



Jimmy Childre

October 29, 1931 - December 11, 2025

James Joel Childre, Sr, 94, of Milledgeville, passed away Thursday, December 11, surrounded by his family. Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, December 17, at 2 p.m. at Victory Baptist Church in Milledgeville. Following the service, the family will have a reception and a visitation from 4 – 6 in the fellowship hall. Graveside services will be on Thursday, December 18, at 11:00 a.m. at Hillcrest Cemetery in Reynolds GA. Dr. Jerry Pickard will officiate.

In lieu of flowers the family request contributions to the donor's favorite charity.

The son of the late Joel Ernest and Emeline James Childre, Jimmy grew up in Reynolds, GA, on the family farm. At an early age, he learned the value of hard work and at 94 he was still working six days a week.

Jimmy graduated from Reynolds High School and received his BS from the University of Georgia. After graduation, he moved back home to Reynolds and began a 73-year career in the automobile business at Taylor County Motor Company. He was active in community affairs in Reynolds and also taught Sunday school at the Reynolds Methodist Church. He served on the city council and as Mayor of Reynolds.

In 1964, Jimmy moved to Sandersville and founded Childre Chevrolet-Oldsmobile, the first of many car dealerships and the beginning of the Childre

brand of automobile dealerships. Today, Childre Ford in Sandersville, Childre Nissan and Childre Chevrolet in Milledgeville are managed by Jimmy's sons and grandsons. His brothers owned and operated Childre dealerships in north and south Georgia. The Childre dealerships have been recognized by car manufactures as top performing dealerships in the country.

The Childre dealerships offered Jimmy the ideal opportunity to succeed in business while serving others. His customers were generational, as one generation would bring the next to buy a car from "Mr. Jimmy." Many of his customers became friends and so did his staff. Everyone appreciated Jimmy's sincerity and fairness in how he treated people over the seven decades of his career. The car dealerships offered his children the opportunity to grow up working together in their family business and succeed in having their own auto dealerships.

In addition to his parents, Jimmy is predeceased by two children, Linda Childre Kuecker and Erny Childre, and his brother Rudolph Childre.

He is survived by six children, Jimmy Childre, Jr of Sandersville, Bob Childre of Tennille, Charlotte Childre of St Augustine FL, J.J. Childre (Lori) of Gadsden AL, Angel Childre, Jason Childre (Angie); brother Taylor Childre of Milledgeville; and sister, Betty Welsh of Moultrie. His greatest joy were his 9 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

Williams Funeral Home of Milledgeville is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Hillcrest Cemetery- Reynolds

Cresthill St. 83 Marion Street
Reynolds, GA 31076

Previous Events

Funeral Service

DEC 17. 2:00 PM (ET)

Victory Baptist Church
640 Meriweather Rd.
Milledgeville, GA 31061

Reception

DEC 17. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Victory Baptist Church
640 Meriweather Rd.
Milledgeville, GA 31061

Graveside Service

DEC 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Hillcrest Cemetery- Reynolds
Cresthill St. 83 Marion Street
Reynolds, GA 31076

Tribute Wall



“ Williams Funeral Homes and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Jimmy Childre



Williams Funeral Homes and Crematory - December 18, 2025 at 05:48 PM

EO

I am sorry to hear about Mr. Childre. I have purchased several vehicles from Childre Nissan. Mr. Childre was always available to talk. I felt like family there. My condition to Mr. Childre's family, friends, and employees. He was a good man and will be missed.

Ed Ozols - December 20, 2025 at 08:28 AM



“ Williams Funeral Homes and Crematory created a Webcast will start approximately 10 minutes before the service in memory of Jimmy Childre



Williams Funeral Homes and Crematory - December 17, 2025 at 02:10 PM

GS

“ I always called you Granddaddy and always will. You may have not been my granddad, but you were like family to me. You are Shane's Great Grandad and we love you so much! I always tried to get a picture of you and Shane when I would come to the dealership. We will miss you so much. Won't be the same without you. Thank you for loving Shane and being so nice and loving to us all the time. You brought a lot of joy to a lot of people and you will always be remembered for so many great things. You were always the smartest man I had ever know. We love you. Rest easy until we see you again!



Ginny C Smith - December 22, 2025 at 11:41 PM

Williams
FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATORY

“ 1 file added to the album Graveside Services



Williams Funeral Homes and Crematory - December 19, 2025 at 09:16 AM

BH

“ Jimmy you were one of a kind!! You were a very respectful man to everyone you came in contact with. Our Father in heaven has gained another angel!! You will be missed dearly but never forgotten. Your spirit will live on in all the people that knew you. Condolences to the family!!

