



Charles James

January 26, 2015

Charles James

Charles James, 60, of Broken Arrow, passed away on Wednesday January 21, 2015. He was born in Poteau and raised in Duncan, he was the son to the late Leroy and Nancy James, after graduation from Northeastern State he began a career as a school teacher, he taught in the Tulsa Public Schools for over 18 years, he taught the science and chess clubs at sequoyah elementary where he also taught the fourth grade. When Charles was not teaching he enjoyed the outdoors, sports, O.U. football and playing in a softball league. Left behind to cherish his memories are his loving wife, Elizabeth and their four children, Andrew, Christopher, Vincent and April; also his daughter, Heather Mcguire; granddaughter, Teaghan; brother, Michael James of Poteau; sister, Nancy Stimson of Wyoming along with a host of other family and friends. The family will receive friends on Tuesday January 27, 2015 from 5:00 pm until 9:00 pm at Serenity Funerals and Crematory, 4170 E. Admiral Place, Tulsa. 918-292-8411 and a graveside funeral service to honor the life of Charles James will take place on Wednesday January 28, 2015 at 2:00pm at Green Acres Cemetery located at 12410 Whirlpool Drive, Skiatook, OK.

Tribute Wall

KH

“ I was thinking about you the other day and tried to look you up since I couldn't find your information at TPS. I wasn't sure if you had retired. I wasn't expecting to see that you had passed away, and that truly made my heart sink.

I just want to say thank you for being such an inspiration in my life.

This man was truly an incredible teacher. He was my 3rd and 4th grade teacher at Sequoyah Elementary, and he genuinely cared about his students. He cared about me. He knew I had a rough childhood, and he showed up for me in ways I will never forget.

I remember a time when my mom didn't have the money to send me on a field trip or even pack me a lunch. Mr. James quietly covered it for me. That was just the kind of person he was — generous, compassionate, and full of heart. He made sure no child felt left out or unseen.

Now, as a current TPS employee, I walk past his old classroom every day. Those hallways hold memories that I cherish deeply. He taught all of his students well, but more than that, he taught us how to care for others.

Thank you for being a role model. Thank you for being someone I still look up to as I serve and invest in the next generation. Your impact lives on.

Kellie Harris - February 27 at 09:29 PM

KR

“ Mam, are you James's wife? I just put a comment on here. He was my favorite teacher ever!!! I'm sorry for your loss. I just found out tonight. He crossed my mind. And searched him. I was in tears when I found out. He cared for me like I was his own. I am truly blessed to have had him as a teacher. God bless you!

Kacee Radi - July 27, 2016 at 01:50 AM

KR

“ My 3rd grade teacher at Sequoya elementary. My favorite teacher ever!!! I am upset that I am just now finding out he passed away. praying for his family and friends. I can't even begin to explain all the great memories I had as a kid, with him as my teacher. He cared for us kids like we were his own. God bless.

Kacee Radi - July 27, 2016 at 01:43 AM

EJ

“ Thank you Shelley, that is a nice message to Bill and his family. Our son Andrew is struggling with the harsh reality that we could not save him. He is finally at peace. I want everyone to understand, I could not just let him go. I had to bring him home to pass there with his children watching with impressionable minds. The nursing home would not let me intervene in his passing in much earlier months. To let him pass in front of his children would have caused years of disturbance to them. This has been a long road of hell for him and us. I prayed for God's wisdom, and God took him home to Leroy and Irene, his parents. I must feel comfort and not the missing and yearning that has not let up off me yet. Shelley when you said whole again, I felt so comforted to that. He is whole again!

Elizabeth James - March 20, 2015 at 09:42 PM

EJ

“ Bill and I had four wonderful children together. I was numb talking to doctors and surgeons to help him, save him. But, I was fighting his fight alone and Bill was too far advanced too quick for any of those doctors to keep going on his behalf. We are relieved and the same time missing him very much.

Elizabeth James - March 20, 2015 at 09:18 PM

SL

“ Bill was a wonderful person! I worked with him at Camp Tak. I can still remember his smile and how he worked so well those younger campers! He was such a kind person. I will continue to pray for the family, as I have been since I heard he was ill! He is with the Lord now and whole again!
* I pray the Lord will bless you and give you peace Elizabeth and your children!

