



Mr. James Mason

September 19, 1923 - November 17, 2015

Services for James M. Mason, 92, of Henderson, Texas, will be held at First Baptist Church on Friday, November 20, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. with Dr. David Higgs officiating. Mr. Mason was born on September 19, 1923 in Price, Texas to Will and Nancy Mason. He passed away on Tuesday, November 17th at Henderson Health and Rehab.

Upon graduation from Carlisle High School in 1941, he joined the U.S. Navy, and served in the South Pacific from 1943-1946. When he returned from the war he attended Stephen F. Austin University where he played football and lettered in golf and received his bachelor's and master's degree. He was then hired as a coach in Hawkins ISD. There he met and married the love of his life, JoAnne Cannon, who was the high school English teacher, in 1950. In 1952 James and JoAnne moved to Henderson, where he had a successful career coaching football and baseball, winning several regional championships. He became the first principal of Chamberlain Elementary School and was later promoted to Montgomery Elementary School. He also served Henderson ISD as assistant superintendent in charge of curriculum and instruction. In 1973 Mr. Mason moved to Hawkins, Tx., where he served as superintendent of schools. He ended his career in education as assistant superintendent of Hallsville ISD. He retired after serving 33 years in education in 1980. After retiring Mr. Mason opened an independent insurance agency, working out of his home office in Hallsville and Henderson until 2009. For

many years James was active in civic and community service in the Optimist Club of Henderson, Chamber of Commerce of Rusk County, Rotary Club of Hawkins, and Lion's Club of Hallsville. He was also an active member of Baptist churches wherever he lived. He was ordained a deacon in 1953 and taught Sunday School at First Baptist Church of Henderson until 2010. He was on the Board of Trustees at East Texas Baptist University and served on the executive board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas. James was an avid golfer and enjoyed his daily golf games at Cherokee and Henderson Country Clubs.

He is survived by his wife, JoAnne of Henderson, son Mike and his wife Debbie of Granger, Tx., his daughter, Pat Sudduth, of Spring, Tx, his daughter, Kay of Henderson, 5 grandchildren, Amber Mason, Jay Mason, Jack Mason, Erin Sudduth, Kacy Sudduth; his brother, Ed and wife Bobbie of Lufkin, sisters-in-law, Dorothy Barry and Evelyn Mason of Henderson, and several nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held at Crawford A. Crim Funeral Home of Henderson on Thursday, November 19, 2015, from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the First Baptist Church of Henderson Children's Building Fund at 207 W. Main St., Henderson, TX 75652, or to the HISD Education Foundation at 200 N. High St., Henderson, TX 75652.

A special thanks to the wonderful caring nurses of Heartsway Hospice of Carthage and to the many dear friends for their prayers, cards, calls and visits during Mr. Mason's lengthy illness.

Honorary pallbearers will be Dalton Jones, Richard Smith, Mart Hooper, Herman Bell, Dallas Woods, Lee Hensley, Joe White, Johnny Newton, John

Woods, Charles Kinard, Mario Cavazos, William Ashby, Guy Whitaker, Buddy Vinson, Gene Legg, and Gene Smith.

Words of comfort may be shared with the family at www.crawfordacrim.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **19**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Crawford A. Crim Funeral Home
1414 South Main Street
Henderson, TX 75654

Memorial Service

NOV **20**. 10:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church
207 W. Main St.
Henderson, TX 75652

Tribute Wall

JA

“ *always sweet...what a great person to work with...*

judy andrasko - November 28, 2015 at 11:30 AM

SR

“ *Suzanne Reed lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason*



Suzanne Reed - November 23, 2015 at 08:59 PM

PB

“ *My heartfelt condolences to Mrs. Mason, Pat, and the entire family. Mr. Mason was a gentle, charming man, and I considered myself lucky to have known him. He and Mrs. Mason always had time to visit whenever our paths crossed. I was lucky enough to live by Pat and family in Oak Ridge North. God Bless this wonderful man, and God Bless his family. I know you have many wonderful memories to sustain you during this time. My thoughts and prayers are with you.*



Phyllis Shaw Bigbie

Phyllis Shaw Bigbie - November 22, 2015 at 11:06 AM

DE

“ Donna Johnson Ellis lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason



Donna Johnson Ellis - November 20, 2015 at 12:10 PM

JW

“ Coach Mason was a special man from a special generation. He was a great role model with principle and integrity, He encouraged me & coached me to want to do better. He helped me through some difficult times. He always took a lot of time to listen and counsel with his students. His compassion ethical moral attitudes had a influence on my life.



Jerry Winfrey - November 20, 2015 at 10:01 AM

BD

“ Joanne: I remember you and Mr. Mason both attended my high school graduation party (~30 years ago now). Lorraine passes along her condolences to you and wishes you th best.

