



James Arthur Salmon

August 19, 1935 - December 19, 2025

James Arthur Salmon (Jim) passed away peacefully at his home in Jacksboro on December 19 and will be missed by the family and many co-workers and friends who lovingly called him Mr. Jim. Jim was born on August 19, 1935, in Taft, Texas, to his father, Jeff Salmon, and mother, Irene Beasley Salmon.

A graduate of Beeville High School in 1953, Jim earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Education in 1960 and Master of Science degree in Agricultural Education and School Administration in 1961 from Texas A&M University. He earned his Ph.D. in Community College Administration from The University of Texas in 1975. While he was proud of both institutions, he would readily tell you, “once an Aggie, first and foremost, always an Aggie.”

While a student at Texas A&M, Jim was initiated as an Entered Apprentice into Masonic Lodge Sul Ross No. 1300, AF&AM, on October 28, 1958; was passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on August 27, 1959; and raised to the degree of Master Mason on November 5, 1959. In 1971, in Austin, he joined the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry. Masonic work was very important to him. The only group he joined, other than the church (Jacksboro Parish) when he moved to Jacksboro, was the local Fort Richardson Masonic Lodge. He remained active there until he no longer physically could but continued to appreciate the friends he made there.

Jim's various employments were a testament to his belief in helping others achieve their dreams and goals. He was a junior science teacher in Woodsboro and a counselor at Travis High School in Austin. He served as a counselor and Director of Testing and Evaluation at the Gary Job Corps Center in San Marcos. While at the Texas Education Agency (TEA), he served as a guidance consultant to help school districts develop and implement Developmental Guidance Plans to ensure a full array of counseling services to all students. Following that assignment at TEA, he played a major leadership role in developing and implementing the Texas Teachers Alternative Certification Program.

Jim married Martha Hackley in 1978. They lived in his beloved Austin until 2010, when they moved to Jacksboro after they had both retired. Once in Jacksboro, he was able to acquire land and establish his own retreat, the End-Of-The-Trail Ranch, where he spent many hours clearing the land and improving it for those who would enjoy it then and long after. In addition to it being a place to work, play, relax, and hunt, he was proud to host three retired longhorns from the Fort Worth Herd in the Stockyards.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, Jeff Salmon and Irene Beasley Beckelhymer; his brother, Edward Salmon, and his daughter, Christine Salmon Gauthier. He is survived by his wife, Martha; three sons, Troy Salmon, Jeff Salmon, and Scott Salmon, and son-in-law, Dr. Stephen Gauthier. Further, he is survived by 13 grandchildren who include Henry James Gauthier, William Parker Gauthier, Emma Grace Gauthier, Maggie Salmon, Katie Salmon Boyd, Eric Salmon, Jenny Salmon Midgit, Elijah Salmon, Georgia Salmon, Amanda Salmon, Troy Christopher Salmon, Nick Salmon, and Jamie Salmon Colburn. Additionally, there are nine great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on December 22, 2025, at Coker

Funeral Home in Jacksboro, Texas, followed by a burial at Oakwood Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. before the service at Coker Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to:

Jacksboro Education Foundation
750 West Belknap
Jacksboro, Texas 76458

Or

Concerned Citizens Center
400 East Pine Street
Jacksboro, Texas 76458

Cemetery Details

Oakwood Cemetery

145 Oakwood Avenue
Jacksboro, TX 76458

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **22**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Coker Funeral Home
152 State Hwy 148
Jacksboro, TX 76458
(940) 567-3778

Church Service

DEC **22**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Coker Funeral Home
152 State Hwy 148
Jacksboro, TX 76458
(940) 567-3778
info@cokerfuneral.com

Tribute Wall

DT

“ *Debra Tillery lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon*



Debra Tillery - December 24, 2025 at 09:22 AM

RJ

“ *Russonna Jones-Briscoe lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon*



Russonna Jones-Briscoe - December 22, 2025 at 07:52 AM

GC

“ *Gwen & Terry St Clair lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon*



