



Senior Master Sergeant James Michael Gilliam

September 23, 1948 - September 10, 2021

Senior Master Sergeant James M Gilliam of Tullahoma passed this life on Friday, September 10, 2021 at the age of 72. Funeral Services are scheduled for 11 AM, Saturday, September 18 at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church with entombment to follow at Rose Hill Memorial Gardens. The family will receive friends on Friday, September 17 from 5 – 8 PM at Daves-Culbertson Funeral Home.

A native of Chicago, IL, he was the son of the late James Otis and Doris Blake Gilliam. He was retired from the US Air Force. While serving at Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines, he met his wife, Yvonne Gascon Gilliam. He was a member of St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church and enjoyed fishing and watching sports. He was an avid fan of the Chicago Cubs, Bears and Bulls and the Nashville Predators.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by brothers, Richard and Charles Gilliam and sisters, Marie Gilliam and Shirley Stevens.

He is survived by wife, Yvonne Gilliam of Tullahoma; son, James Christopher Gilliam (Gena) of Nashville; daughters, Amanda Jeanne Gilliam and Kathryn Anne Gilliam, both of Tullahoma; brother, Thomas Gilliam of Illinois; brother-in-law, John Andrew Gascon (Lulu) of California and grandchildren, Catherine Noël Morton, Virginia Abigail Nelson, Collin Steven Gilliam and Diana Eleanor Gilliam.

The family has requested that everyone please practice COVID protocols by wearing masks and observing social distancing.

Online condolences may be made at www.davesculbertsonfuneralhome.com.
Daves-Culbertson Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Rose Hill Memorial Gardens

4758 New Manchester Highway
Tullahoma, TN 37388
<http://www.rosehillmemorialgardens.com/>

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 17. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Daves-Culbertson Funeral Home
401 N Jackson Street
Tullahoma, TN 37388
(931) 455-3481

Funeral Mass

SEP 18. 11:00 AM.

St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church
Tullahoma, TN

Entombment

SEP 18 (CT)

Rose Hill Memorial Gardens
4758 New Manchester Highway
Tullahoma, TN 37388
<http://www.rosehillmemorialgardens.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Senior Master Sergeant James Michael Gilliam*

January 25, 2023 at 12:28 AM



“ *Yvonne, Ralph and I just saw in the paper of Mike's passing. Please know how sorry we are for this loss. I remember what a kind person he was with always a welcoming smile and friendly manner to all he encountered. Many good memories of times we spent together through our AEDC connection in the past. Prayers for you at this sad time.*

Rosie and Ralph Graham

Rosie Graham - September 18, 2021 at 12:18 PM



“ *Mike, I'll miss you. Your helpfulness, your gentle spirit, and your ingenuity in getting things done. Your pride in serving your country was written on everything about you. Thanks for that service. Fittingly, your namesake, St. Michael the Archangel, is patron of military personnel. Mostly, I'll miss our quick visits before Mass most weekends, to catch up on our mutual interests. May you rest in peace.*

-Mark and Cindy Chappell

Mark and Cindy Chappell - September 18, 2021 at 10:13 AM



“ *Michael, you were a part of our family and truly miss you.*

Catherine Broks - September 17, 2021 at 11:34 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Senior Master Sergeant James Michael Gilliam.*



September 17, 2021 at 01:09 PM



“ *Simpkins and Langford purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Senior Master Sergeant James Michael Gilliam.*



Simpkins and Langford - September 16, 2021 at 09:20 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Senior Master Sergeant James Michael Gilliam.*



September 15, 2021 at 08:37 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Senior Master Sergeant James Michael Gilliam.*



September 15, 2021 at 08:32 PM



“ *America the Beautiful* was purchased for the family of Senior Master Sergeant James Michael Gilliam.



September 15, 2021 at 08:08 PM



“ *My heart goes out to you Yvonne and all your family. I don't think I ever heard Jim say a bad word about anyone. His smile and kind heart will never be forgotten. We were so blessed to spend so many years with Jim in school and so happy that a lot of us never lost touch since graduating in 1967. "Miles to go before I sleep", our class moto, Jim accomplished so very much in those miles. Till we meet again, rest in peace dear friend.*

Cathy Lynch-Bowe - September 15, 2021 at 02:44 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Senior Master Sergeant James Michael Gilliam.



