



James Lee McWhorter

December 7, 1936 - February 12, 2022

James Lee McWhorter, 85, of Rockdale, went to his eternal Home on February 12, 2022. He was preceded in death by his parents, R.D. and Ruby McWhorter; brother, Robert McWhorter; sister, Sue Wade; and half-brother, Vance Jones. He is survived by his wife, Shayne McWhorter; son, David McWhorter (Annette) of Tomball, TX; daughter, Kelly Shows (Brian) of Garden Ridge, TX; daughter, Molly Jean Frazier of Omaha, NE; sister, Jane McWhorter, of San Marcos, TX; grandchildren, Hannah Shows and Ethan Shows of Garden Ridge, TX; Kimberly McWhorter of Tomball, TX; Martin Frazier of Omaha, NE; mother of his children, Doris Jean McWhorter of Buda, TX; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

James was born in Amarillo, Texas on December 7, 1936. His childhood years in Amarillo were happy ones spending a lot of time with his brother and their friends – many of which he stayed in touch with the rest of his life! He graduated from Amarillo High School in 1955, and attended The University of Texas at Austin graduating with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. James also served his country in the Army as a Reserve Warrant Officer in Intelligence.

Throughout his career, James worked for several different agencies in Amarillo and Austin. Most of his working years he was employed with the State of Texas at the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in Austin,

where he served as Assistant Commissioner for Administration. He retired from the Coordinating Board in August 2000 to his “happy place”, his ranch outside of Rockdale - “The BarNone” (named by his brother).

James’s retirement years were filled with raising cattle (until a mama cow tried to take him out); playing golf; taking adventurous walks around the ranch - in the later years with his dogs; traveling with family and friends; one of his greatest joys - hosting his children, grandchildren, extended family and friends at the ranch; and many evenings just sitting on the porch watching ducks on the lake and other creatures of nature pass us by.

James was always very active up until the last 6 months of his life when he began to lose his years long battle with pulmonary fibrosis. The disease took everything from him except his spirit which remained positive and focused on the wellbeing of others until the end. Praise God his struggle with that horrible affliction is over! We are heartbroken that he is gone from here, but comforted knowing he is whole again and that we will see him again in Heaven. Until we meet again, Sweet James, may you rest in Peace!!

James’s Celebration of Life (he did NOT want a funeral) will be held at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Rockdale, Texas on Saturday, February 26, at 1:00pm. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Cal Farley’s Boys Ranch, 600 SW 11th Ave, Amarillo, TX 79101, or to the charity of your choice.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

FEB **26**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - Rockdale

1041 West Highway 79

Rockdale, TX 76567

(512) 446-5454

phillips_luckey@yahoo.com

<https://www.phillipsandluckey.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of James Lee McWhorter*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - February 25, 2022 at 12:52 PM

JM

Shayne, I'm so very sorry to hear of "McDad's". I enjoyed our emails and was concerned when I didn't hear back from him end of last year. He was my mentor and encourager. He touch so many with his kindness. Hugs, lady.

Jannette McWhorter - July 27, 2022 at 12:12 AM

JL

Jimmy Dean lill

Jimmy lill - June 29, 2023 at 08:15 PM

GR

“ I was diagnosed with Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF) four years ago. For over two years, I relied on prescription medications and therapies, but unfortunately, the symptoms continued to worsen. My breathing became more labored, and I experienced increasing fatigue and shortness of breath with even minimal activity. Last year, out of desperation and hope, I decided to try an herbal treatment program from NaturePath Herbal Clinic. Honestly, I was skeptical at first, but within a few months of starting the treatment, I began to notice real changes. My breathing became easier, the tightness in my chest eased, and I felt more energetic and capable in my daily life. Incredibly, I also regained much of my stamina and confidence. It's been a life-changing experience I feel more like myself again, better than I've felt in years. If you or a loved one is struggling with IPF, I truly recommend looking into their natural approach. You can visit their website at www.naturepathherbalclinic.com

Greta - November 18, 2025 at 11:14 AM

SW

“ James, what can I say other than you were a great man in my life. And I was so proud of you when you purchased the ranch! I will never forget what all we shared and your never ending love. Shelly Wilson Gavlik

