



Jim Hays

May 8, 1946 - November 2, 2020

James Neill Hays Sr. better known as Jim went to be with his Lord and Maker Jesus Christ on November 2, 2020 after a short battle with cancer. Jim was born May 8, 1946 in Emory, Texas to Charlie Frank Hays and Rae Christine Neill Hays and they both preceded him in death.

Graveside services with military honors will be held at 9:15 am, Thursday, November 5, 2020 at Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery. The family will receive friends 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm, Wednesday, November 4, 2020 at McWhorter Funeral Home.

Jim was an avid husband, father, father in law and papa. He loved to travel, hunt and fish. He enjoyed cooking bar-b-que for friends and family. He loved his family very much and enjoyed watching his grandkids show livestock, drama, football games, baseball games, volley ball games, soccer games and any other activities they were involved.

Jim served in the Army from August 1968 until October 1970. While serving he was deployed to Vietnam. After serving in the military he found his way to making his career as a Law Enforcement Officer. He served with Longview Police Department from December 1972-1977. He worked a short time with The Texas State Pardons and Parole office before joining Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission. He worked for TABC from January 1979 until he retired May 2001 with rank of Lieutenant. Jim was also a member of the Masonic Lodge becoming Grand Master.

While stationed in Abilene, Texas, Jim reunited with his high school

sweetheart, Candace Rockenbaugh Hays and they were married June 25, 1997 and she survives him. When they retired, they set out to travel the whole USA and enjoyed all their stops. After settling down in Canton, Texas for several years, they moved back to Longview, Texas to be closer to family. Those left to cherish his memory are his wife, Candace Rockenbaugh Hays; daughter, Shelia Bledsoe and husband, Frank; son, Neil Hays and wife, Anna; stepson, Scott Hall; stepson, Rusty Hall and wife, Amanda; grandchildren, Haley Bledsoe, Kayla Tefteller and husband, Andy, Collan Hays, Kendall Hays, Claytan Hays, Audrina Waldum and Brayden Waldum; and great grandson, Lyndon Tefteller; sister, Charolette Willoughby and husband, Richard; and by numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. Please visit Jim's on-line registration book at www.mcwhorterfh.com to leave a memory for the family.

Cemetery Details

Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery

Dallas, TX

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 4. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

Graveside Services

NOV 5. 9:15 AM (CT)

Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery
Dallas, TX

Tribute Wall



“ *McWhorter Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Jim Hays*



McWhorter Funeral Home - November 04, 2020 at 05:13 PM

KB

“ *To Candy & family: Jim was such a kind sweet fellow, one we'll always fondly remember. We met him when the Seniors met at Whataburger for breakfasts & also enjoyed visiting with him when the fellows would walk in the mall. May Jesus comfort you & know, He's the only way to have eternal "peace within". To God be the Glory Forever 🙏
With sincere deepest sympathy,
Keith & Donna Blanton
White Oak*



Keith & Donna Blanton - November 07, 2020 at 08:51 PM

BH

“ *I am saddened to hear of the loss of the wonderful man. He will be missed...Candy my family and I pray for your comfort. God Bless you and your family.
Beverly Hamilton (The Hearn Girls)*

Beverly Hamilton - November 07, 2020 at 12:16 AM

JS

“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Jenny Swindell - November 06, 2020 at 09:27 AM

DK

“ *I worked with Jim at the Longview Police Department during the 70s, Jim was a good officer and a better person who was well thought of and liked by all.*

*Please accept my condolences,
Dan Keeton*

Dan Keeton - November 04, 2020 at 07:39 PM

JV

“ *Candy and family,*

In 2019, my husband and I purchased an upright antique cabinet at an estate sale in Longview, Texas. It was missing one of the pulls on a drawer. I called a lot of places to try and match the other pulls, but without success. I called Jim and he said he could make it for me. Make it he did. He matched the other pulls so perfect no one could pick out the one Jim made. It was beautiful. Your husband was a wonderful person, good Christian, and most of all a friend. He will be missed.

God bless you all,

Donnie and Jennie Vetsch

Jennie VETSCH - November 04, 2020 at 05:39 PM



“ 119 files added to the album LifeTributes



McWhorter Funeral Home - November 04, 2020 at 04:26 PM



“ Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Lavender and White was purchased for the family of Jim Hays.



November 04, 2020 at 04:25 PM



“ I'm so sorry for your loss, Sheila. We thought a lot of him. I loved the fact that I never saw him without a smile. And he was so proud of you. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this time. Hugs for you, sweet girl. Bud and Nancy Hudgins

Nancy Hudgins - November 04, 2020 at 02:56 PM



“ I was involved in the opportunity to give Jim his nickname Stuby, always a very gracious individual . Will be missed - Dave & Leila Collins

Dave Collins - November 04, 2020 at 01:55 PM



“ *Thinking of you all
Gaynell Holmes
Karen Lange*

Karen Lange - November 04, 2020 at 11:59 AM



“ *Jim was always smiling. He was a great man and a good friend. Sheila, Neil, and Candy please accept our deepest sympathy. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, not only now but in the future too.
Clifford and Glenda Culberson*

Clifford Culberson - November 04, 2020 at 11:42 AM



“ *Classic Fireside Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Jim Hays.*



November 04, 2020 at 09:32 AM



“ *Bountiful European Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Jim Hays.*



November 04, 2020 at 09:19 AM

BH

“ I am going to miss Jim and our discussions and jawing on Sunday mornings and working at the fish fry for UMW. I looked forward on Sundays to see what new things he had in mind about solving our world problems. Jim and Candy sat in front of me at church so I could keep him in line. Jim, I will miss those times.
Betty Hunt

Betty Hunt - November 04, 2020 at 09:14 AM



“ Lavender & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Jim Hays.



November 03, 2020 at 09:44 PM

BH

“ Jim and Candy have been our neighbors for the past three years. What a wonderful couple and what great neighbors. We ate out with them, made a trip to Arkansas together, and took day trips with them. We have so many good memories. Nobody had ever cooked steaks for one of our HOA dinners. Jim did and surprised the entire neighborhood. He will be missed by so many people.
With sincere sympathy,
Bob and Pam Hickerson



Bob and Pam Hickerson - November 03, 2020 at 06:57 PM

NI

“ Jim was a big part of my childhood. Growing up we lived in line with his family who was TABC, then the game warden, DPS officer, then my family which was DPS then the Sheriff’s department. Our families grew up together, hung out together, and were family. Jim makes up a great part of my childhood memories.

Nikki - November 03, 2020 at 05:01 PM

Profile icon

“ Red, White & Blue Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Jim Hays.



November 03, 2020 at 03:58 PM

JN

“ We had brief friendship, maybe 4 years. From our first meeting I could tell he was a fountain of “good guy”. He fit in with my cronies from Greggton UMC Alethia SS class at once. We had many a coffee while solving the worlds problems. His love for family was always visible. We miss him much. Jerry Nichols

Jerry Nichols - November 03, 2020 at 03:25 PM

MW

“ My beloved uncle. Always loved, always laughing or cutting up. I'll always cherish our 1 on 1 conversations and his powerful words of guidance and experience to me in life. From roping me while running across the yard as a youngster, making me hand paint pipe fence to teaching me a little wood working. He will always be remembered and never forgotten. Love you Jim. Until we meet again. Matt

matthew willoughby - November 03, 2020 at 02:57 PM