



Mr. James A. McLain Sr.

April 28, 1935 - April 30, 2020

Mr. James A. McLain Sr., age 85, of Scottsboro, went to his heavenly home on Thursday, April 30, 2020.

James was born in 1935 to the Rev. Henry and Sis Minnie McLain. He spent his life in the Holiness church following his parents in service of the Lord. He received salvation in 1953 and married his sweetheart, Betty Scott, in 1954. Much of James's life and experiences was around his Military Service and Musical abilities. He was drafted and spent 2 years in the Army. He was stationed in Fort Sam Houston, Texas and Wurzburg, Germany. His testimonies and experiences of these years resonate with the congregations throughout the area. He was a student of Southern Gospel Music and penned 100's of Gospel Songs. Many of his songs are sung by the churches in our area.

James was called into the Ministry and was pastor of the Griffin Holiness Church on Lookout Mountain for 19 years. These were the happiest days of his life. He touched many souls during those years and seen many people receive salvation.

James is survived by his wife of 3 years, Nell McLain; his three sons, James "Totchie" (Wanda), Michael (Penny) and Todd McLain; his 5 grandchildren, Kevin (Shavonnah), Kyle, Lindsay (Brandon), Zach (Becka), and Ryne (Nina) McLain; 11 great grandchildren; and his sister, Ruth Holaway Benson.

Many special and wonderful nieces and nephews.

A special tribute to both the McKenzie and Garner families for their Love and

support of James throughout the last few years of his life.

James was preceded in death by his wife of 50 years Betty. His wife of 11 years Betty Sue. His parents Rev. Henry and Sis Minnie Mc Lain, His Granddaughter Taylor Mc Lain, and his brothers Hilra, Wesley, and Doyle Mc Lain.

In this trying time the family will be having a private visitation and funeral.

There will be a drive by pass around for the public to see the family at the Hytop Holiness Church on Sunday May 3rd starting at 2:00 pm.

Cemetery Details

Hytop Cemetery

Co. Rd. 13
Scottsboro, AL 35768

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 3. 2:00 PM (CT)

Hytop Holiness Church
Hytop Road
Scottsboro, AL 35768

Tribute Wall

NL

“ He was always so kind to me and I loved to hear him sing. I loved visiting his church and being in service with him. The last time I saw him was at a friend's house where several were gathered there and somebody started playing the piano and we all got to sing together one last time. He was the best and is greatly missed.

Natasha Lawrence - January 22 at 08:51 PM



“ Mr. James A. McLain Sr.

October 05, 2023 at 01:26 AM

MM

“ Praying for your family, Larry and Mary Moore

Mary Moore - May 02, 2020 at 09:21 PM

TA

“ I remember as a child listening to the Gospel Gems sing. I have the 1st record that the Gospel Gems recorded titled "Introducing the Gospel Gems Quartet". I wish I could thank Br. James for all the songs and testimonies that have helped me along the way. Thank him for the singing schools and the music lesson he has given me. He took a lot of time with me trying to help me and encourage me with my songwriting. He arranged the music and published some of the songs we wrote together. Br. James will always have a special place in my heart.

Tom Avans

Tom Avans - May 02, 2020 at 04:12 PM

 Joann
Wooten

“ Remembering Bro. James, Such Wonderful Memories of Being in Church, Serving The Lord with Br. Henry and Sis. Minnie, and All The McLain Family. So Blessed to Know and Love This Sweet Family, Baptized By Bro. Henry in Lula Lake on Lookout Mountain. Such Precious Memories!! Love and Prayers for Sis. Nell, and The McLain Family. Love To All, Sis. Yvonne Moore Wooten. (message written for my Mother by Joann Wooten)

Joann Wooten - May 02, 2020 at 01:18 PM

 Lori
Brewer

“ He treated me like a daughter and helped raise my kids. He would talk to and sing with anyone. Nobody was more special than the other. I will just miss that he is here on this earth. He is leading the heavenly choir now. Love you Big Pop.