Brenda Hancock - December 18, 2025 at 04:22 PM

DP

Jimmy was a very good friend of the Powell family we bought several automobiles over the last 65 years may you rest in peace Donald Powell

donald powell - January 18 at 11:39 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Church Service



Williams Funeral Homes and Crematory - December 18, 2025 at 10:55 AM

AD

“ Mr. Childre's kind hearted attitude and gentle disposition will be missed within the community. Sincere condolences are extended to the family. Kindest Regards, Ann Dixon

Ann Dixon - December 17, 2025 at 10:52 PM

CN

“ I'll never forget interviewing with Mr. Jimmy the summer of 2016. That was the start of an awesome friendship/mentorship. I enjoyed going by and seeing him anytime. His office was always open to anyone to make you feel right at home. He was such a blessing and influence to so many, including myself. Every week I would call him and he would ask about sales encouraging me to go sell some more. He supported me in my ministry at church and came to hear me preach several times. Mr. Jimmy was sharp as a tack till his final hour here on this earth. Everyone that knew him had a story to tell, because he made such an impression on everyone he met.

He leaves behind more than success — he leaves a legacy.

'The memory of the just is blessed' (Prov. 10:7)



Christian Newsome - December 17, 2025 at 07:53 PM

CL

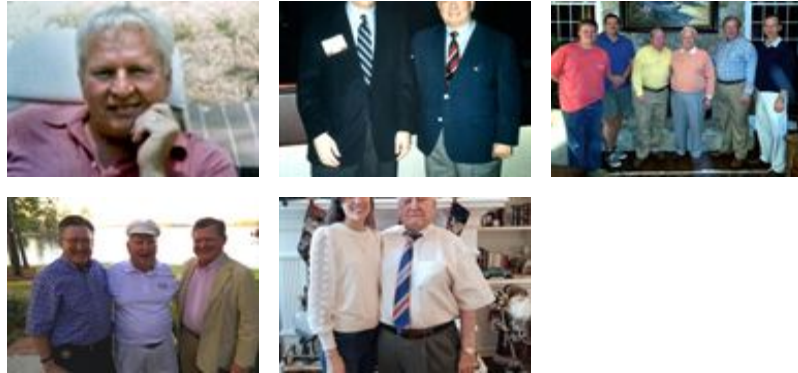
“ What a great loss for Baldwin, Washington and surrounding counties. A staple in the business community and the steady loving father for his children and extended family. Always a great conversation was had with Mr. Jimmy! Rest In Peace Mr. Jimmy.. you lived a good life and were a good person! Deepest sympathies to all his family, employees and friends. 🙏🕊️🙏📯🙏❤️



Carol Lewis - December 17, 2025 at 11:31 AM



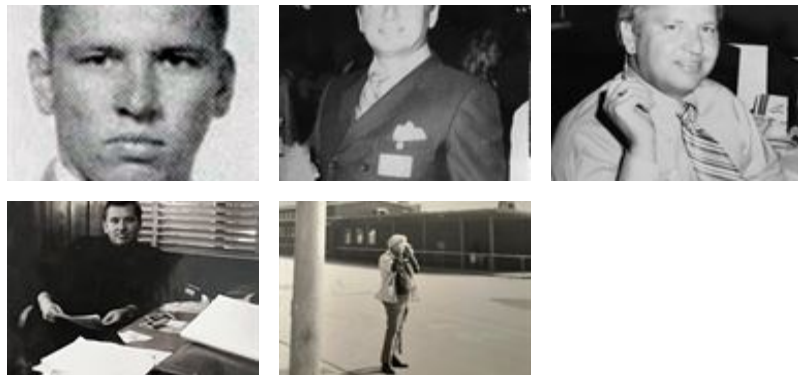
“ 25 files added to the album Life Tributes



Williams Funeral Homes and Crematory - December 17, 2025 at 08:45 AM



“ 108 files added to the album Life Tributes



Williams Funeral Homes and Crematory - December 16, 2025 at 03:24 PM



“ Jason and family I'm so sorry for your loss, I loved coming in to the dealership and talking with Mr. Jimmy, always had a smile and was willing to talk about anything, one of the last Legends In the automobile business, you will be Missed by many sir, until we meet again R.I.P. Mr. Jimmy 🙏❤️

Scott Woodall - December 16, 2025 at 02:51 AM

BJ

“ *Mr Jimmy always met me with a smile , a compliment and a pleasant conversation anytime our paths crossed. It didn't matter if it was at the dealership, a family function or a phone conversation, he always asked about my work, my family and my wellbeing. He had a southern charm that I appreciated. I was privileged to know him. My deepest sympathy to the Childre family and all who held him dear.*

