



## James Weldon Chamlee

August 10, 1938 - July 6, 2020

James Weldon Chamlee, 81, of Culpeper, died Monday July 6, 2020, at Gainesville Health and Rehabilitation Center after a brief illness. He was born August 10, 1938, in Gatesville, Texas, to the late Blanche and Elmer Onice Chamlee.

A true “rocket man,” Jim received his degree in Mechanical Engineering from Widener University and, during the 1960s, helped design portions of the historic Apollo-Saturn space program that took American astronauts to the moon and back. Later, he was a production and marketing leader for a variety of missile and defense systems for Atlantic Research Corp. (later Aerojet) and worked closely with the U.S. Department of Defense.

He was a Mason and a past Worshipful Master of the Barboursville Lodge No. 112, AF&AM. He was a past member of the U.S. Chess Federation and enjoyed many creative hobbies including painting, wood carving, gardening and jewelry making. He was also an enthusiastic marksman.

He is survived by his loving wife of nearly 61 years, Janet Irene (Black) Chamlee of Culpeper; three children: Constance Taylor and husband David of Bridgewater, VA; Lynette Patterson and husband John of Franktown, VA; and James L. Chamlee and wife Kathy of Broken Arrow, OK, as well as five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

In addition to his mother and father, James was preceded in death by his step-father Clarence Henager of Waco, Texas, and his sister, Phyllis Cobb of Austin, Texas.

A celebration of Jim’s life will be held in the future, as restrictions allow.

For those who might wish to send flowers, please instead consider making a memorial contribution to the Wounded Warrior Project (<http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org>).

Found and Sons Funeral Chapels of Culpeper is serving the family.

# Comments

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“ Jan, we are deeply sorry to hear of James death. please extend our sympathies to your family. Norman remembers him from NASA back in the career as well as I recall our quilting trips with you, holding you in our thoughts, Marian Willis

**marian willis** - October 02, 2020 at 07:28 AM

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“ Dear Lynette and all of the Chamlee family, I am so sorry to learn of your loss. I do have a favorite memory of your father. He was instrumental in introducing me to skiing. It seems like a different lifetime now, but I will as always remember him taking you, Lisa Crockett and I to Massanutten. Warm thoughts and prayers to all of your family.

**Kelly Whitney** - July 11, 2020 at 05:08 PM



“ aww Mrs Lynette I'm so sorry for your loss. i know he must have been a great man because he raised an awesome daughter

**Chris Reinthaler** - July 11, 2020 at 10:56 PM



“ Jan, Prayers for you and your family. I'm so sorry to learn of James' passing. May God hold you closely in His hands. He was such a gentle, patient and loving husband. I have happy memories of him waiting for you in the yarn shop.

**Frances Lindgren** - July 13, 2020 at 04:41 PM



“ Lynette, so sorry to hear of the loss of your father. My family and I will keep your family in our thoughts and prayers.

Mike Miller, OCHS '80

**Michael Miller** - July 17, 2020 at 02:35 PM