*In Christ
Shelley Keeter Lignitz*

Shelley Keeter Lignitz - February 03, 2015 at 06:06 PM

AJ

“ I'm sorry to know about Bill's passing. Taking comfort in knowing that he is pain free and with our Heavenly Father now, but I also know that he is missed dearly here on earth. Sending our prayers and support to his entire family.
Warm fuzzies,
Ansley (Paulsen) Jentz

Ansley (Paulsen) Jentz - February 03, 2015 at 04:25 PM

JL

“ I remember Bill from the many summers we spent at Camp Takatoka together. He was a Bright light amongst many shining lights. He will be dearly missed by those of us whose lives he touched.

Jay Langley - February 03, 2015 at 09:27 AM

OI

“ Bill was friend, wise counselor to me and the kids in the cabin, advisor, occasional voice of reason...A grand man. A good friend. I'll miss him terribly.

Oscar Richie IV - February 02, 2015 at 10:12 PM

MH

“ I remember Bill from YMCA Camp Takatoka. It was the early 80's and Bill was a vibrant, fit, forever smiling counselor. He was so very tan, and would run in the sun, shirt in hand, from one activity to the next..with a line of little boys following him. He seemed to always be assigned to the younger cabins and they thought he was super human! Plus, he had a tender, faithful heart. That is how he will remain in my memory:...young, happy and healthy, ministering to children. God's blessings to all who knew him.

Monica Hughes - February 02, 2015 at 07:05 PM

DB

“ Bill was a great guy. We worked together at Tak. He creamed me in foosball, again and again. Visited him last year. Gone but not forgotten.

Dan Brown - February 02, 2015 at 04:22 PM

EZ

“ *Bill was such a wonderful counselor all the years I worked with him at Camp Takatoka. He was truly a blessing to all of the campers and staff at the camp. He will be missed. God Bless*

Erik Zoellner - February 02, 2015 at 03:29 PM

SW

“ *Bill was special. His love and enthusiasm was infectious, and he impacted the lives of more people than anyone but God can count. I was fortunate to work with him during all of his years at Camp Takatoka, where he was one of the finest counselors we ever had. I also was privileged to work with him on our Ropes Course. He brought his joy, his steady guidance, his work ethic, and his genuineness to everything he did.*

I know he has struggled mightily over the past several years, and it has been a difficult thing for his family and loved ones. So, while he will be missed by many, we can also be happy for him that he has been released from the difficulties he has been suffering to finally be healed. I think if God was in any need of counselors to help bring a steadfast joy, He called the right person home.

Bill, thank you for all you taught me. You will be in my heart, I know, as a friend and example, until we get to meet again.

Steve Wilson - February 02, 2015 at 03:04 PM

MK

“*Bill was a wonderful human being, who loved all people with an open and loving heart.*”

I knew Bill from his time at Camp Takatoka working with so many campers and staff through the many years that he worked, lived, and walked in harmony with the campers and staff.

Bill will be missed by all who knew him during his time at Camp Takatoka, his life with his family and friends, and the many students that he taught in his life.

God has welcomed him home and has told him "Well Done!", you are now with me and your family and friends that have gone before you.

May his family find hope in knowing that Bill is with God and all of his pain and suffering is over. May God bring his family and friends a sense of peace and understanding.

Bill was far too young to have left this earth to rejoin his loving Father in heaven, but he is now in heaven.

May God Bless Bill and his family forever and ever.

In loving memory of Bill!

Love always,

The Knight Family

Stacy, Emma, Joseph, and Mark (Camp Tak Staff & Camper) Knight

Heather Knight Ahearn (Camp Tak Camper)

Matt Knight (Camp Tak Camper)

Mark A Knight - February 02, 2015 at 02:29 PM

EJ

“ *He will be missed.*

Elizabeth James - February 01, 2015 at 10:16 AM

NH

“ *Nancy & Mike, I'm so sorry for your loss. My thoughts & prayers are with you...Nancy Hiler*

Nancy Hiler - January 28, 2015 at 05:19 PM

DI

“ *Bill was a caring and wonderful teacher, he ran an after school chess club and baseball math teams that kids still talk about today. Much love and many prayers!
From Your Sequoyah Friends*

Dianna - January 27, 2015 at 08:48 PM