Brenda James - December 15, 2025 at 08:49 PM

ER

“ *To all the family, our prayers are with you all! Mr. Jimmy is a true Southern Gentleman that has been in so many people's firsts he was there in our daughters first car and our sons first truck , and many more down the road! Always seeing him in his office early morning while waiting for an early service on my vehicle in Sandersville we had a lot of great conversations. Eddie and Denise Renfroe*



Eddie and Denise Renfroe - December 15, 2025 at 03:51 PM

TT

“ *I first met Mr. Childre when I worked at the bank. He was always so nice and very approachable. We always asked for him when we would go to the car dealership and just like that, he would talk to us and we eventually bought several vehicles from him. I recently visited the dealership and learned that he was out. I was saddened because he was a fair business owner and I always looked forward to doing business with him. He will be missed by the community and by my family for sure.*

Trilla and Chauncey Trawick - December 15, 2025 at 02:36 PM

AS

“ It was always a joy to see Mr. Jimmy, just a small quick exchange of words would fill my heart with warmth and love no matter what the topic was. I last saw him in the summer when I took my car by to be serviced, it was early in the morning. I caught him sleeping in his office of course with all the glass as walls, I tapped on it, he perked up quickly like a spring chicken told me to come on in, I had to get my hug before I left. Those blue eyes and that red sweater I'll never forget!!! May you rest in the Lords arms. Love you Mr. Jimmy.



Allison Harrison Smith - December 15, 2025 at 01:51 PM

KP

“ We met Mr. Jimmy 2 yrs ago when we bought our grandson a pickup. Found him to be very genuine and personable. Its easy to see why he's been a successful auto dealer for all these years. He was from the old school and definitely the exception to the typical auto dealer. He will be missed by his family and his many friends.
PRAYERS AND CONDOLENCES
Kenneth & Sandra Powell

Kenneth powell - December 15, 2025 at 12:32 PM

KB

“ Kay Brown lit a candle in memory of Jimmy Childre



Kay Brown - December 15, 2025 at 11:32 AM

PP

“ Pam Peacock lit a candle in memory of Jimmy Childre



Pam Peacock - December 15, 2025 at 08:41 AM

KD

“ Kay Dunn lit a candle in memory of Jimmy Childre



Kay Dunn - December 15, 2025 at 08:05 AM

WM

“ I first met Mr. Jimmy in Sandersville in the 60's. I had the privilege to visit with him 3 years ago at Childre Nissan in Milledgeville. He was a hard worker and has helped many. Prayers for the family.

wallace moore - December 15, 2025 at 02:48 AM

DR

“ Mr Jimmy was dedicated worker for our community. I met him when I purchased my first new vehicle. I loved talking to him while I was getting work completed in my car. I know he will be missed my many. May our God wrap his loving arms the family and give them peace and comfort. We will miss you

Donita Roberts - December 14, 2025 at 10:29 PM

JD

“ I recently spoke to him at Ms Stella's. He told me to come by the dealership and visit him anytime. Prayers for the family 🙏

Jill Drew - December 14, 2025 at 09:38 PM

TM

“ Sorry for the Families loss I'm Mr. Jimmy...
Not ONLY a GOOD Man but Legend in the Automobile business.
R.I.P. Mr. JIMMY.

Tommy Martin - December 14, 2025 at 08:17 PM

DP

“ One of the absolute best friends that one could have!! My Love and Prayers are with the family.

Danny Payne - December 14, 2025 at 06:22 PM

PM

“ You are all in our prayers.

Pat & Colin Mathis



Pat Mathis - December 14, 2025 at 05:20 PM

DB

“ Debra Brown lit a candle in memory of Jimmy Childre



Debra Brown - December 14, 2025 at 04:26 PM

TK

“ *Mr. Jimmy invited me into his office a few weeks ago while he was eating lunch.. I said I'd come back when he finished but he'd have none of that. A true southern gentleman & entrepreneur, he has been a blessing to our community!*

Tim Kimerling - December 14, 2025 at 02:38 PM

SA

Jimmy, so sorry to hear this. My prayers are with you all.

