



James Thomas Gray

September 24, 1940 - January 1, 2017

In their memory, the family of James Thomas Gray and Brenda Mann Gray will host a Gathering of Family & Friends at Burningtrees Country Club on Friday, January 27, 2017, from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

James Thomas Gray, age 76, of Decatur, passed away on Sunday, January 1, 2017, after a brave battle with cancer. Jim was born on September 24, 1940, in Birmingham, Alabama, and was the third of five children born to Miles and Mabel Gray. He graduated from New Brunswick High School in New Jersey, and then served in the United States Navy. After three years of military service, he attended and graduated from the business school at Louisiana State University. Upon graduation, he settled in North Alabama where he lived and worked for the remainder of his life.

Jim had an adventurous and entrepreneurial spirit which led to the founding of several companies and the employment of many citizens of North Alabama over the course of his career. One of his last major contributions was the founding of Priceville Foodland. Friends of his will recall that he often reminisced about his first job, when he was a young boy, as a sacker at his neighborhood grocery store. Owning his own grocery store was the fulfillment of a boyhood dream and the capstone of his impressive career in his business.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, Miles and Mabel Gray of Birmingham, as well as his two beloved sisters, Barbara Gray Plummer and Sandra Ann Gray.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Brenda Mann Gray; his loving children, son, Joshua Thomas Gray of Huntsville, and daughters, Kristin Gray Brown (Adam) of Houston, TX, and Laura Leigh Gray McManus (Wilson) of Huntsville. He is also survived by his devoted brothers, George Miles Gray of Birmingham, and William Arthur Gray of Houston, TX, as well as his five grandchildren, Allie, Anna, Clara, Wright, and Molly.

In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully requests memorial donations be made to the American Cancer Society, P. O. Box 22718, Oklahoma City, OK 73123-1718.

Tribute Wall

ES

“ *A SPATHIPHYLLUM was ordered on January 26, 2017*



Expression of Sympathy - January 26, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SN

“ *Sue Nation-Lewis lit a candle in memory of James Thomas Gray*



Sue Nation-Lewis - January 10, 2017 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ *Katrina Hargrave lit a candle in memory of James Thomas Gray*



Katrina Hargrave - January 08, 2017 at 12:00 AM

S(

“ *Dear Josh and Family, so sorry to hear about Uncle Jimmy and Aunt Brenda. We loved them very much and pray that God will comfort you during this time. We love all of you and here if you need us.*



Sherry Rogers (Plummer) - January 07, 2017 at 12:00 AM

HB

“ Josh we're so very sorry about your losses. Please know you and the rest of your family are in our thoughts. Sending you much love and peace during this very difficult time.



Harry's Aunt Debbie and Uncle Bob - January 06, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Brenda, I am so sorry about Jim's passing. I wish I knew what to say to make you feel better. I love you and pray for your healing every night and now, I will also pray for God to give you comfort to get through this awful time in you life.



Shirley Haney - January 04, 2017 at 12:00 AM