September 14, 2021 at 10:13 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Senior Master Sergeant James Michael Gilliam.



September 14, 2021 at 09:15 PM

JA

“ *Our deepest condolences to you all. Our hearts go out to the whole family.*

-Jason and Jennifer Crawford

Jason - September 14, 2021 at 08:53 PM

DS

“ *My condolences to the family, Mike was an exceptional teammate at AEDC on a number of propulsion projects. I really appreciated his insights and team work in performing unique research. Thanks for sharing him with our teams.*

*Don Skinner
Program Manager
RAPTR Edwards AFB CA*

Don Skinner - September 14, 2021 at 07:41 PM

DM

“ *Sorry for your loss. Mike was my perennial Illini Football and Basketball "Buddy" at AEDC ... thru the good and the bad ... RIP Mike and Go Illini!*

David Milleville - September 14, 2021 at 03:14 PM

GS

“ *We have many wonderful memories with all your family when we were stationed together at Arnold and even after. Mike will be missed. Gary and Fe Simpkins*

Gary Simpkins - September 14, 2021 at 09:51 AM

PL

“ Yvonne and Family,
So sorry for your loss. My thoughts and
prayers are with you and your family..
Hold the good memories close to your heart.

With Sympathy,
Pat & Dan Lavoie and Family



Pat Lavoie - September 14, 2021 at 07:46 AM

ML

“ Thinking of you guys at this difficult time. Mike was always a kind
man to Meghan and I.

Melinda Lowe - September 13, 2021 at 07:29 PM

KA

“ It was a blessing to have Jim in our graduating class in 1967, Malta
High School. Being from a small community, our classmates were
like family. Jim tried to make as many reunions as possible. I have
many memories of him that I will treasure! Until we meet again! ❤️

Karen (Stoddard) Alfano - September 13, 2021 at 06:53 PM

RK

“ A true friend and always ready to help on
anything. First met Mike in 1983 and we
crossed paths many more times over the years.
Always enjoyed his story about his completing
boot camp and heading home on his first leave.
Mike took the train into downtown Chicago and
arrived during the 1968 Dem Convention riots. A couple policemen
pulled him aside and paid for his cab ride home. Rest in Peace
Mike. Our deepest condolences to Yvonne and family. Rick & Pat K



Rick & Pat Kamykowski - September 13, 2021 at 04:34 PM

RK

“ *Rick Kamykowski lit a candle in memory of Senior Master Sergeant James Michael Gilliam*



Rick Kamykowski - September 13, 2021 at 04:28 PM

MO

“ *Mike,*

My sincere condolences to the Gilliam family.

Mike, I will always remember your kind voice and advise which helped grow AEDC. You were the top in my book, you took care of your people and contributed to any project to the utmost.

I will miss you, Love Mary and Chief Rick Orzino

Mary & Richard Orzino - September 13, 2021 at 11:55 AM



“ *Amanda,*

My wife and I are so sorry for your loss. We are praying for you and the rest of the family.

*Thanks,
Dennis and Becky*



Dennis Conn - September 13, 2021 at 09:22 AM



“ *Divine Light was purchased for the family of Senior Master Sergeant James Michael Gilliam.*



September 13, 2021 at 06:20 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Sergeant Mike*



Hamilton Quant - September 12, 2021 at 05:06 PM



Thank you for sharing that picture of My dad with you ❤️❤️❤️

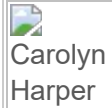
AMANDA GILLIAM - September 14, 2021 at 11:17 PM



“ *1 file added to the album SMSgt Mike Gilliam*



Hamilton Quant - September 12, 2021 at 08:58 AM



Carolyn
Harper

“ *Sincerest sympathies to the Gilliam family for your loss.*

In prayer,

Carolyn and Sam Harper

Carolyn Harper - September 11, 2021 at 07:02 PM

AG

“ *AMANDA GILLIAM lit a candle in memory of
Senior Master Sergeant James Michael
Gilliam*



AMANDA GILLIAM - September 11, 2021 at 03:37 PM

AG

“ *DAD I WILL ALWAYS LOVE YOU*

AMANDA GILLIAM - September 11, 2021 at 03:36 PM