



## James "Jamie" Dean Magruder

January 20, 1958 - October 20, 2024

James "Jamie" Dean Magruder was born on January 20, 1958, in Jacksonville, and he passed away on October 20, 2024, at the age of 66.

Jamie was born to Jimmie and Bonnie Magruder and was raised in Alto, Texas. He excelled in both academics and sports. He was quite the athlete. Unbeknownst to many, he also won first place for being an excellent UIL storyteller and memorized poetry. He graduated from Alto High School in 1976 and was offered both a mathematics and baseball scholarship upon graduation. He could work with numbers in his head faster than someone could put them in a calculator. He graduated from Paris Junior College where he played baseball and then attended Stephen F. Austin University. After college he worked for Charter Oil Refinery in Pasadena, Texas for several years and married the love of his life, Judy Henry Magruder. Jamie and Judy married in 1983, returned to Rusk to make a home, and together had three daughters: JayAnna, Jordan, and Jenny Sue.

His world revolved around all his girls! When the girls were little, he was a dedicated coach for Little Dribblers, T-ball, and softball. He never missed a practice or a game. He also taught them the importance of excelling academically in order to have successful careers and preached to them, "Get a good education so you never have to rely on a man."

To the people closest to him, they all knew that Jamie's love language was acts of service. He spent many hours detailing and cleaning his girls' vehicles when they came home to visit. He was always so eager to help if anyone needed it. He also was extremely generous and loved to give. He absolutely loved preparing food and then sharing it with others. His specialties were smoked meat, brownies, and jalapeno peppers. He often made true feasts for breakfast even on weekdays. Holidays will never be the same without his good food!

When Jamie moved back to Rusk many years ago, he started his career as a wholesale lumber salesman. He sold lumber for 39 years and worked for R & R Wood Products out of Louisiana since 2008. He was a member of Birmingham Golf Club for many years as well. He truly loved working in his yard. He had a green thumb and won "Yard of the Month" more than once.

Under Jamie's tough macho exterior was a very romantic husband and tender-hearted man. He was an active member of Grace Fellowship Church and loved the Lord. He adored his only grand-daughter, Anna-Kate, and was excited about Anna-Kate's sibling that is due in spring 2025. He also really loved his Golden Retriever grand-dog, Colt, whom he shared a birthday with and had combined birthday parties with! He often would babysit Colt when his parents were away on trips.

Jamie was preceded in death by his father, Jimmie Magruder, and his grandparents.

Left to cherish his memory is his devoted wife of 41 years, Judy, his daughters, JayAnna Byrd and husband Caleb of Bullard, Jordan Magruder of Tyler, and Jenny Sue Redfield and husband Jimmy of Nacogdoches. He is also survived by his mother, Bonnie Magruder of Alto, his mother-in-law Joann Jackson of Rusk, grand-daughter Anna-Kate Byrd, grand-dog Colt, his sister,

Paulette Keeney and husband Ken of Houston, his Uncle Donald Paul Rains and wife Alicia of Flint, sister-in-law Cathy Dowell and husband Johnny of Willis, brother-in-law Claude Henry and wife Julie of Chandler, and numerous nieces and nephews.

There will be services to celebrate Jamie's life and legacy. A visitation open to all family and friends will be Wednesday, October 23 from 5-7 pm at Wallace Thompson funeral home in Rusk. A celebration of life will be held Thursday, October 24 at 11 AM at Grace Fellowship Church in Rusk. A private family burial will be held following services.

Pallbearers will be Zane McDonald, Dan Lade, John Burns, Kenneth Vanderslice, and Jack White. Honorary pallbearers will be Tommy McElroy, Terry Rogers, Steve Smith, Richard Rushing, and Richard Singletary.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the Grace Fellowship Church building fund at P.O. Box 260 Rusk, Tx 75785.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **23**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Wallace-Thompson Funeral Home  
221 5th Street  
Rusk, TX 75785  
(903) 683-2222  
[info@wallacethompson.com](mailto:info@wallacethompson.com)

## Celebration of Life

OCT **24**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Grace Fellowship Church  
2904 FM343  
Rusk, TX 75785  
(903) 683-6550

# Tribute Wall

DF

“ *Diann Dodson and Family purchased the Floor Plant for Sympathy for the family of James "Jamie" Dean Magruder.*



---

**Diann Dodson and Family** - October 24, 2024 at 05:27 PM

PL

“ *Patrick & Betty Lowery purchased the Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Lavender and White for the family of James "Jamie" Dean Magruder.*



---

**Patrick & Betty Lowery** - October 23, 2024 at 07:59 PM

DF

“ *Doyce & Paula McGaughey & Family purchased the Fields of Europe for the family of James "Jamie" Dean Magruder.*



---

**Doyce & Paula McGaughey & Family** - October 23, 2024 at 03:23 PM

BI

“ *Bilbo Transports Inc. purchased the Healing Tears - Blue and White for the family of James "Jamie" Dean Magruder.*



---

**Bilbo Transports Inc.** - October 23, 2024 at 12:07 PM



“ Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Lavender and White was purchased for the family of James "Jamie" Dean Magruder.