Bart Dawson - November 20, 2015 at 09:23 AM

WG

“ Wendy Gray lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason



Wendy Gray - November 20, 2015 at 07:36 AM

BB

“ *All of us have been blessed for knowing James Mason. A Godly Patriot has left this world for his heavenly home.*



Bill Baker - November 20, 2015 at 05:49 AM

CB

“ *Cyndy Cates Broadus lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason*



Cyndy Cates Broadus - November 19, 2015 at 09:22 PM

CB

“ *Cyndy Cates Broadus lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason*



Cyndy Cates Broadus - November 19, 2015 at 09:14 PM

BT

“ *Thoughts and prayers that your family finds peace and comfort in remembrance*

Bruce Tate - November 19, 2015 at 04:35 PM

CJ

“ A great Christian man that always took time to say hello, check on your family and show kindness. He was an integral part of FBC Hallsville as we expanded our membership and facility during his time in Hallsville. Charlie Jones

Charlie Jones - November 19, 2015 at 02:59 PM

SB

“ Stephanie Burt



stephanie burt - November 19, 2015 at 12:38 PM

JW

“ Jane Gibson Williams lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason



Jane Gibson Williams - November 19, 2015 at 11:40 AM

DV

“ Mr. Mason was our principal at Chamberlan Elementary. I have always had the most respect for him and his entire family. He was such a good man and loved by many. May he RIP.



Debra Bell Vandeventer - November 19, 2015 at 10:27 AM

DG

“ Coach Mason was my 5th-grade principal at Montgomery. He would personally work with all of us boys during P.E.....he'd take 6-week periods and concentrate on one thing; For six weeks we'd box, for six weeks we'd jump rope, for six-weeks we'd run track, etc. Him taking the time to work with us in developing our skills and character at that young age had a great influence on many lives. He dished out "licks" to us liberally, but never any that were undeserved. He'll be missed.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all of the Mason family.

- David & Linda Gray

David Gray - November 19, 2015 at 10:11 AM

JF

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with each of you in the loss of James. He was a wonderful man who will be missed by many. God be with each of you. Jane Fahle*

Jane Fahle - November 19, 2015 at 07:32 AM

TJ

“ *Tony Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason*



Tony Johnson - November 18, 2015 at 09:29 PM

TJ

My thoughts and prayers are with you Joanne.

Tony Johnson - November 18, 2015 at 09:31 PM

DN

“ *Debra Nichols lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason*



debra nichols - November 18, 2015 at 08:31 PM

DM

“ *He always encouraged me and made me want to do better.*
Donna Hudgins Melton

Donna Hudgins Melton - November 18, 2015 at 08:06 PM

PP

“ *Pud Patterson lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason*



pud patterson - November 18, 2015 at 07:45 PM



“ *Sending prayers from the Albert Smith family to the family of James Mason. May you all find the peace that passes all understanding during this difficult time.*



Donna McNevin - November 18, 2015 at 06:57 PM

SM

“ Steve And Sandy Mcnurray lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason



steve and sandy mcnurray - November 18, 2015 at 05:20 PM

RP

“ Coach Mason was a special man from a special generation. He will be greatly missed.

Rusty Phenix - November 18, 2015 at 04:36 PM

BJ

“ Coach Mason was a wonderful Christian man. He taught me typing many years ago, and was a coach at the same time. May God wrap his arms around Jo Ann and family.



betty Johnson - November 18, 2015 at 02:07 PM

JC

James Mason I started off together @ Chamberlain Elementary. Me as a 3rd grader and him as principal. He always took a lot of time to listen and counsel with his students. Later we were together @ Camp Huawni where he served as camp director.

Jim Cowart - November 18, 2015 at 10:58 PM

JC

“ *Jim Coode lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason*



Jim Coode - November 18, 2015 at 02:03 PM

AM

“ *What great memories I'am blessed with of Coach "Cotton" Mason from 1956-1958 playing High School Baseball under his coaching skills. His compassion ethical moral attitudes had a influence on my life. He cared about "his kids" (students) I'll never forget the day some 30 or so years later he dropped by my office in Tyler to say hello & to check on me, since we had not crossed paths since I left Henderson. What a Great Man that God shared with us & he is now back home with God.*

My condolences to his family.

