John Edwin Burgess.



The Geoff Polacek Family - September 26, 2025 at 09:27 AM

BC

“ Bro. & Sis. Guy Macon Pentecostal Church planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rev John Edwin Burgess.

Bro. & Sis. Guy Macon Pentecostal Church - September 25, 2025 at 04:37 PM

BC

“ Bro. & Sis. Guy Macon Pentecostal Church purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Rev John Edwin Burgess.



Bro. & Sis. Guy Macon Pentecostal Church - September 25, 2025 at 04:37 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rev John Edwin Burgess.



September 25, 2025 at 04:28 PM