



James Melvin "Jim" East

January 9, 1937 - July 14, 2020

James Melvin (Jim) East, 83, of Gilmer, Texas was born January 9, 1937, to Chessie Dewie East and Jessie Leona Ward East and passed from this life, July 14, 2020, in Longview, Texas. Funeral services will be held at 11:00 am, Saturday, July 18, 2020 at McWhorter Funeral Home with Bro. David Cotham officiating. The family will receive friends at 10:00 am prior to the service. Interment will be held at Sand Hill Cemetery. A live stream will be available on the McWhorter Facebook page for anyone who cannot attend.

Jim was a proud 1955 New Diana High School graduate, lifetime FFA Alumni member, and longtime 4-H supporter. Jim married Karen Guest, May 9, 1964. He retired from the United States Air Force after proudly serving his country for over 22 years. His service time began at Lackland AFB in San Antonio, Texas in 1957. From there he went to Portsmouth New Hampshire, Morocco, Fort Worth, Texas, and Bossier City, Louisiana. After marrying Karen, they lived and served in Panama, then Austin, Texas, where George was born, followed by Fort Walton Beach, where Jeffrey was born. His family stayed in Sand Hill, while he served in Thailand. Later he was stationed in San Antonio again, before ending his military service in Bossier City.

Upon retiring from the Air Force in 1979, his family moved home to Sand Hill, where he enjoyed working on the family farm. He also worked for Gilmer National Bank, where he retired in 2003.

Those left to cherish his memory are his loving wife, Karen East; sons, George East and his wife, Lisa and Jeff East and his wife, Janice; his

grandchildren, Cody East, Brenna East and Jake East; and his brother, Dewey East.

He is preceded in death by his parents; and by his sisters, Norma Jean Hathcoat and Patsy Ruth Molnar.

Pallbearers will be George East, Jeff East, Cody East, Billy Molnar, Larry East and Charles East.

Honorary pallbearers will be Jake East, Joey Boykins, Henry Wilson, Brandon Wilson, Brandon Nugent and Cody Lee.

Memorial donations can be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital at www.stjude.org.

Cemetery Details

Sand Hill Cemetery

3275 FM 555
Gilmer, TX 75644

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 18. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

McWhorter Funeral Home
1074 St. Hwy 300
Gilmer, TX 75645
(903) 734-7070
info@mcwhorterfh.com
<https://www.mcwhorterfh.com>

Service

JUL 18. 11:00 AM (CT)

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Tribute Wall



“ *McWhorter Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of James Melvin "Jim" East*



McWhorter Funeral Home - July 17, 2020 at 06:06 PM



“ *111 files added to the album Life Tributes*



McWhorter Funeral Home - July 17, 2020 at 05:55 PM



“ *Fields of Europe for Spring was purchased for the family of James Melvin "Jim" East.*



July 17, 2020 at 02:58 PM

DH

“ Our deepest sympathies to Karen and family. We are so sorry we cannot attend his services. We shall forever cherish the many years of friendship with the East family.

Dwight and Billie Hadley

Dwight Hadley - July 17, 2020 at 01:44 PM



“ European Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of James Melvin "Jim" East.



July 16, 2020 at 09:31 PM

CT

“ I met Jim in 1994 when I began working at GNB. We spent a lot of time together out looking at bank properties and had some good conversations. Jim was a good man. Praying for Karen and all the family.

Charles Turner

Charles Turner - July 16, 2020 at 08:33 PM

HC

“ Karen, George, Jeff, Dewey and families,

We are sadden to learn of the death of our life long very special good friend. We will always cherish the memories. It is our prayer that our good end gracious God will be with and comfort all of you during this difficult time.

With our love and blessings,

Harold and Jo Covin

Harold Covin - July 16, 2020 at 05:47 PM

LT

“ Karen, we are so sorry to hear of your loss. We pray that God will give you and your family strength through this sad time.

*Love,
Charles and Linda Tevebaugh*

LINDA TEVEBAUGH - July 16, 2020 at 04:24 PM