



Jerry Dale Thornton

November 9, 1945 - September 28, 2025

Jerry Dale Thornton passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family, at his home in Rancho Mirage, California, on September 28, 2025. He was 79 years old.

Born on November 9, 1945, in Louisville, Kentucky, Jerry lived a life rooted in faith, love, and service to others.

He proudly served in the National Guard, beginning a lifelong commitment to his country. Jerry went on to build a distinguished career with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, where he served with honor and integrity, retiring as Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) of the Los Angeles field office.

After his retirement from the FBI, Jerry continued his public service as Inspector General for the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), where he worked to uphold accountability, transparency, and excellence in education.

Above all, Jerry was a devoted husband, father, and man of God. He loved deeply, led with integrity, and lived joyfully. His faith guided his steps, and his love for his family and country was unwavering.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 50 years, Kathy Thornton, and their four children: Michael, Andrew, Jennifer, and Kelli — all of whom carry forward his legacy of strength, devotion, and compassion.

A memorial service to honor and celebrate Jerry's life will be held on October 10, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Owen Funeral Home, located at 5317 Dixie Highway, Louisville, Kentucky 40216. Burial will take place after

the visitation at 2:00 PM, going to Vine Hill Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family encourages donations to the charity of your choice, in memory of Jerry's lifetime of service.

Jerry Dale Thornton will be remembered not only for his many accomplishments, but for the way he lived — with faith, humility, and a heart full of love.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT **10**. 10:00 AM - 1:30 PM (ET)

Owen Funeral Homes - Dixie Highway

5317 Dixie Highway

Louisville, KY 40216

(502) 447-2600

<https://owenfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall

KM

“ *Kaylee and Mckayla purchased the Blue Caribbe an Bouquet for the family of Jerry Dale Thornton.*



Kaylee and Mckayla - October 08, 2025 at 08:28 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Jerry Dale Thornton.*



October 08, 2025 at 06:37 AM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Jerry Dale Thornton.*

October 08, 2025 at 06:37 AM

KB

“ *To my Dad whom I loved to infinity
my life will never be the same I will miss you everyday !! I will miss
your hey Kelli Susan and your hey kiddo, our phone conversations
we solved all the worlds problems lol
I will talk about you daily as I do now
I love you to infinity 💔*

kelli thornton britain - October 04, 2025 at 01:57 PM

PC

Kelli Susan I love you with my whole heart FOREVER! 🥹 Mom

Phyllis Coffman - October 04, 2025 at 02:05 PM

MK

Kathy and family, my sincere condolences to you all on Jerry's passing.

Mark Kroczyński - October 09, 2025 at 12:09 PM

TK

Just recently I learned of Jerry's passing. Beginning in 1984, Jerry's was one of five FBI supervisors sharing carpool rides to Headquarters from our Northern Virginia neighborhood. Always positive with an easy smile, Jerry's was a delight. Carol and I send our sincere condolences to Kathy and her family.

Thomas Kubic - October 22, 2025 at 04:06 PM