



## James Gaines

June 4, 1934 - January 8, 2025

Jame Walter Gaines June 4, 1934- January 8, 2025

In a church bulletin this was said, and it was descriptive of the life of James W. Gaines: “Each of us is building upon a legacy which began with our ancestors and continues with our descendants. Each generation places their stamp upon the name of their kinsmen. As days go by and reputations are built, our family name is either lifted up or trampled underfoot. The Bible makes it clear that our reputations are one of our most valuable assets. ‘A good name is to be more desired than great wealth; favor is better than silver or gold.’ (Proverbs 22:1)”

James Walter Gaines was born June 4, 1934, and passed January 8, 2025, living to be 90 years old. He treasured his ancestors and kept track of family through the years. He was the example of a man with a good name and favored by those who knew him and favored by God.

James, also known as Pappy to family and friends, worked virtually all his life, starting with his dad at a bee farm after school. He later worked for 15 years at the Hat Factory in Corsicana, then worked 23 years at the Texas Highway Department. His most important and honorable work was the 21 years he preached at the Pursley Church of Christ. Later he enjoyed 34 years of retirement. Although work was important to him, his family was his treasure.

James married Dorothy Faye Beldin June 25, 1956, and together they had two sons, James Travis and Steven Lee Gaines. They spent countless moments camping and traveling together while building the principled foundation for life. During his retirement James and Faye (also known as Mimi and Pappy) traveled throughout Arkansas and Missouri enjoying their time together.

James was preceded in death by his son, James Travis (Jim), his parents, his three sisters, then his wife Faye in 2015. He is survived by his son, Steven Lee Gaines and wife Robin, their daughters Molly and Sarah and a bonus grandson, Alonzo (Trini) Trinidad Hernandez, all of whom loved him dearly. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews who were treasured by James as well.

James loved music, singing, and talking. He never met a stranger. His love for people and his example was a clear testament to his love of the Lord. James had a super sense of humor and a gift of making others smile. Even in the harder moments of last several years of life with health and memory struggles, he still had his sharp wit and sense of humor he carried with him his whole life. His love for his family never faded, even as his memories did. His stories and memories will remain with all of those who have heard them repeatedly and now hold them so close to their hearts.

Trini, his bonus grandson said, "Pappy was a man of love, strength, storytelling, and a man of the heart. From telling stories from his childhood, or singing songs of praise, to telling the funniest jokes that caught us off guard, he ALWAYS brought happiness and joy no matter where he was. Even in his later stages of life, the joy never left. He was an amazing man and will always be."

Visitation will be 11:00 am - 1:00 pm Tuesday, January 14, 2025, with

graveside service to following at 2:00 pm at Oakwood Cemetery with Steve Orbison officiating.

# Cemetery Details

## Oakwood Cemetery

900 North 19Th Street  
Corsicana, TX 75110

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 14. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home, Corsicana  
1530 N. 45th Street  
Corsicana, TX 75110  
(903) 874-4774  
[info@griffin-roughton.com](mailto:info@griffin-roughton.com)

## Graveside Funeral Service

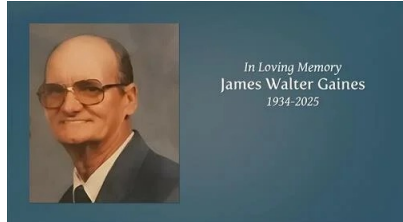
JAN 14. 2:00 PM (CT)

Oakwood Cemetery  
900 North 19Th Street  
Corsicana, TX 75110

# Tribute Wall



“ *Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of James Gaines* ”



**Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home** - January 13, 2025 at 06:28 PM

BT

*I remember James and Faye fondly. James co-preached with my dad, David Owen at Pursley Church of Christ. Jim and I were the same age and grade in school. I spent several years growing up and attending church with him and Steve. I was 15yo and I remember the day we lost Jim. My heart was shattered beyond belief and the hole has never healed. He was my friend! It shook me to the core, and I visited his grave many, many times through the years. Faye had such a sweetness about her. She was soft spoken and quiet like but kept a smile on her face. James was a Christian man and his family and home, and life reflected it. I respected him and so did my parents, church members and friends. I am deeply sorry to learn of his passing. He was a very good man! Barbara Owen Thornton, our mother, Mable Earline Owen Robinson, brother John Owen*

**Barbara Thornton** - January 15, 2025 at 07:18 PM

DT

“ James was the father of one of my closest childhood friends and a steady, meaningful presence throughout my early life. He served as the pastor of Pursley Church of Christ, where I attended from birth until leaving home at 18. James and his wife, Faye, were dear friends of my parents, and our families shared many summers traveling, camping, and exploring national parks together. He baptized me on Christmas Eve in 1984—an act I will always hold close to my heart.

*I spent countless nights in their home, as their son Steve (“Beaver”) was one of my closest friends, and it was James who patiently taught me the guitar notes that first helped me learn to play. I carry many fond and funny memories of him that I will quietly cherish. James was a good man, a devoted husband, a loving father, and a faithful servant, and his impact on my life will never be forgotten.*

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**David Tallant** - January 04 at 10:37 AM

TC

“ I remember growing up as neighbors and friends, my parents and I would always go visit James and Faye and “Beaver” Steve and “Bo” Jim. We always had a good time visiting and us kids running through the woods to the railroad tracks. James was a good man and will never be forgotten. He is the last of the good old guys in my old neighborhood that I grew up in that my daughter still lives in as well. Rest in peace and tell Mom and Dad and Faye Hi!

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**Tammy Mosley Capps** - January 13, 2025 at 08:06 PM

PB

“ James was a dear friend of many years. He did love music. He liked playing his guitar and singing. He and I sang together a few times. It was really good times. James was a sweetheart as was Faye. When James preached at Pursley, my family lived there. A finer Christian man I've never known. He is with the Lord now; at peace until we all go home to be with God. I believe that with all my heart.

*I'm so sorry for the family's loss but am happy for James.*

*In loving Memory*

*Pat Coker Blue*

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**Patsy Coker Blue** - January 10, 2025 at 09:38 PM