



Rev. James P. McAlister

May 25, 2020

Wendell, NC (formerly of Clarksville, VA) -

Reverend James P. McAlister, husband of Nancy D. McAlister, was called to his heavenly home on Sunday, May 24, 2020, at the age of 77. He was born in Anderson County, SC, to the late Preston Archibald and Jeanette Tucker McAlister. Rev. McAlister was a 1961 graduate of Anderson Boys High School and attended Clemson University. While at Clemson, he was drafted into the U.S. Air Force. After his military service, he continued his education and graduated from Campbell University. He obtained his Master's degree in Theology from Southeastern Seminary. Rev. McAlister pastored at Leesville Baptist Church, Nelson Baptist Church, Gravel Hill Baptist Church and Second Baptist Church of South Boston and was active in each of the communities that he served. He also enjoyed serving with the Mecklenburg County Rescue Squad in Clarksville, VA, for many years. In addition to his wife of 46 years, Reverend McAlister is survived by daughters, Sherri Hubbard Sigworth (Keith) of Knightdale, NC, Amanda Hubbard Wilkins (Kevin) of Dacula, GA, and Lisa Marie McAlister Polen (Brian) of Wylie, TX; 7 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren; sister, Dale Hurray (Bob) and brother, Robert McAlister (Ann), both of Anderson, SC.

A graveside service will be held at 2 P.M. on Thursday, May 28, 2020, at Nelson Baptist Church cemetery. The Reverends Jane Lyon and Don Wilson will officiate.

In lieu of flowers, the family request donations be made to Sweet Virginia Barn Cats in Clarksville or to the Alzheimer's Association (alz.org).

Online condolences may be expressed at wclfh.com. The family is under the care of Watkins Cooper Lyon Funeral Home.

Cemetery

Nelson Baptist Church Cemetery

1837 Nelson Church Road
Nelson, VA, 24580

Events

MAY 28 **Graveside Service** 02:00PM

Nelson Baptist Church Cemetery
1837 Nelson Church Road, Nelson, VA, US,
24580

Comments



“ Larry Tysinger lit a candle in memory of Rev. James P. McAlister



Larry Tysinger - May 29 at 06:12 PM



“ To Nancy and all the family,
I'm so sorry for your loss. Mr. Mac was a great man, father, grandfather and most of all he was a Man Of God for sure. I know he's in heaven now and he's having a conversation with my mama. I know she loved Jim and I know she loved all of your family. May God wrap his loving arms around you and your family during this difficult time. Prayers

Donnie Puryear - May 28 at 07:50 PM



“ There's no childhood memory with out him in it, growing up he was a great part of it, I loved him and Mrs. Mac, I loved them both dearly. Will be thinking of the entire family , I can see him and my grandfather, Ernest Newton greeting each other in their heavenly home, he always called papa Ernie. Mrs. Mac I love you and thinking about you and the rest of the family



brandy elliott - May 28 at 07:35 PM



“ We love you and miss you Uncle Jim. I'll treasure the memories we've made - especially our family beach weeks to Topsail and you blessing our marriage. It comforts me to know that you are rejoicing in Heaven now.
Catherine and Corey



Catherine Davis - May 27 at 11:28 PM



“ I am privileged and blessed to have known and worked side by side with Jim in the pastoral ministry around the Clarksville, VA area. Although we did not always agree on theology (our favorite college teams), I always found him to be gracious and to take our ribbing with a good sense of humor. I will carry our memories with a thankful heart and a prayer that God will watch over and care for Nancy, the girls, and all the family of a great man, a great pastor, and a great servant of God. Jim & Janie Payne

James Payne - May 27 at 07:20 PM



“ Topsail Island Memories with Jim and Nancy McAlister and our children(now grown) are those that will last a lifetime. The memories of almost 40 years of beach week are priceless and often funny. Enjoy them as we celebrate the life and homegoing of Jim McAlister. Here's a brief list:

- 1.Our first year there, Jim and Bob tried to dig a pit so we could barbecue outside.
2. We all get locked out of the beach house with the key inside.
3. Nancy and Dale go hunting on the beach for augers. They leave the car locked with the keys inside. They come back soaking wet with rain and only one or two augers.
- 4.The kids wanting to go to the beach 2 or 3 times daily, carrying their floats and toys with them, and the adults getting to bring them back.
- 5.Kids arguing about who gets to shower first after the beach. The adults end up developing a system for who goes first.We also had a system for whose time it was to wash dishes.
6. We had a Tuesday Night putt putt night every year and then stopping at the Jiffy Freeze.
- 7.On our way to the beach each year, it was always fun to try to keep up with Jim on the Interstate.
8. The tradition for the last night at the beach was to go to the Breezeway for dinner before we finished packing.
- 9.Some kids ended up sleeping on the floor and enjoyed it.
10. We will never forget having to leave the island during a hurricane. We literally had to leave the meal we were eating, grab some clothes, and run out the door with the kids.
11. We had to buy lots of fudge from Topsail Island Trading Company.