Sandra Arnold - December 14, 2025 at 08:42 PM

AS

“ *Mr. Jimmy and I did more than business together. We became friends and I always enjoyed visiting with him. He was a kind and sharing man. A true gentleman. I will miss my friend. Prayers to the family. A. Mark Smith*

A. Mark Smith - December 14, 2025 at 12:14 PM

PL

“ *There is not a man alive comparable to Jimmy Childre. My prayers are with the entire family. Be assured you will certainly be greatly missed. He was an icon to be remembered forever!*

pam. lucey - December 14, 2025 at 10:42 AM

RW

“ *Prayers go out to the Childre family. Mr. Jimmy was a good man and will surely be missed by many.*



Ray Woodall - December 14, 2025 at 10:38 AM

RR

“ We're so sorry to hear about Mr Jimmy's passing. When I miss you Jimmy's lived along abundant Life a blessed life. It was a pleasure to work for Mr Jimmy we've completed numerous jobs for him. I thoughts and prayers are with you all.



Ray& Kim Roberts - December 14, 2025 at 09:59 AM

RF

*“ I have always known Mr. Jimmy. He has always been a special part of my life because he was my dad's best friend from childhood. They loved each other dearly and I loved Mr. Jimmy for loving my dad so well! Oh, if everyone had a best friend like Mr. Jimmy. Thank you for sharing your dad with others! He did love all people and he made each one feel special. Heaven gains a remarkable man but a definite hole is left in each of us who were privileged to know him here. Praying for your family in such great loss.
Love in Christ,
Renee' Payne Freeman*

Renee Freeman - December 14, 2025 at 09:49 AM

AH

“ On behalf of the children, staff and Trustees of The Methodist Home for Children, we offer our sincere condolences to the family. May the peace and presence of God be near in all the days ahead.

Alison Evans, CEO The Methodist Home - December 14, 2025 at 09:14 AM

DR

“ Dear Family, I’m so very sorry for your loss. Thru the years my husband and I did business with Mr. Jimmy many times and he was always nice and polite and made sure we were happy with our purchase and our service. He was a joy to do business with. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. May the comfort of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ give you peace thru this difficult time. Love in Christ, Debra & Gary Roberts



Debra Roberts - December 14, 2025 at 08:36 AM

KG

“ Mr. Jimmy was always a pleasure to talk to. I delivered his mail since '99 and he was always the same. Warm and uplifting. He will be missed. Take your rest. The check is in the mail. 🙏🙏🙏🥹

Kevin Gray - December 14, 2025 at 06:47 AM

AS

“ It was such a pleasure to see Mr. Childre sitting at his desk -always dressed so beautifully. He always took the time to speak to you and ask how your life was going. I know he was so proud of his children and grandchildren. He will be missed.
Anne and Bob Smart

Anne and Bob Smart - December 14, 2025 at 06:16 AM



“ Fly high with the Angels Mr. Jimmy, and you will be missed by many. Prayers, & Condolences to all the family from Jan Quinn DeLong.



Gloria DeLong - December 14, 2025 at 04:01 AM

RR

“ To know members of the Childre family is to know how revered Mr. Jimmy has been in their lives. It has been a privilege and an honor to be among the circle of friends of the Childre family and Mr. Jimmy. For well over half a century, their legacy of work and passion for that work, with Mr. Jimmy at its heart, has been a civic gift to central Georgia. The legacy continues, inspired by his example. //
Richard Rauh

Richard Rauh - December 13, 2025 at 11:53 PM

LL

“ I've had the pleasure of working with Mr. Jimmy since Sept 2016 and when he would see me he would ask about my children and we talk about the kids and grandkids. He always would say how important they are. He would always ask how I was and thank me for bringing him his paper and mail. We are all missing you Mr Jimmy. Thank you for appreciating me and telling me what a great job I was doing. It was nice to hear.



Lisa Lowden - December 13, 2025 at 09:47 PM

JO

“ Josie lit a candle in memory of Jimmy Childre



Josie - December 13, 2025 at 09:37 PM

DH

“ The first time, I met Mr. Jimmy was in 1964, he had just opened his dealership in Sandersville. He had 1, 1965 Super Sport Impala, Pink with a Black vinyl top, this was on Sunday, the next day I bought it, I had to have it. He was a kind and gentle man. A Friend always. Stopped by to see him a few months ago, he remembered, the Corvette, he let me use when he was servicing my car. We spoke of times past and had a good visit. He was my Friend and I will always cherish his memory.

Dewey Holton

Dewey Holton - December 13, 2025 at 09:10 PM



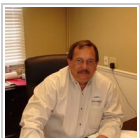
“ A kind, decent, caring, Christian man that I had the honor of knowing. Mr. Jimmy had a heart of gold. Praying for the entire Childre family. You surely will be missed, you were a pillar in this community.

