

*Celebrate the life
of
James Milford McIlveen*



*Saturday, December 20, 2008
1:00 pm*

First United Methodist Church
201 N. Mount Street
Fairfield, Texas 75840

Rev. Elnora Nunnaly, Officiant Pastor
Jones Chapel United Methodist Church
Fairfield, Texas 75840

Profile of Life

In the classic poem "The Dash," the writer eloquently denotes the essence of life as the time we spend on earth between our birth and death dates. The dash in the life of James Milford McIlveen, August 25, 1916 – December 15, 2009, represents 92 years of extraordinary character, commitment, and accomplishments.

Born to proud parents, William Lorenzo ("Billy") and Evalena McIlveen, the first of four sons, Milford was a life-long resident of Fairfield, Texas. He graduated from Lincoln High School in Palestine, Texas in 1934. He accepted Jesus Christ at a young age and was a member of Jones Chapel United Methodist Church until his passing.

Milford fell in love with and was married to Eva Lois Manning, who predeceased him. To this union were born two children, James Wendell and Carolyn Lynette, who were reared in a loving home with the help of the close-knit spiritual family at Jones Chapel United Methodist Church. Though the children eventually moved away, their parents were active church and community leaders until failing health diminished their work but not their love for the True Vine. Years after her death, he married Dorothy McBay Jackson, who also predeceased him. Milford was a devoted husband and a model father. His legacy of love and honor, which was his life, in truth, can never die.

As a young husband and father, Milford distinguished himself as a hard worker through his many entrepreneurial efforts. He delayed plans to obtain a college education in order to earn money for the family. Through his many life and employment experiences, Milford became a very wise man and an entrepreneurial pioneer. Long before it was savvy to do so, he began several business ventures. Life-long Fairfield residents may remember that in 1946 he opened Mac's Gasoline & Grocery Store (a 20th century Stop-N-Go) and prospered for eight years. He later built a snack bar for the students at Dogan and operated this business for two years while he also drove the bus for the Dogan School students. Milford cut hair at his father's barber shop during the day and became a \$15.00 per week cook at night, having started for as little as \$5.00 per week. This was just the beginning of his long and successful career. This goal-driven young man with an admirable

work ethic also cut grass for Aztec Motel; changed oil and filters, fixed flats, and washed cars at Humble Gas Station; and butchered cows at the Otis Utley Ranch while finding time to deliver groceries. In 1954, he was employed by the Texas Highway Department Maintenance Division, where he worked for twenty-four years, retiring in 1978.

Milford always took every opportunity to learn valuable life lessons. An unfortunate, negative experience at the tender age of eighteen provided him with the foundation that he later credited to a local banker for presenting him with a serious demand that taught him a positive life-long lesson: that in order to become successful, a man must work hard, be independent, own as well as maintain property, and be somebody!

Milford was preceded in death by two wives, his parents, two of his three brothers, Garland and William, grandson, Adrian Lewis, and granddaughter, Chelsea Duan McIlveen..

He is survived by his son, James Wendell McIlveen, Texas City; his daughters, Barbara Malone (Lewis), Dallas, and Dr. Carolyn Yarbrow Smith (Jim), Houston, and brother, Clifford Lincoln (Clara), Fairfield; daughters-in-law, Barbara McIlveen, La Marque, and Julia Horton, Ft. Worth; grandchildren, Deanna Moore, Kathleen, GA; and Gerald Lewis, Ft. Worth; seven Great-grand children; and a host of relatives and friends.

Bearers of the Pall

John Dorham
Gary Govan
Virgil Keaton
Clifford Carden

Mike Govan
James Griffin
Frank Morton, Jr.
Tyree Gatson

Honorary Pallbearers

Joe Garland McIlveen
Jay McIlveen
Gordy McIlveen

Clifford Estelle McIlveen
Gerry McIlveen
LaMont McIlveen

Family Gratitude

During these trying hours, the presence of friends has helped to sustain us. Your prayers have increased our faith; your words have encouraged our hearts; your presence has given us an arm to lean on; your food has helped to sustain our strength; the fragrance of flowers, the gifts, the thought of every card, and the phone calls and facsimiles added a touch of beauty to a setting that was full of gloom. Because of you, the burden that seemed so heavy is now made lighter. May God bless each of you.

The McIlveen Family



Interment

Services entrusted to the Caring Professionals of:

Moore's Angelic Funeral Home

406 Monroe Street

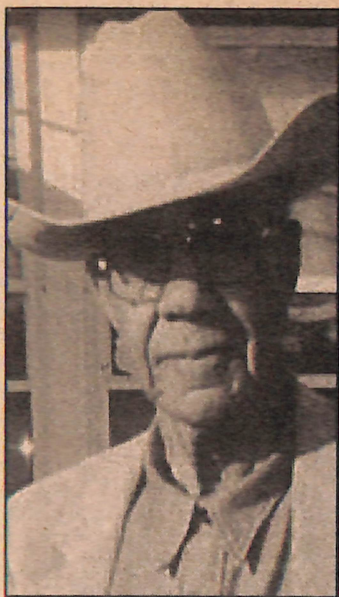
Teague, Texas

Phone: (254) 739-2399

Email: funeraldirector62@att.net

Program printed by:





**JAMES MILFORD
MCILVEEN**

James McIlveen

Funeral services were held Saturday for James Milford McIlveen, 92, who died Monday, Dec. 15.

Mr. McIlveen was born Aug. 25, 1916, the first of four sons to William "Billy" Lorenzo and Evalena McIlveen.

He graduated from Palestine's Lincoln high school in 1934 and was a member of Jones Chapel United Methodist Church.

Mr. McIlveen married Eva Lois Manning and together the couple had two children, James Wendell and Carolyn Lynette.

Several years after the death of his first wife, he married Dorothy McBay Jackson.

In 1946, Mr. McIlveen opened Mac's Gasoline and Grocery Store in Fairfield which operated for eight years.

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In 1946, Mr. McIlveen opened Mac's Gasoline and Grocery Store in Fairfield which operated for eight years.

During this time he also

opened a snack bar at the Dogan School.

Mr. McIlveen had a variety of jobs in addition to his two businesses including driving the Dogan school bus, cutting hair at his father's barber-shop, working as a night cook, cutting grass at the Aztec Motel, changing oil and fixing flats at the Humble Gas Station, butchering cows for the Utley Ranch, and delivering groceries.

In 1954, he was employed by the Texas Highway Department Maintenance Division where he worked for 24 years before retiring in 1978.

Services were held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 20, at the First United Methodist Church of Fairfield with Rev. Elnora Nunnally officiating.

Interment followed at Fairfield Methodist Cemetery.

Mr. McIlveen is survived by his children, James Wendell McIlveen of Texas City, Barbara Malone and husband Lewis of Dallas, and Dr. Carolyn Yarbrough Smith and husband Jim of Houston; brother, Clifford Lincoln McIlveen and wife Clara of Fairfield; daughters-in-law, Barbara McIlveen of La Marque and Julia Horton of Fort Worth; grandchildren, Deanna Moore of Kathleen, Georgia and Gerald Lewis of Fort Worth; and seven great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wives, Eva Manning and Dorothy McBay; parents; brothers, Garland and William McIlveen; grandson, Adrian Lewis; and granddaughter, Chelsea Duan McIlveen. Arrangements were made by Moore's Angelic Funeral Home of Teague.