



William "Gene" James

Born

November 4, 1928
Durant, Oklahoma

Entered Into Rest

September 18, 2021
Shawnee, Oklahoma

Funeral Ceremony

Friday ~ September 24, 2021
Two O'clock in the Afternoon
Walker Funeral Chapel
Shawnee, Oklahoma

Officiant

Paul Calmes

Final Resting Place

Resthaven Memorial Park
Shawnee, Oklahoma

*For everything there is an appointed season.
And a time for everything under Heaven.
A time for sharing, a time for caring.
A time for loving, a time for giving.
A time for remembering, a time for parting.
You have made everything beautiful in its time.
For everything You do remains forever.*



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William Eugene James, well known as Gene, passed away on Saturday, September 18, 2021. He was 92 years old. Gene was born in Durant, Oklahoma, to T. W. James and Carrie Anderson James on November 4, 1928.

He entered the United States Army in 1950 and spent 17 months in Korea and Japan before being discharged in 1952. He received several medals of accommodation.

He attended Oklahoma University and graduated from Southeastern College. Gene married Lawanda Estelle Troutman in 1953. They had two sons, Paul James and David James. He worked at Southeastern Packing Co. until moving his family to Shawnee in 1962 where he founded James Sausage Co. He was an active member in the community. Gene was the school board president for 12 years, a member of First Baptist Church, Masonic Lodge, Rotary and Elks clubs. He sat on the board of directors for Pottawatomie County American Red Cross, Shawnee Chamber of Commerce, Federal National Bank, and Oklahoma Baptist University. He sponsored Shawnee high school athletics and supported FFA. He also sponsored the American Legion Baseball team. In 1987, he founded United Optical Inc.

Gene was preceded in death by his father, T. W. James, his mother, Carrie James, father-in-law, Votial Troutman, mother-in-law, Bernice Troutman, brothers-in-law, Harold Troutman and Cliff Troutman, and sister-in-law, Nicki Palmer.

Those left to cherish his memory are his wife, Estelle James, sons, Paul James and David James, daughter-in-law, Tammi James, grandchildren, Hank James, Lindsey James, Sean James, and Amy Bernard and husband Thomas Bernard, great-grandchildren, Britton James of San Diego, CA, Kamryn James of Harrah, Simon James and Lucas James of Shawnee, Autumn and Colton Huff of Missouri, and Clara James and Adeline James of Shawnee, sister-in-law, Pat Mauldin, sister-in-law, Jerry Troutman, brother-in-law, Wayne Mauldin, and many loving nieces and nephews.



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