



James "Jim" J. Vavra Sr

November 21, 1931 - November 12, 2015

James "Jim" J. Vavra, Sr., 84, of Bryan passed away Thursday in a Floresville hospital. Graveside services will be held at 10 am Tuesday, November 17 at Smetana Cemetery with Monsignor John McCaffrey officiating. Visitation will be from 5 pm until 8 pm Monday, November 16 at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Caldwell. A rosary will be recited at 7 pm Monday evening at the funeral home.

Mr. Vavra was born October 21, 1931 in Caldwell to Pete and Otilia (Houdek) Vavra and was a Veteran of the Korean War. He retired from Brazos County where he was employed as a heavy equipment operator and enjoyed hunting and fishing. He was a member of the Catholic faith.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Bobbie Ann Vavra; his parents and a brother, Fred Vavra.

Survivors include two sons and a daughter-in-law, James Vavra, Jr. of Caldwell and Travis and Paula Vavra of Plano; three sisters and brothers-in-law, Frances and Leo Brooks of Taylor, Tela and Joe Henna of Austin and Helen and Truitt Burnett of Cameron; four grandchildren, Michelle Vavra, Laura Vavra, Cody Vavra and Lacey Vavra and two great grandchildren,

Dakoda White and Rylei White.

Cemetery Details

Smetana Cemetery

Smetana Road
Bryan, TX

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 16. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - Caldwell
404 W. Buck St.
Caldwell, TX 77836
(979) 567-3232
phillipsandluckeyfh@yahoo.com
<https://www.phillipsandluckey.com/>

Rosary

NOV 16. 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - Caldwell
404 W. Buck St.
Caldwell, TX 77836
(979) 567-3232
phillipsandluckeyfh@yahoo.com
<https://www.phillipsandluckey.com/>

Graveside Service

NOV 17. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Smetana Cemetery
Smetana Road
Bryan, TX

Tribute Wall

MS

“ *Miky Sodhi purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of James "Jim" J. Vavra Sr.*



Miky Sodhi - November 16, 2015 at 04:38 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of James "Jim" J. Vavra Sr.*



November 16, 2015 at 10:10 AM

RP

“ *We are so sorry for y'all's loss. Y'all are in our thoughts and prayers. My husband and I will always remember Jim. We will miss seeing him and talking about fishing..he had some good fishing stories! he told us he didn't like them bluecats but he sure liked them yellowcats! I know he's probably sitting at his favorite fishing hole on the Big Brazos reeling 'em in! we're sure gonna miss him.*



Robin and Bobby Penicka

Robin and Bobby Penicka - November 14, 2015 at 11:17 PM

“ My husband and I have many happy memories of our excursions with my brother Jim. Many of them involve hunting and fishing. Jim was an avid fisherman and most of the time he was quite successful. He always said that when the trees began to bud in the spring and the redbirds began to sing it was time to go fishing. It seemed that Jim and Bobbie hosted a ‘fish fry’ with all the trimmings yearly, well, if not yearly then almost yearly. Invitations to these were not formal as in a written invite but rather by word-of-mouth. Usually family, friends, and neighbors would show up to enjoy the food and fun. As for hunting, Jim liked to hunt too. He had quite a nice trophy deer head on his living room wall to show off. Too, he enjoyed hunting the wild hogs that were over-populating the river bottom near his home. Jim looked forward to every opening-day of dove season, and he was a terror on squirrels during squirrel season. He made delicious squirrel stew with the squirrels that were unlucky enough to miss escaping his gun sights. My husband likes to recall the time Jim took him bull frog hunting. The fact that it was at night with nothing to see with except a ‘headlight’, catching bull frogs using your hands on the banks of the Little Brazos River seems a little dangerous to me, but Jim had my husband convinced that all was okay and they went on to catch 39 bull frogs in two nights. Jim cooked those frog legs and they were delicious. Jim liked to cook, but I think mostly it made him happy when others enjoyed the fruits of his cooking ‘expertise’.

There’s no shortage of our stories and memories of Jim. When I was very young he sometimes would let me tag along when he went hunting. Once he handed me a shotgun, pointed at an old tree stump and told me to shoot the stump. I did; the gun flew out of my hands when I pulled the trigger, the noise scared the living daylights out of me and for a minute I thought that maybe I had been killed. Too, Jim taught me to drive a car. He drove out somewhere near New Tabor onto what seemed like a very narrow little road and told me to get behind the wheel and drive. Well imagine that; first of all I didn’t know what to do and besides that, it was a standard shift. And then when we get rolling down the road, he tells me to pass the car ahead of me. All in all, it was a very frightening experience but I did

*learn to drive and we made it back home alive.
Jim was quite a character. My husband, Leo, was very fond of him
and as I said before, we've lots of memories of him. Jim never met a
stranger, always had something to say, and was well liked. I'm so
sad that the Lord called him back home. I know, though, that he's
now with the Lord and he's no longer suffering.
His spirit will remain with us always. I'm glad he was my brother.
Frances & Leo Brooks*

frances brooks - November 14, 2015 at 11:11 PM

TD

“ *The University Park Police Department
purchased the Large Basket Garden for the
family of James "Jim" J. Vavra Sr.*



The University Park Police Department - November 14, 2015
at 10:10 PM