



## James D. McElreath

November 20, 1945 - May 26, 2024

James was born on November 20, 1945 in Spearman to William and Ruby McElreath. He was raised in Spearman, graduating from Spearman High School in 1965. He then married Kay Frances Burger on June 17, 1967 and they raised 2 sons together, Doug and Heath. She preceded him in death on April 17, 2009. James worked as a truckdriver for Roadway for close to 30 years. Throughout his career, he recorded over 3 million miles driven. On April 20, 2020, he married Carolyn McDonald. He was a kind, loving husband throughout their marriage.

In his free time, James enjoyed fishing with his trucking partner, Lee. He was a talented artist, sketching and doodling as often as he could. He was known to be a story teller and a jokester and enjoyed watching old westerns. Above all, he loved his family and cherished being "Pepa" to his grandchildren.

James is survived by his wife, Carolyn McDonald-McElreath of Amarillo; 2 sons, Doug McElreath and wife Kim of Amarillo and Heath McElreath and wife Alryna of Friona; step-daughter, Lauri McDonald of Amarillo; step-son, Jerry McDonald and wife Becky of Amarillo; 3 sisters, Brenda, Linda and Kay; brother-in-law, Don Burger and wife "Bug" of DFW; 8 grandchildren; 8 great grandchildren and his beloved dogs, Pixie, Maggie and Velvet.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Kay Frances McElreath and

his dog, Molly.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions be made to Cal Farley's Boys Ranch: [https://secure.calfarley.org/site/Donation2?idb=974478177&1400.donation=form1&df\\_id=1400&mfc\\_pref=T&idb=0](https://secure.calfarley.org/site/Donation2?idb=974478177&1400.donation=form1&df_id=1400&mfc_pref=T&idb=0)

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life Services

MAY 31. 2:00 PM (CT)

New Life Church  
406 Pittsburg St.  
Amarillo, TX 79104

# Tribute Wall

TA

“ My deepest condolences to family and loved ones in this very difficult time. I'll never forget James picking up my son's starter dirt bike in Longview for me when my son was very young. Doug, my son and I road-tripped to Dallas the next day to pick it up from James, and ended up staying the night at his house. Great memories.

Tim Archer - May 31, 2024 at 01:59 PM

DM

“ Donald J. M. purchased a sympathy card for the family of James D. McElreath.



Donald J. M. - May 30, 2024 at 05:13 AM

RB

“ Robin Brooks purchased the Simply Elegant Spatiphyllum for the family of James D. McElreath.



Robin Brooks - May 29, 2024 at 05:24 PM

RB

“ Robin Brooks planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James D. McElreath.

Robin Brooks - May 29, 2024 at 05:24 PM



“ *Vivid Recollections* was purchased for the family of James D. McElreath.



---

May 29, 2024 at 04:07 PM