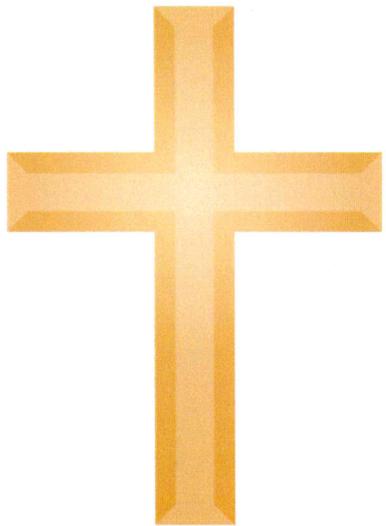


Fill not your hearts with pain and sorrow, but remember me in every tomorrow. Remember the joy, the laughter, the smiles. I've only gone to rest a while. Although my leaving causes pain and grief, my going has eased my hurt and given me relief. So dry your eyes and remember me, not as I am but as I used to be. Because, I will remember you all and look on with a smile. Understand in you hearts, I've only gone to rest a while. As long as I have the love of you, I can live my life in the hearts of all of you.



In Memory



James Melvin Dunnam was born in Vinegar Bend, Alabama on October 2nd, 1934. He told us that the town was named that because a train load of vinegar had burst on a curve of the track. He was the oldest of six children. The family moved to Lucedale, Mississippi where he excelled in sports, especially basketball and baseball.

After graduating from high school in 1952, he enlisted in the US Air Force and studied aircraft mechanics. While stationed in Sioux City he met Patricia Lindgren on a blind date. They fell in love and were married in June of 1954. The next 20 plus years found them raising a family of five and

moving at the will of the US Air Force. One of the hardest separations due to deployment was Vietnam which was one year.

In 1973, James was offered the Chief Master Sgt rank, but that would have meant he needed to reenlist for three more years. Having already committed to buying the family farm in South Dakota, he declined the promotion.

Farm life was good for the family. Dad enjoyed raising hogs, farming, gardening, woodworking and crafts with Pat and the Farmers Market. In earlier years he was a Boy Scout leader and a swimming instructor.

Jim was a devoted father who always wanted the best for his family. He was deeply devoted to family and church. Jim was a commander in the Alcester VFW and maintained the roads in Virginia Township for many years.

Jim loved to tell jokes. Some of them were a little risqué. That was a big part of him socializing with people who came to visit. He always had a pot of hazelnut coffee ready to share. He passed away on Saturday, December 14, 2024 at the Sanford USD Medical Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota at the age of 90.

James is survived by four siblings, his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren who will miss his humor. The great grandchildren will miss the \$1.00 bills they received when they came to visit him.

Thank you all for coming today to honor and remember our Dad. Our hearts are full of love.

Precious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, help me stand.
 I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
 Thru the storm, through the night,
 Lead me on to the light,
 Take my hand, Precious Lord, lead me home.
 When my way grows drear, Precious Lord, linger near;
 When my life is almost gone,
 Hear my cry, hear my call,
 Hold my hand lest I fall;
 Take my hand, Precious Lord, lead me home.

In Loving Memory Of
James Melvin Dunnam

October 2, 1934 ✝ December 14, 2024

MEMORIAL SERVICE

11:00 a.m. Saturday, December 28, 2024

Friendship Assembly Of God Church

Hawarden, Iowa

OFFICIATING

Pastor Jesse Hailey

Elk Point Baptist Church

ORGANIST

Alice Waterman

SPECIAL MUSIC

Allen Van Noort

“Old Rugged Cross”

“His Eye Is On The Sparrow”

Daniel O’Donnell CD

“Waiting On The Farside Banks Of Jordan”

Services in the spring:

MILITARY RITES

Alcester VFW Post 6149

INURNMENT

Pleasant Valley Cemetery

Rural Alcester, South Dakota