Shelly Wilson - March 17, 2023 at 07:07 AM



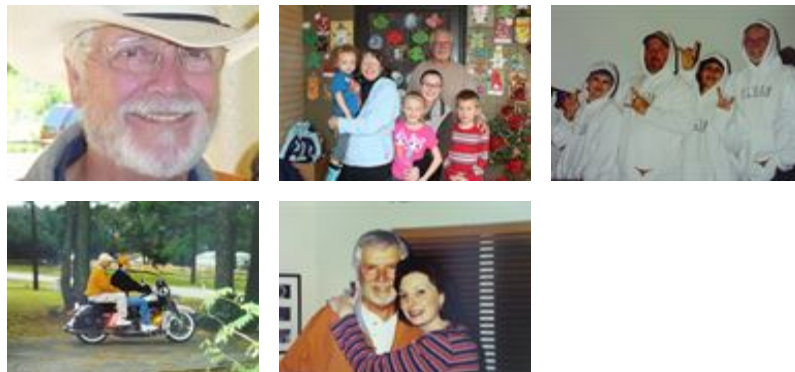
“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Lee McWhorter.



February 26, 2022 at 11:03 AM



“ 101 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - February 25, 2022 at 12:41 PM

BO

“ *James was truly a “country gentleman “ in every sense of the word to Bill and me.*

James and Bill shared many good times fishing, visiting and singing together.

God must have wanted them for His choir as HE took them home less than six months apart.

Heavens gain leaves family and friends to remember the good times as we mourn our loss.

Rest In Peace James!!!

Barbara Oakley - February 25, 2022 at 08:00 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of James Lee McWhorter.*



February 24, 2022 at 11:40 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of James Lee McWhorter.



February 24, 2022 at 02:17 PM



“ Dean Herms and Herms family purchased the Joyful Memory for the family of James Lee McWhorter.



Dean Herms and Herms family - February 22, 2022 at 08:14 PM



“ Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of James Lee McWhorter.



February 22, 2022 at 07:05 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James Lee McWhorter.



February 19, 2022 at 03:37 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James Lee McWhorter.*



February 19, 2022 at 03:34 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Lee McWhorter.*



February 19, 2022 at 03:30 PM



“ *From Vicki, Rollin, Doug and families purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of James Lee McWhorter.*



From Vicki, Rollin, Doug and families - February 17, 2022 at 07:52 PM



“ *James and I were good friends through many years of our working together and shared a bond that remains. He will be sorely missed, it it was my pleasure to know him. He truly was a southern gentleman.*

Mary P. Allen - February 17, 2022 at 02:18 PM

EG

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Evelyn Green - February 16, 2022 at 01:35 PM

MP

Love those men

Michelle Moon Padias - February 16, 2022 at 07:08 PM

EG

There are not enough words to describe this wonderful man. James will be so missed by his loving wife, Shayne, family and friends. James was a passionate and gentle soul, also honest, caring, generous, loving and fiercely loyal.

James, brother Robert, Jack and Jimmy Lill all started to school, 1st and 2nd grade at Glenwood grade school in Amarillo, Texas 79 and 80 years ago. Their friendship remained steadfast throughout their lives. Years could pass and upon reuniting it was if not a day had passed.

Robert and LaVern had a reunion of this band of brothers and their significant others in Las Vegas in 2002 to celebrate their anniversary. From that time on we dubbed ourselves the "42 Green Dominos" and reunited on many fabulous vacations. We had so much fun that we began to have annual reunions in the spring at the 'Bar None' Ranch. Many times at the ranch we were joined with different extended family members as well as other lifelong friends. New memories were added to old memories and we became like brothers and sisters. James and Shayne were our gracious hosts to so many of these wonderful gatherings. One and all were blessed by these joyous occasions.

We will all miss these wonderful celebrations of life, our friendships, love and fellowship that transcended so many decades. James, we know you are planning our reunion in heaven. Until then, we love you brother.

*Jack and Evelyn Green
February 24, 2022*

Evelyn Green - February 24, 2022 at 04:54 PM

VC

“ My memories of James began almost 30 years ago when he became a VIP (very important person) to my sister Shayne. He became part of our family, attending family gatherings, sharing our celebrations and sorrows, sometimes entertaining our kids, then our grandkids...

His 'Barnone' Ranch became a favorite gathering place, especially at Easter when he and Shayne would host the entire Hansen family.... And these afforded us precious memories of food (he often grilled for hours), fun, and family.

Though a very quiet guy, his presence was always felt and his importance to our family always present.

I'm eternally grateful to James for the love and support he gave to Shayne for nearly 30 years. We thank the Lord for James's life and the blessing of how he enriched our lives.

*Until we meet again, dear James
Vicki Hansen Clark*

Vicki Hansen Clark - February 16, 2022 at 12:54 PM