



Ray "Pete" James

April 27, 1931 - March 17, 2016

Ray Elbert "Pete" James, 84, Topeka, passed away Thursday, March 17, 2016.

Ray was born April 27, 1931, the son of Joseph and Della Ray James. He was a 1947 graduate of Perry High School. On July 28, 1953, Ray and Bonnie Jean Stovall were united in marriage in Topeka KS. They enjoyed over 62 years together.

Ray served, faithfully, to the defense of this Nation, in the US Air Force in Vietnam and Germany for 22 years before retiring. Ray and some of his family attended a reunion in San Antonio of the 12th Squadron FMS, Phantom Phixers. Stories were heard by his family for the first time of Ray's expertise and the high regard of his comrades who knew they could depend on him and what that meant to them.

His second career was as a correctional officer for the State of Kansas at the Women's Correctional Facility in Topeka. There he was looked up to and known as an honest man who could be counted on. Ray retired after 19 years of service.

Ray was wonderful at woodworking. He loved to camp and hunt, loved his dogs and KU basketball. Ray also loved to joke and could do it with a

completely straight face. He loved his family and will be dearly missed.

Grateful to have shared his life are his wife, Bonnie James; daughters, Barbara Tyrone (Thad) Jacksonville AR, Carla Miller (Mark) Garden Ridge TX, Pamela Reser, Topeka, and Janet Baumgartner (Danny) Northfield OH; foster daughter, Shirley McDowell (Jim) Topeka; ten living grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren; sister, Ruth Meyer; and close family friend, Virginia Cochran. Ray was preceded in death by seven siblings and a granddaughter, Christine Allen.

Family will greet friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Monday at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614.

Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home. Burial will follow in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Topeka.

Memorial contributions are suggested to Meadowlark CLC (Community Living Center) at the VA Medical Center, sent in care of the funeral home.

Cemetery Details

Mount Hope Cemetery

4700 SW 17th Street
Topeka, KS 66604

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 21. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
(785) 272-7888
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

Funeral Service

MAR 22. 1:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
(785) 272-7888
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

Tribute Wall



“ Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ray "Pete" James



Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - March 21, 2016 at 01:39 PM



“ Ray "Pete" James

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ Pam, I am so sorry for your loss. Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers.
Melinda Myers



Melinda Myers - March 23, 2016 at 07:54 AM



“ Jennifer Meyer lit a candle in memory of Ray "Pete" James



Jennifer Meyer - March 21, 2016 at 04:21 PM

TF

“ *The Davis Family purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Ray "Pete" James.*



The Davis Family - March 20, 2016 at 03:48 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Ray "Pete" James.*



March 19, 2016 at 11:49 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Ray "Pete" James.*



March 19, 2016 at 10:59 AM