



James McMinn

1949-2020

By [Messenger Staff](#) | Published on July 01, 2020

James U. McMinn was born June 5, 1949, in Childress to George and Hildred McMinn. He lived in Boyd with his family until his death June 25, 2020.

James was preceded in death by his mother and father.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Sally McMinn; his son, David McMinn; daughter-in-love, Michelle; grandchildren Sophie and Amelia; and a large extended family.

James lived an abundant life as a follower of Christ. He was a devoted son, especially after losing his father early in life and always had a heart for helping others whether stopping as a volunteer to help with auto accidents or delivering groceries and mail to individuals who couldn't get out in bad weather as a teenager.

Sally and James joined the Methodist Church together and were married March 21, 1970, in Denton where they both attended the UNT. God provided snow the night of the rehearsal dinner and blooming tulip trees the day of the wedding as a sign of His blessing. James served in the Navy as a damage control engineer. He finally

graduated from UTPB with a degree in math and chemistry despite a learning disability. He continued on to work as a high temperature materials engineer in the aerospace industry and at one time was one of four people worldwide specializing in carbon-carbon technology.

While working as a volunteer fireman and medic, James and Sally adopted David and became bonus parents to his five siblings: Jimmy, Erica, Marcie, Ray and Chad. Shortly after the aerospace industry bottomed out, James changed careers and took great delight in teaching math and chemistry classes, specializing in working with underserved students. He felt a special call to help those who were behind to excel.

He delighted in tinkering with computers and would often build computers for those in need. James was a generous man who shared his faith, his life, his gifts and his home with all he knew.

His memorial service will be a celebration of 50 years of marriage and a life full of blessings. It will be 11 a.m. Aug. 20 at First United Methodist Church of Azle, 200 Church St., in Azle. The Rev. Richard Reed will officiate.

Please dress in colors. James' body was donated to science as a last effort to share what God had so generously given him.