Gwen & Terry St Clair - December 22, 2025 at 06:12 AM

LD

“ *Linda Duggan lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon*



Linda Duggan - December 21, 2025 at 08:19 PM

DS

“ *Danny and Neva Scarbrough lit a candle in memory of Jim Salmon. A truly great man and wonderful friend.*



Danny and Neva Scarbrough - December 21, 2025 at 07:38 PM

DS

“ *Danny Scarbrough lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon*



Danny Scarbrough - December 21, 2025 at 07:34 PM

MF

“ *Mr. & Mrs. Ruben Gonzalez & Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of James Arthur Salmon.*



Mr. & Mrs. Ruben Gonzalez & Family - December 21, 2025 at 05:39 PM

JM

“ *Judy McRoberts lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon*



Judy McRoberts - December 21, 2025 at 05:09 PM

AL

“ *APRIL LEACH lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon*



APRIL LEACH - December 21, 2025 at 03:33 PM

CC

“ *Carolyn Corder lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon*



Carolyn Corder - December 21, 2025 at 09:30 AM

NR

“ *Nicki Johnson Riddle lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon*



Nicki Johnson Riddle - December 20, 2025 at 08:19 PM

CS

“ *Callie Pippin & Busy B's staff purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of James Arthur Salmon.*



Callie Pippin & Busy B's staff - December 20, 2025 at 07:16 PM

MF

“ *Mr. & Mrs. Barry Shelnutt, & Family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of James Arthur Salmon.*



Mr. & Mrs. Barry Shelnutt, & Family - December 20, 2025 at 06:37 PM

BM

“ *Beverly McCoy lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon*



Beverly McCoy - December 20, 2025 at 06:09 PM

KL

“ *Kathy Lowrance lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon*



Kathy Lowrance - December 20, 2025 at 06:04 PM

BM

“ *Jim carried himself with quiet strength and discipline. His intelligence and subtle wit left a lasting impression, and he earned respect without ever asking for it. The world was a better place by having been graced with Jim Salmon.*

Bob and Roxanna Maddox - December 20, 2025 at 03:00 PM

JP

“ Janet Pierce lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon



Janet Pierce - December 20, 2025 at 02:09 PM



“ Lorrie Mitchell lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon



Lorrie Mitchell - December 20, 2025 at 01:43 PM



“ Jim Whitsitt lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon



Jim Whitsitt - December 20, 2025 at 09:57 AM

SC

“ Condolences to the family



Susan Coley - December 20, 2025 at 09:39 AM

MM

“ *Melba Mower lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon*



Melba Mower - December 20, 2025 at 09:07 AM

RL

“ *Ronda Lewis lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon*



Ronda Lewis - December 20, 2025 at 02:20 AM

RC

“ *Rick & Mitzi Campsey lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon*



Rick & Mitzi Campsey - December 19, 2025 at 10:27 PM

LC

“ *Lynn Casteel lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon*



Lynn Casteel - December 19, 2025 at 09:46 PM

MM

“ *Marianne Myers lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon*



Marianne Myers - December 19, 2025 at 06:26 PM

RH

“ *Rod & Kathy Hammond lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon*



Rod & Kathy Hammond - December 19, 2025 at 06:22 PM

LM

“ *Loretta Martinez lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon*



Loretta Martinez - December 19, 2025 at 05:43 PM

FL

“ *Fran & Paul Leatherwood lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon*



Fran & Paul Leatherwood - December 19, 2025 at 05:27 PM

KC

“ Truly a wonderful man! My son will say he was the best person anyone could meet. He spent some time with my son Garrett after He had to go fix the mailbox he ran over. My son and I are both so glad he hit that mailbox because that’s what brought Mr. Salmon into his life and he was such a blessing. He will be greatly missed.

Kim Crow - December 19, 2025 at 04:01 PM

VM

“ Virginia Martin lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Salmon



Virginia Martin - December 19, 2025 at 03:28 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of James Arthur Salmon.



December 19, 2025 at 03:25 PM

TE

“ TCU College of Education planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Arthur Salmon.

TCU College of Education - December 19, 2025 at 03:25 PM