



James Preston Smith

April 7, 1937 - July 5, 2021

James Preston Smith, 84, of Gladewater, was born April 7, 1937, to Wes and Lena Lucille McKellar Smith and passed from this life July 5, 2021, surrounded by his family. Memorial services will be held at 2:00 pm, Saturday, July 10, 2021, at McWhorter Funeral Home Chapel with James Ritter, John Andrews, and Lisa Martin, officiating. The family will receive friends at 1:00 pm prior to the service.

James married Paula Ann Jones, June 4, 1971, in Marshall, Texas. He acquired his RN, BSN, and MBA and retired after 46 years. He was a past Worshipful Master of Gladewater Lodge #852 AF&AM. Later he served as Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas. James was a Shriner, Potentate in 1994 Shrine Temple in Tyler and later became the Grand Commander of the York Rite Grand Commandery of Texas from 2003-2004. He was also a member of the Scottish Rite of Waco, Texas. James was a member of Pritchett Church of Christ.

Those left to cherish his memory are his wife, Paula Smith; daughters, Dena Mayfield and her husband, Ricky, Mary Ann Tant and her husband, Chuck, and Sandra Thur and her husband, Marc; son in law, Bennie Richardson; sister, Martha Dell Smith; brother, Neal Griffin; and by 8 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents; daughter, Kelly Richardson; and by his brothers, Larry Smith and Sonny Womble.

Please visit James' on-line registration book at www.mcwhorterfh.com to

leave a memory for the family.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 10. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

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

Service

JUL 10. 2:00 PM (CT)

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Gilmer, TX 75645
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Tribute Wall



“ *McWhorter Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of James Preston Smith*



McWhorter Funeral Home - July 10, 2021 at 06:05 PM

JS

“ *Paula, so sorry to hear about the passing of Uncle James.*

Johnny Smith - July 10, 2021 at 06:15 PM

NS

“ *Dear Paula and family,*

Our prayers are with you as you take time to process...to remember and celebrate a life well loved.

We will miss Jim.

*Sincerely,
Nestor A. Santos and family
Ascension Commandery No. 25
George M. Patrick 13, R.+S.M.
Royal Arch Ch. 24
Tyler Lodge 1233*

Nestor Santos - July 10, 2021 at 09:43 AM



“ Dear Paula: I pray for God’s hand on you and family with your loss. May he provide peace and remembrance.
Love,
Harry & Glenda

harry owens - July 10, 2021 at 07:57 AM



“ Finest Farewell Spray was purchased for the family of James Preston Smith.



July 09, 2021 at 05:53 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of James Preston Smith.



July 09, 2021 at 05:30 PM



“ Melissa Fleming lit a candle in memory of James Preston Smith



Melissa Fleming - July 09, 2021 at 04:14 PM

MF

Prayers for you all during this tough time. Phyllis and I would like to make a donation to the Masonic Lodge in James name. Love and parayers

Melissa Fleming - July 09, 2021 at 04:17 PM



“ 211 files added to the album LifeTributes



McWhorter Funeral Home - July 09, 2021 at 03:40 PM

LG

“ *Laura Green purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of James Preston Smith.*



Laura Green - July 09, 2021 at 01:59 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of James Preston Smith.*



July 09, 2021 at 11:43 AM



“ *Sweet Sincerity was purchased for the family of James Preston Smith.*



July 09, 2021 at 10:25 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James Preston Smith.*



July 08, 2021 at 03:27 PM



“ *Steve & Rhonda Phelps & Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of James Preston Smith.*



Steve & Rhonda Phelps & Family - July 08, 2021 at 02:47 PM



“ *Jim was a great friend, a great Templar, and a true gentleman. The memories of our times together will always be with me. Arlene and I are very sorry to hear of his passing and our prayers are with the family. God bless and keep you.*

Ken Fischer - July 08, 2021 at 11:26 AM

WA

“ *With love: Womble/Wood family (Hallie, Matt, Amy) purchased the Divine Light for the family of James Preston Smith.*



With love: Womble/Wood family (Hallie, Matt, Amy) - July 08, 2021 at 10:23 AM



Laurabeth Clinton

“ *Dale and I are so, so very sorry and grieve with you for your loss of this special man. You all will be in our thoughts and prayers during the coming days ahead. We can be comforted knowing hes celebrating in heaven for a life well lived and well loved and also knowing that hes with Kelley!! Love and prayers for your comfort and peace from our precious Lord and Savior!!*

Laurabeth Clinton - July 07, 2021 at 05:46 PM

MS

“ *Jim was a good friend, Great Knight Templar and Special individual. My fondest memories were of our many years of competition on the Drill Floor at Grand Commandery. He was an outstanding Captain and formidable adversary while always exhibiting the Knightly attributes he exemplified.*

Mike Shively - July 07, 2021 at 05:13 PM