



James B. Mattax

August 8, 1937 - October 13, 2012

James Byron Mattax passed away peacefully on October 13th, 2012 in Tulsa, Oklahoma surrounded by his family. James, "J.B.", was born on August 8, 1927, in Sperry, Oklahoma to William Hope and Gertrude Sullivan Mattax. One of six children, J.B. grew up in Lonoke, Arkansas. He was a clever and industrious child of the Great Depression. Numerous stories and tall tales of his childhood in Lonoke have entertained his children and grandchildren over the years. He left Lonoke and high school at the age of seventeen to join the United States Navy. After proudly serving as chief electrician on LST 38 in World War II, he returned to Tulsa to obtain a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, in 1952, from the University of Tulsa. While in Tulsa he met his first love, Dorothy Fae Dalton Mattax. Dorothy and J.B. were married in 1950 in Tulsa. After he graduated, they moved to Houston, Texas, where he began a successful career as a petroleum land man. He worked for Tidewater and Getty Oil Companies in Houston, Tulsa, and finally in Oklahoma City, where J.B. and Dorothy began and raised their family of four sons. In 1962, he began a career as an independent land man, eventually running his own company, Mattax Petroleum Corporation. J.B. and Dorothy were devoted to each other and were married for fifty-four years until Dorothy passed away in 2004. J.B. then met the second love of his life, Juanita K. Mattax. They were married in 2006 and resided in Tulsa, Oklahoma, until the time of J.B.'s death. J.B. was hardworking, inspirational, and devoted to his family and colleagues. He enjoyed family trips to his Eufaula lake house, Padre Island, Colorado, and particularly, Pendaries, New Mexico. He was very content with a piece of homemade key lime pie and a schnauzer at his feet. J.B. was preceded in death by his mother and father; his first wife Dorothy; his three brothers: Thomas Edwin Mattax, William Lee Mattax, Calvin C. Mattax, and his elder sister, Mary Evalena Cortez. He is survived by his wife, Juanita; his younger sister Betty Mattax Reebie; his four sons: James B. Mattax, Jr., of Springfield, Missouri; Thomas William Mattax and his wife, Kevyn, of Oklahoma City; Robert Dalton Mattax and his wife, Leslie, of Tulsa; and Jeffrey Bond Mattax of Eufaula. He is also survived by his grandchildren: Katherine, Benjamin, Samuel Mattax; David and Caroline Mattax; his step-grandchildren: J. Taylor, Mary, and Megan Hines; and his sisters-in-law: Wanda Dalton Barnes, and Carolyn Botkin Mattax. Visitation will be from 12:00 pm to 9:00 pm with family receiving friends from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm,

Tuesday, October 16th, at Floral Haven Funeral Home, 6500 South 129th East Avenue, Broken Arrow, Ok. A Memorial Service will be held at 12:30 in the afternoon, Wednesday, October 17th, at Floral Haven. Farewell J.B., you are loved and will be missed.

Tribute Wall

MM

“ I am very saddened to learn of James' passing and that I have only today been told . He was a member of the Lonoke Class of 1945 and came to our reunions. We were all so glad to see him and know of his success in life.I hope it is not too late to send my sincere sympathy to his family.Martha Jeanne Mathis McDaniel

Martha Jeanne Mathis McDaniel - January 10, 2013 at 03:51 PM

AL

“ Jim (or JB) was always a great favorite of mine. I have so many memories from good times at Lake Euphala, Oklahoma City, even Christmas in Arkansas with all the McGinty's. Jim always loved his family very much, as was evidenced by his contented, jovial behavior whenever he was around them. I used to love watching the football games with him on Christmas Day when we were all together. He made every event fun. He will always live on in my memories. What a great man!Ann

Ann McGinty Latta - October 18, 2012 at 01:51 PM

JW

“ My sincerest sympathy for your loss. My father and I lived just around the corner in Lansbrook for many years. My thoughts and prayers are with your family.If this message reaches Jeff, please feel free to e-mail me.Jill (Wadley) Webb

Jill Webb - October 17, 2012 at 06:55 PM

NG

“ Uncle Jim was so good to check on Daddy when he became ill and to keep in touch with me after Daddy passed. He was so caring and it felt like home talking with him. He was obvious how much he loved his family. Daddy was so proud of his little brother. I have such fond memories of his and Aunt Dot's visits and the stories the brothers would have of growing up. It would have made a great book! I truly will miss him. You all will be in my thoughts and prayers.Sincerely,Nancy Mattax Gunn formerly of Little Rock, AR

Nancy Mattax Gunn - October 17, 2012 at 03:26 PM

TE

“ Thank you for your service to our country and insuring my and my families freedoms! God Bless you!

Terri - October 16, 2012 at 02:17 PM