Steve Stewart - December 13, 2025 at 08:42 PM

TL

“ I am so sad to learn of the passing of such a fine man . He loved to chat, when I was looking for a used auto he would strike up a conversation about what he thought would work for me. His sons were as fine as their Father. My heart felt condolences to his beloved family and the ones who called him a friend. Rest In Peace Friend 🙏🙏🙏 Prayers to everyone

Trudie Lewis - December 13, 2025 at 08:36 PM



“ One the greatest men I have ever had the privilege of calling a friend. Very much loved by all who came into contact with him.

Dan Crumpler - December 13, 2025 at 07:47 PM

JY

“ Dear Family, I was so sad when I learned of Mr. Jimmy's passing. A friend indeed and helped me through some tough times. Although there was a great deal of time that passed between our visits, he never forgot my name. He will never be forgotten and will always be in my heart. Until we meet again, Rest in Peace dear friend.
Casey & Judy Jackson Youngblood



Judy Youngblood - December 13, 2025 at 06:58 PM

BN

“ Jason and family I am so sorry for your loss. Jennifer and I will be praying for you and your family through this difficult time.

Becky Scott and Jennifer Nelson - December 13, 2025 at 05:51 PM

JT

“ Jimmy Thigpen lit a candle in memory of Jimmy Childre



Jimmy Thigpen - December 13, 2025 at 05:42 PM

CV

“ Mr. Jimmy was a Southern Gentleman and there will never be another like him. He worked hard and enjoyed his work and family. His legacy will be remembered by all who knew him. God blessed Mr. Jimmy with many years and how he can rest in the arms of Jesus. My prayers are with all who called him a friend and with his family who he loved so much.

Connie K. Veal - December 13, 2025 at 04:56 PM

KA

“ *Mr. Jimmy was an amazing business owner who had an eye for whay it takes to be successful. Beyond that he was a spouse, a father, a grandfather, great grandfather, uncle, boss, faithful friend and supporter of his family. He will be missed by many and always loved by all. Jimmy Jr, Bob, Angel, Jason, and JJ and family please know you are all in my thoughts and prayers.*



Kathy Helton Aaron - December 13, 2025 at 03:59 PM

DB

Mr. Jimmy was a very loving, kind good hearted man. He was a dear friend to our family. Several of my family bought several cars from him. He never forgot a face. He was always very happy to see any of us and we'd go in his office and just talk and catch up on things. You'll never be forgotten. Your Legacy will continue. The nail we meet again, rest in peace dear friend. I am very sorry for his loss. Our prayers are with you all.

Dee Harvill Brodowsky - December 13, 2025 at 09:13 PM

DB

Until we meet again, rest in peace dear friend

Dee Harvill Brodowsky - December 13, 2025 at 09:14 PM

LF

“ *I will never forget the memories I had with Mr.Jimmy! He was a very good man to work with and for! Prayers for the Childre family!*

Luke Fletcher - December 13, 2025 at 03:37 PM

JB

“ *So sorry of the lost Me. Childre*

Juliet and Wayne Boone - December 13, 2025 at 02:55 PM

ES

“ MR. JIMMY WAS MY BEST FRIEND FOR 59 YEARS. IN GOOD TIMES AND TOUGH TIMES, HE ALWAYS STOOD BY ME.

E. Allen Smith - December 13, 2025 at 02:21 PM



“ Jean Duckworth lit a candle in memory of Jimmy Childre



Jean Duckworth - December 13, 2025 at 01:43 PM

EC

“ Mr. Jimmy was a fine man who will be missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him. I bought several cars from him over the years and was always pleased with the service he and his dealership provided. Sending prayers for peace and comfort to his family and friends. Elaine C Carnes

Elaine Campbell Carnes - December 13, 2025 at 12:57 PM

PW

“ A sweet kind and loving man. My main Man Love ❤️ Always a joy to care for.

Phyllis Woodard - December 13, 2025 at 12:51 PM

PD

“ Condolences to the family and friends 🙏

Patsy H Myrick Dalton - December 13, 2025 at 12:27 PM

LH

Sorry for your loss. I always enjoyed talking with Mr Jimmy while I was having my vehicle serviced. Prayers for the family 🙏

Larry Hendricks - December 13, 2025 at 06:18 PM

LG

Prayers to all of the family. Jimmy was a very nice man and will be missed by many friends.

Lynda Garbutt - December 13, 2025 at 09:36 PM

CM

What a special man he was. You will definitely be missed. Charlotte McCorkle

Charlotte McCorkle - December 15, 2025 at 10:41 AM