



# James Earl Gist

MAY 20, 1931 - MAY 17, 2005



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FUNERAL HOMES  
OF LONGVIEW AND HENDERSON

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## James Earl Gist

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James Earl Gist, born May 20, 1931, in Slaton, Texas, his home for the last 18 years. James was the youngest of three children born to John Grady and Lillian Gist. James attended Marshall High School, where he was an all-state tight end on the Maverick football team and president of his senior class. James received numerous letters of intent for football scholarships to many major universities in Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri and Louisiana. According to a major Texas newspaper, James was the greatest tight end to ever come out of East Texas. He attended the University of Texas in Austin where he played football and was president of the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity. Upon graduation, James entered the United States Army where he was a First Lieutenant. After his honorable discharge in 1956, he joined Armco Steel in Houston. James married his beloved wife of 46 years, Marion, in February of 1959. Together, they had three children and three grandchildren. After 30 years with Armco as a district sales manager, James joined Marathon Petroleum of Longview. Since living in Longview, he had been an active member of First United Methodist Church. He had been retired for the past eight years. James enjoyed camping, photography, estate sales and cooking, but his greatest passion was spending time with his family and friends. As a friend, James was larger than life. His wit, sense of humor, and devotion will be sorely missed. As a proud father, James' love was unconditional. His integrity, values, ethics, sense of humor, vast knowledge, acceptance, and guidance molded his children's lives and will continue to be a source of their strength. As an adoring husband, he was a blessing. He was a friend and partner for eternity. He cherished his wife and the life they had built together. James is survived by his wife, Marion; his daughter, Tracey Hutson, her husband, Mike, their daughter, Taylor; his son, Gary Gist; his wife, Julie, their daughters, Lillian and Leyton; his son, Greg Gist; his brother, Lloyd and wife, Helen; sister, Mozelle and husband, Joe Davies; as well as several nieces, nephews, and cousins. In Lieu of



## Obituary

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flowers, the family requests memorials be made to the Society of Saint Stephens at First United Methodist Church of Longview. Services will be held at first United Methodist Church of Longview at 11:00 a.m. Friday, May 20, 2005. Visitation is to be held at the family home following the service.



## Tribute Wall

**James Earl Gist**

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**Anonymous** posted:

For those who knew him best, James was a "man's man". For me, he will always be remembered as a "friend's friend". Most important, his total trust was in Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. May that be said about each of us who mourn his passing but look forward to a time when we are together again in the Father's house. John Worsham###imported-begin##John Worsham###imported-end##

May 22 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Marion, I have thought about you every day since your phone call & the heartbreak that you must be going through. Your family, many friends & church will help make this sad time "bearable". I'm only a phone call away anytime!###imported-begin##Kay & Norman Bates###imported-end##

May 20 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Marion, I was so sorry to hear of James' death. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during these difficult days. I enjoyed knowing him and have fond memories of our times together. Linda Butter###imported-begin##Linda Butter###imported-end##

May 19 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

James will be missed by all who had the pleasure to know him. He was a great friend and wonderful fraternity brother. Tish and I offer his family our deepest heartfelt sympathy. With much love, George###imported-begin##George R. Bolin###imported-end##

May 19 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Marion, my thoughts and prayers are with you - remember, when someone you love becomes a memory - that memory becomes a blessing. Love to you and your family, Pat###imported-begin##Pat Roberson###imported-end##

May 19 at 7:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous** posted:

We extend our sympathy to James Earl's family. We pray that you may be blessed with your personal memories of his life as you struggle with your loss. James was a great friend and fellow Maverick of all the members of the classof '50. Joe and Barbara Crouch###imported-begin##Joe Crouch###imported-end##

May 18 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

WE ARE SINCERELY SORRY. MAY GOD'SSPECIAL BLESSINGS BE WITH ALL OF YOU. JAMES AND I CAROLYN WERE IN HIGH SCHOOL TOGETHER SAME CLASS###imported-begin##BILL & CAROLYN LATHAM SULLIVAN###imported-end##

May 18 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

###imported-begin##Marjorie Woodfin and Bushe Morgan###imported-end##

May 18 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with Marion and the entire family during this time of sorrow.###imported-begin##J. R. & Mary Murray###imported-end##

May 18 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

May your precious memories of James be your companion until you are together once again.Love,Pat###imported-begin##Pat Castleberry###imported-end##

May 18 at 7:00 PM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring James by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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