This was written with much love by Dale Hurray(Jim's sister), and Bob Hurray(her husband) who for almost 50 years had been like an extra brother to Jim.

Jeanette Hurray - May 27 at 06:54 PM



“ Fields of Europe was purchased for the family of Rev. James P. McAlister.



May 27 at 04:56 PM



“ When I would speak and sing at Robinwood Jim always gave me an approving nod and afterwards would make sure to tell me that he enjoyed whatever it was that I had brought. Kellie and I enjoyed talking with him over the many Sunday afternoon lunches when we would hear about his military or pastoral adventures. And he always enjoyed saying that many years ago I gave him the only speeding ticket he had ever received (I never remembered that encounter but apparently he did....Lol).

Jim.. I thought a lot of you my friend and though you will be missed, I know that you are now content with Jesus! Its not good bye...but it is an "I'll see you later!"

Tim Hayworth

Timothy Hayworth - May 27 at 03:18 PM



“ Mrs. McAlister and family,
My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. It was an honor and a privilege to serve on the Rescue Squad beside Jim. He was extremely dedicated to our Organization and the community in which we serve. We shared many great times together over the years. We also endured many tragic events together as well. My life is better for having known him. Until we meet again. Rest in peace RS 16.
Debbie Osborne

Deborah Osborne - May 27 at 08:39 AM



“ Nancy, we were so sorry to hear of your loss. Our love and prayers are with you and the family. Betty Blalock and Lin Grainger.



Betty Blalock - May 26 at 05:25 PM



“ Jim loved our Prime Rib at the Lighthouse. He was at the top of the list of people I called when we had this as a Saturday night special. He once told me of being fresh out of Divinity school. I had told him that I had a fear of speaking before audiences. He said to imagine him going in front of 400 people to give a sermon. This made my fear seem petty. Jim was always pleasant. There was another time when I was doing some repair work at the restaurant-open or closed it made no difference-the show had to go on. I was repairing pipes with a primer fired lag setter. It did make quite a noise. Jim asked me to please stop as he thought he was back in Nam. He said he did not know whether to walk or belly into the kitchen due to enemy fire. I promptly ceased fire. There was another time when I had gotten a new work shirt. It was some weird color. I just asked Rick at Mary Lou's Monogramming to send me assorted colors. Well a girl I was dating at that time was teasing me about how cute the pink shirt was. Well it was Sunday lunch and I was working the register. Nancy came to the register with guest check in hand. She commented that she liked the color of my new shirt. I thanked her but quickly added that it was not pink...that I don't wear pink. Well Jim steps up in this beautiful pinpoint oxford pink button down dress shirt-all meticulously ironed and perfectly fitted. As I stood there trying to remove my foot from my mouth, Jim brushed it off complacently and said that he used to be self conscious about pink too but he overcame this. Always the polite statesman Jim was first to laugh at a difficult situation. Jim-you were loved by all. Thank you for making me a better person

Phil Rierson

Phil Rierson - May 26 at 02:28 PM



“ Your Faith Baptist Church Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Rev. James P. McAlister.



Your Faith Baptist Church Family - May 26 at 01:19 PM



“ Eleanor Blanks lit a candle in memory of Rev. James P. McAlister



Eleanor Blanks - May 26 at 10:35 AM



“ Maria & Earnest Arrington lit a candle in memory of Rev. James P. McAlister



Maria & Earnest Arrington - May 26 at 08:39 AM



“ We have such fond memories of Jim and Nancy and their family. Jim enjoyed serving our community. He was so friendly and thoughtful and loving. And they raised a beautiful family. Jim will be remembered and missed by so many. Prayers for all.

Lise and Richard Burnett - May 26 at 07:01 AM



“ Mike Sizemore lit a candle in memory of Rev. James P. McAlister



Mike Sizemore - May 26 at 06:58 AM



“ Although I only met Mr McAlister one time, at the wedding, he made an amazing impact. What a gentle soul. A forgiving man. A loving man. I man who would do anything for anything. A man of great faith. Prayers for all of the family and everyone he touched. He will be missed. But we will see him again and I am sure he will be at the feet of Jesus praising away when we meet again!

Angie Thompson - May 26 at 06:23 AM



“ We are so sorry to hear this. Jim was such a wonderful and kind person and a friend to so many. He will be terribly missed. We send our prayers and love to Nancy and the family.

Jim Wilkerson - May 26 at 06:19 AM



“ Nancy and family I pray you all will experience God's Peace as Jim was so outstanding at providing His peace to so many! I'm so thankful I knew Jim and was his friend.

