



James F McCluskey

January 23, 1930 - July 30, 2013

Jim was born Jan. 23, 1930, at Fort Smith, Ark. He moved to Lawton, Okla., where he sold newspapers at Fort Sill, and was active in high school sports. He was a four-year letterman and captain of the basketball team.

After graduation from St. Mary's High School, Jim attended Cameron College for a year. He applied for West Point Military Academy and was accepted and graduated. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1953.

Jim's first assignment was Fort Bragg, N.C., where he was assigned to the 82nd Airborne. Jim was later sent to Germany, with the 5th Infantry Division. After returning to the States Jim earned his Masters from Babson Institute and was selected to attend MIT for graduate school. He completed the Command and General Staff course. He returned to the 82nd Airborne at Fort Bragg, N.C. where he commanded the 782nd Maintenance Battalion until 1969. He spent two tours of duty in the Far East, One in Thailand and one in Vietnam. Jim was assigned to Detroit, where he was selected to be program director for the redesign of the Bradley fighting vehicle. He commanded the Tooele Army Depot until 1978 at which point he was transferred to Heidelberg Germany where he retired in 1979 returning to Utah.

He immediately took a position with Morton Thiokol Corporation where he

eventually served as the program manager supporting the redesign of the solid rocket used by NASA. This design replaced the solid rocket used in the Challenger disaster. Jim was instrumental in testing the new design that solved that problem.

Jim met his lovely wife, Ann, at Ft. Dix, N.J., and they have been married 60 years. They moved to Mesquite in 1999, after living in St. George for 10 years. They have four wonderful children, Joann, James, Patrick and Teresa; 10 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.

Jim was very active in the Knights of Columbus achieving 4th degree, and was actively involved in the Mesquite VA Center. He performed outstanding community service and was awarded a certificate of appreciation from the Special Olympics of Nevada.

Viewing at Virgin Valley Mortuary; 320 East Old Mill Rd in Mesquite, NV.

Funeral mass: La Virgen De Guadalupe Catholic Church; 401 Canyon Crest Blvd Mesquite, NV

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 2. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (PT)

Virgin River Mortuary
320 East Old Mill Road
Mesquite, NV

Funeral Mass

AUG 3. 10:00 AM (PT)

La Virgen De Guadalupe Catholic Church
401 Canyon Crest Blvd
Mesquite, NV

Tribute Wall

GK

“ To the family and many friends of Jim; The first time I visited the Veterans Center in Mesquite Jim was the first to greet and welcome me. We had many conversations and enjoyed the same interests. Always with a smile and a sturdy handshake he will be remembered by those who met him and benefited from his caring nature.

Gary Krull

Gary Krull - August 02, 2013 at 04:53 PM

CJ

“ To the Family; As you all know Jim and I had become very close in the last few months even though I have known him for over 10 years. There is not a sweeter or more generous man that I can say I have known. I as well as everyone at the Veterans Center will miss him very much. He has touched more lives than I can say. I loved him like a brother. Cliff Jenkins

Cliff Jenkins - August 02, 2013 at 02:34 PM