October 23, 2024 at 10:42 AM



“ Gary Hudson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James "Jamie" Dean Magruder.

Gary Hudson - October 23, 2024 at 10:42 AM



“ Wesley & Vickie Holloway purchased the Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers for the family of James "Jamie" Dean Magruder.



Wesley & Vickie Holloway - October 22, 2024 at 08:43 PM



“ The Bergemann family purchased the Plants-A-Planty for the family of James "Jamie" Dean Magruder.



The Bergemann family - October 22, 2024 at 07:15 PM



“ *Healing Tears - Blue and White* was purchased for the family of James "Jamie" Dean Magruder.



---

October 22, 2024 at 06:56 PM



“ Taylor Holthofer planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James "Jamie" Dean Magruder.

---

**Taylor Holthofer** - October 22, 2024 at 06:56 PM



“ *Praying that our God of all comfort will give your family a clear sense of His presence and love during these difficult days. John and Cindy Ardill*

---

**John and Cindy Ardill** - October 22, 2024 at 06:41 PM



“ *Memories 44" Sonnet* was purchased for the family of James "Jamie" Dean Magruder.



---

October 22, 2024 at 05:53 PM



“ *Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of James "Jamie" Dean Magruder.*



---

October 22, 2024 at 05:33 PM



“ *Judy and family - we are so sorry to here about Jamie. We are praying for you all. Much love - Coby, Valorie, Haleigh, CJ & Travis Mosley*

---

**Valorie Mosley** - October 22, 2024 at 04:02 PM

MN

“ I have been blessed in this life to have known Jaime, he is truly one of a kind. He has been my “wood guy” for over a decade. I have never met him in person, yet I was a part of the family – he never failed to tell me so. To his real family, I know you know this, but I want to share - in every conversation in all these years there was never a time that we did not catch up on Judy, the girls, the grandbaby, parents and of course the grand dog! You all were his life, he was the happiest, proudest, God-fearing man I have ever known. Every time I talked to him it was like getting a gigantic bear hug, I will miss this tremendously. My heart is broken for you all, but I can confidently say we know where he is and he is sitting with the Lord now, whom must have had a project for him to take him from us so soon. I pray the Lord gives you strength to get thru these days.

*With deepest sympathy,  
Martha Natividad*

*PS - I will forever miss his videos, jokes and pics.*



---

**Martha Natividad** - October 22, 2024 at 03:53 PM

WF

“ With Love from his R & R Wood Family purchased the Lavender & White Standing Spray for the family of James "Jamie" Dean Magruder.



---

**With Love from his R & R Wood Family** - October 22, 2024 at 11:25 AM

WF

“ With Love from his R & R Wood Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James 'Jamie" Dean Magruder.

---

**With Love from his R & R Wood Family** - October 22, 2024 at 11:25 AM



“ Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of James "Jamie" Dean Magruder.



---

October 22, 2024 at 11:05 AM

TA

“ Teresa and Aram planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James 'Jamie" Dean Magruder.

---

**Teresa and Aram** - October 22, 2024 at 11:05 AM

RF

“ We will miss Jamie's everyday greeting of "Good morning ladies" over here at UT Health Rusk. He never once would leave without saying hi. He always thought about us when he had his goodies he cooked to share. This has hit us hard and we are going to miss him so much. Love and prayers to all the family and friends that knew him. May he RIP.



Love,  
UT Health, Rusk

---

Robin Franks - October 22, 2024 at 10:47 AM



“ Multicolor Bright Sympathy Standing Spray was purchased for the family of James "Jamie" Dean Magruder.



---

October 22, 2024 at 10:18 AM

RS

“ Richard Singletary planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James 'Jamie' Dean Magruder.

---

Richard Singletary - October 22, 2024 at 10:18 AM



“ *Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of James "Jamie" Dean Magruder.*



---

October 22, 2024 at 10:11 AM



“ *Joe Moss purchased the Healing Tears - Blue and White for the family of James "Jamie" Dean Magruder.*



---

**Joe Moss** - October 22, 2024 at 07:20 AM



“ *Joe Moss planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Dean "Jamie" Magruder.*

---

**Joe Moss** - October 22, 2024 at 07:20 AM



“ *Holly Hitt Niner purchased the Blue & White Sympathy Basket for the family of James "Jamie" Dean Magruder.*



---

**Holly Hitt Niner** - October 21, 2024 at 09:04 PM

HN

“ Holly Hitt Niner planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Dean "Jamie" Magruder.

Holly Hitt Niner - October 21, 2024 at 09:04 PM



“ Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of James "Jamie" Dean Magruder.



October 21, 2024 at 08:37 PM

DM

“ Debbie McCaslin planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Dean "Jamie" Magruder.

Debbie McCaslin - October 21, 2024 at 08:37 PM