Joey Tucker - May 25 at 10:39 PM



“ Nathan & Laura Wilkins purchased the Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- All White for the family of Rev. James P. McAlister.





“ Nancy preacher McAlister will truly be greatly missed.he was a great pastor at Nelson and memories is what we will always remember with him..his great heart, courage to be by your side when prayers came for family's he was always there to lift you back up..he will truly be missed at Nelson Baptist church...he was a great preacher of our community in Nelson va.we all loved him and you Nancy...prayers be with you Nancy and family..love y'all dearly Mr.and Mrs.mcalister from Rodney, Norma, and children..



Rodneynormabowman - May 25 at 06:03 PM



“ Prayers for the family !!! Mr. Mac will truly be missed !!

Tammy Overbey - May 25 at 04:36 PM



“ Nancy you and your entire family are in my thoughts and prayers. I know he will be missed greatly. Love to you all

Deborah Owens - May 25 at 03:45 PM



“ Praying for you all. So many great memories at Nelson Baptist Church with Mr Mac and family.



Jamie Morris - May 25 at 03:07 PM



“ ALTHEA WHILOW lit a candle in memory of Rev. James P. McAlister



ALTHEA WHILOW - May 25 at 03:01 PM



“ Lynda Weaver lit a candle in memory of Rev. James P. McAlister



Lynda Weaver - May 25 at 02:55 PM



“ Ms. Mac and family.....it is with a saddened heart that we send our condolences to you today. Mr. Mac was pastor to my mom and dad for many years and also to us when we would visit Nelson Baptist Church. Jim and I are so pleased that we were able to visit with him in January at Faith Baptist Church and he recognized both of us. Our prayers will be with each of you in the days and years ahead. He will be missed by many.

Lynda and Jim Weaver

Lynda Weaver - May 25 at 03:10 PM



“ Nancy, you are in my thoughts and prayers. Love and miss you - Blair Bowen Jaloway

Blair Bowen Jaloway - May 25 at 02:49 PM



“ Sending our condolences to the whole family of one of the finest men we ever knew. He and my husband, Ken, had such a special relationship due to their mutual respect of each other's military service. Brother Jim would always say "Heads up, Chief - swab that deck". They are now both in the arms of Jesus, perfect in every way. Love and prayers to each of you.

Pat Hensley - May 25 at 05:07 PM



“ Nancy - I'm so sorry to hear of your loss. Prayers and love for you and your family. Much love!

Donna Hallberg - May 25 at 02:12 PM



“ Nancy and family,
Praying for our Heavenly Father to wrap the family in His living arms and grant you peace, comfort and strength. So very sorry for the loss of a great gentleman. With deepest sympathy,
Rob and Judy Moore



Judy Moore - May 25 at 02:04 PM



“ Mrs Mac and family, prayers for all of you. I will always remember his smile.



Wanda and Richard Elliott - May 25 at 02:01 PM



“ John A Ligon IV lit a candle in memory of Rev. James P. McAlister



John A Ligon IV - May 25 at 01:26 PM



“ Wanda Griffin lit a candle in memory of Rev. James P. McAlister



Wanda Griffin - May 25 at 01:17 PM



“ Nancy Mac, you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. Our loss is Heaven's gain. He left lots of wonderful memories.

Love you,
Marilyn Gregory

Marilyn Gregory - May 25 at 02:27 PM



“ Mr. Mac, you will truly be missed. Heaven will be worth it all.

Dotty Rice - May 25 at 05:59 PM



“ Jim was my grader while I was a student at SEBTS 1982 - 1984

He was so helpful to me . Preached several revival for him at Nelson Baptist . Nancy was one of my classmates at SEBTS. My thoughts and prayers are with the entire family . God Bless Rev. Jack Stewart

jack stewart - May 26 at 05:13 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you all. I ran many rescue calls with Jim (RS 16) over the years, and we shared many laughs, military stories, and even a few jokes. He was always kind, and always offered a smile. He will be missed by many on this side of heaven. My deepest sympathies are with you all.

Sheila Luffman - May 27 at 01:49 PM



“ Nancy and family: So sorry to hear of the passing of Rev. McAlister. When someone we love so dearly goes home to be with the Lord, we know they're in a better place - but our sorrow and pain are still great. Praying the peace of God which passeth all understanding will comfort you now and through the coming days. I'll always remember our time together at Second Baptist. They were special.

Love and prayers,

Wanda Davis

Wanda Davis - May 28 at 09:54 AM



“ Lisa and family — My mom shared tonight about your dad's passing. I was incredibly sad to hear the news. I remember him as a funny and smart dad who was incredibly proud of his family. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Kathy Szynklewski Babel and family