Lori Brewer - May 02, 2020 at 01:13 PM

WA

“ *Much love and prayers to the family.
I met Mr. McClain when I was the owner of Merle Norman in
Scottsboro and he came in to have his fingernails and toenails
clipped. I absolutely thought he was a sweetheart. He brightened
my day every time he came in. After about the second visit, he said
or did something and I asked if he was related to Doyle McClain, he
replied "That was my baby brother" I told him that my husband and
Doyle sung in a gospel quartet together several years ago. Such a
small world!!
After that I would always ask for him to sing to me while I trimmed
his nails. And he always obliged! He was such a heartsmile to me
and always filled my studio with joy!
My heart is a little sad but I know the choir just got a whole lot
sweeter!
It was truly a pleasure getting to know him.
Sincerely, Wendy Arnold*

Wendy Arnold - May 02, 2020 at 02:17 AM

AF

“ *To Bro James family we are so sorry for your loss. I (sis Brenda
Bowman) had started going to Griffin holiness church as a 13yr old
young lady, this was before the Lord led Bro James & Sis Betty to
Lookout Mtn & to Griffin Holiness Church. When Bro James began
his preaching at Griffin, he preached the Word Of God like I had
never heard. His preaching of his life being in the military & all the
things he had to go through & how the Lord watched over him. I feel
privileged to have known Bro James & Sis Betty. I am thankful the
Lord gave me the privilege to hear his preaching & his life stories , I
will always have that in my life & my family's life. We love his family
dearly & his family are in our prayers. God Bless.*

Anthony, Brenda Bowman & family - May 01, 2020 at 08:05 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mr. James A. McLain Sr..*



May 01, 2020 at 07:26 PM



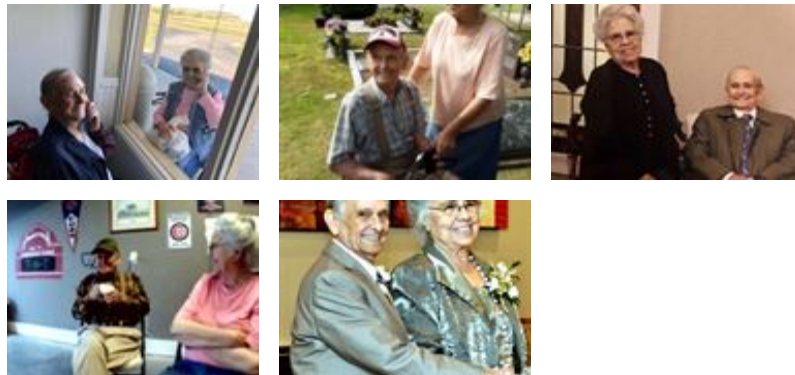
“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Mr. James A. McLain Sr..*



May 01, 2020 at 06:35 PM



“ *72 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Scottsboro Funeral Home and Pinehaven Memorial Gardens - May 01, 2020 at 05:29 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. James A. McLain Sr..*



May 01, 2020 at 04:31 PM



“ *The Kilgore family loves the McClain family!*

Harold Kilgore - May 01, 2020 at 04:15 PM



“ *Bro James will be greatly missed, his testimonies from the service will always be with me. His trust in our all might God was so wonderful, and his faith carried him until the end. My thoughts and prayers are with his family. Sis Carolyn Short.*

Carolyn Short - May 01, 2020 at 03:54 PM



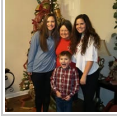
“ *The voice isn't silenced. It is resounding in Heaven...God Bless the family..Jerry and Elizabeth Smith*

Jerry Smith - May 01, 2020 at 03:45 PM



“ *Sorry for your loss. I know he will truly be missed. I remember just about ever time I was in him presents he would tell about how much he loved comping to our house as a kid and playing will our toys. He thought we had the best toys. I will miss hearing this story from him.*

Patricia DeLashmitt - May 01, 2020 at 01:55 PM



Bro. James will be missed by many.....his testimonies about being shipped over seas and his wonderful songs he wrote and we still sing and his smile and how good the Lord was to him and I love the one thing that meant so much to me is when himself and Sister Nell were at my bapizing. ..That really touched my heart! Go Rest High On That Mountain Bro. James 🙏💕💕

Cindy Sadler - May 01, 2020 at 03:06 PM



We are so sorry for your loss.

Inez & Melissa Simmons - May 04, 2020 at 06:36 PM