Arnold Wharton MD

Tyler, TX

Arnold Wharton MD - November 18, 2015 at 11:10 AM

MH

“ *Growing up without a father; several men in my life helped to shape me and none more than Mr. Mason. I was around Mr. Mason a lot! Mike and I had a lawn mowing business he had to carry us to the jobs. I went on two trips with the Masons pulling that travel trailer for more than a week at a time. He was a great role model with principle and integrity who will always be a part of who I am. Thanks Mr. Mason.*

With love,

Mortimer Snerd

Mart Hooper - November 18, 2015 at 10:45 AM

LS

“ *What precious memories I will always have of the many hours we all spent together during your years in Hallsville! Your love helped me through some difficult times. Know all of you are in our prayers! What a wonderful Christian man!*



Linda Sherwin - November 18, 2015 at 09:39 AM

SH

“ *Thinking of Coach Mason and all the memories of growing up in Henderson. What a very special man, husband , father, teacher and coach. God's blessings for peace and comfort as you celebrate a life well lived. Kenny and Susan Hensley*



Susan Hensley - November 18, 2015 at 09:21 AM

CB

“ *Connie Boatwright lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason*



Connie Boatwright - November 18, 2015 at 09:17 AM

JD

“ *So sorry for the loss of such a special man. The best principal ever.....I will never forget the great times at Montgomery!*



Jeanie Dickeson - November 18, 2015 at 07:50 AM

RK

“ *Ronnie Jack Keith lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason*



Ronnie Jack Keith - November 18, 2015 at 07:12 AM

BH

“ *Brent Hale lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason*



Brent Hale - November 18, 2015 at 05:51 AM

KC

“ *Kyle Cole lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason*



Kyle Cole - November 17, 2015 at 08:39 PM

GG

“ *What a great man who touched so many lives. Gloria Martin Griffin*

Gloria Martin Griffin - November 17, 2015 at 07:47 PM

GG

“ *Gloria Martin Griffin lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason*



Gloria Martin Griffin - November 17, 2015 at 07:44 PM

DD

“ *Mr. James Mason was my first principal as a teacher. I used to go early to Montgomery just so I could talk to him and most of all listen to his experience. He was my mentor and model as I became a principal. So many kids in Henderson benefitted from his discipline, care, and love of kids. I wish the best for Jo Anne, Mike, Pat, and Kay because I had the opportunity to see Mr. and Coach Mason as a Daddy. The same for Jo Anne. God Bless you all as he is with his Lord.*

Dr. Ray Deason - November 17, 2015 at 07:40 PM

LJ

“ *Lane And Joy Jordan lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason*



Lane and Joy Jordan - November 17, 2015 at 06:28 PM

JJ

May our Lord comfort you with His peace in these difficult days. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of loss.

Joy Jordan

Joy Jordan - November 17, 2015 at 06:35 PM

SU

So sorry for the loss of a sweet and kind man. He was an awesome principal. He will be missed.
Susan Roper

susan - November 18, 2015 at 09:19 AM

RC

“ *Rex And Paula Crim lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason*



Rex and Paula Crim - November 17, 2015 at 06:26 PM

JC

“ *Amazing how many young lives he influenced for good at the times we needed it most. I had many coaches over my lifetime and he was the best. Much love to Mrs. Mason ans all her family from all of the Carnett family. Johnny Carnett*

Johnny Carnett - November 17, 2015 at 05:43 PM

TD

“ *Our thoughts and prayers for Joanne and Family of James Mason this day and always. The Lord will welcome this Man into his Kingdom, Tom and Syble DeLoach*

Thomas DeLoach - November 17, 2015 at 05:34 PM

BG

“ Prayers for Peace and Comfort for the family.
Bonnie & John Geddie



Bonnie Geddie - November 17, 2015 at 05:33 PM



“ Cindy Belcher lit a candle in memory of Mr.
James Mason



Cindy Belcher - November 17, 2015 at 05:06 PM



“ Anita Rumbo-Hays-Flowers lit a candle in
memory of Mr. James Mason



Anita Rumbo-Hays-Flowers - November 17, 2015 at 04:29 PM

SS

“ Susie Summers lit a candle in memory of Mr.
James Mason



Susie Summers - November 17, 2015 at 04:15 PM

GG

“ Greg And Linda Gooding lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason



Greg and Linda Gooding - November 17, 2015 at 04:14 PM

ND

“ Nancy Drake lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason



Nancy Drake - November 17, 2015 at 03:17 PM

SH

“ Sonny And Jenny Hardy lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason



Sonny and Jenny Hardy - November 17, 2015 at 01:45 PM

HW

“ Hal Watson lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason



Hal Watson - November 17, 2015 at 01:24 PM

HW

His passing is a huge loss for all of us and especially the HHS Class of 1958. We miss you Coach.

Hal Watson - November 17, 2015 at 01:27 PM

ND

Joanne my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Coach Mason shall be missed by so many and our HHS Class of 1960 were blessed to have him in our lives. Nancy Craig Drake

Nancy Drake - November 17, 2015 at 03:16 PM

CB

“ *Chad Boatwright lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Mason*



Chad Boatwright - November 17, 2015 at 12:45 PM