



James Patrick Vaughn

March 15, 1922 - January 5, 2021

James (Jim) Patrick Vaughn passed to new life in Christ on January 5, 2021. His 98 years started on a small farm in Carey, Ohio. He excelled in parochial and public school, graduating as salutatorian of his high school class. After graduation, he worked in the Carey area for the local railroad, and for the county health inspector.

During WWII, he volunteered for US Navy aviation cadets, but was inducted into the US Army after Navy records were destroyed by fire in the courthouse. He quickly volunteered for flight duty, and trained as a flight engineer/top turret gunner in the new Consolidated B-24 Liberator. His unit, the 450th Bomb Group, arrived in southern Italy on Christmas, 1943, and began combat operations on January 9th. His crew flew Judy Lee, named after the pilot's baby daughter. His group attacked targets in Yugoslavia, northern Italy, and Germany. As gunner, he was credited with one half of a kill of an enemy fighter plane. On his 14th mission, the aircraft was disabled by anti-aircraft fire over Regensburg, Germany. Jim assisted the pilot in controlling the airplane, and later helped other crewmembers bail out. Jim parachuted, and evaded capture in the mountainous winter, until his repatriation to Italy a month later. The remainder of his flying career was stateside, flying Air-Evac medical missions in the US.

He was stationed at Westover Field, MA when he met the love of his life, Jeannette R. Chaquette at a USO dance. They were married for 65 years. After the war, Jim continued his career in the US Air Force, eventually rising to

the top enlisted rank of Chief Master Sargent. He and Jeannette raised a family of two children, with assignments in New Jersey, Kansas, Japan (twice), and Texas. He supported combat operations in Southeast Asia as maintenance line chief for a wing of F-105 Thunderchiefs at Korat AB, Thailand. After retiring from the USAF in 1973, Jim attended and later taught automotive mechanics at Oklahoma State Tech in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, until his retirement there in 1993. During his time at Tech, Jim earned his master's degree at Oklahoma State University. Jim lived his faith as a member of St Anthony of Padua and Uganda Martyrs Catholic churches. He was active in the Knights of Columbus, and at one time labeled, "Tootsy-roll king" by locals for his extra efforts in that charitable effort. He also served his community in the Lions Club, and political groups. He was proud of his town, his church and looked for ways to help, big and small. In 2017, Jim moved to O'Fallon IL to be closer to family. There, he was active in the lives of children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren (who called him "GG Vaughn"). He is survived by, two children, Robert Vaughn and Cheryl Brussow, three grandchildren, Christopher Brussow, Matthew Vaughn, Bethany Resner, eight great grandchildren, Ethan Brussow, Caleb Brussow, Samuel Brussow, James Vaughn, Caris Vaughn, Charlotte Resner, Benjamin Resner, and Robert "Bo" Resner, two great-great grandchildren, Kensley Brussow, Hunter Brussow, and one brother, Paul Vaughn of Tiffin Ohio.

Jim's life was a testimony to a kind and loving spirit; he touched many beyond his family with his unassuming heart and welcoming smile. Events for his July 22-23 remembrance in Okmulgee are listed below. The funeral is supported by McClendon-Winters of Okmulgee, OK. For the funeral, donations in lieu of flowers are welcomed for St Anthony of Padua, and Uganda Martyrs Catholic churches.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 22. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

McClendon-Winters Funeral Home Chapel
303 E. 7th Street
Okmulgee, OK

Rosary

JUL 22. 6:30 PM (CT)

Uganda Martyrs Catholic Church
806 East Third Street
Okmulgee, OK

Mass of Christian Burial

JUL 23. 9:30 AM (CT)

Saint Anthony Catholic Church
515 South Morton Avenue
Okmulgee, OK

Committal Service

JUL 23. 1:00 PM (CT)

Fort Gibson National Cemetery
1423 Cemetery Road
Fort Gibson, OK

Tribute Wall



“ *James Patrick Vaughn*

December 20, 2022 at 11:29 AM



“ *We miss you, GG!* ❤️



beth resner - July 22, 2021 at 01:02 PM



“ *Another of the dwindling group of the old guard of patriots and heroes moves on. I will miss seeing and talking with Jim at the Vaughn family reunions. Rest in peace.*



Michael Ryder - January 16, 2021 at 07:34 PM



“ *Kim Angle lit a candle in memory of James Patrick Vaughn*



Kim Angle - January 14, 2021 at 11:29 AM

VB

“ *Veronica Biddle lit a candle in memory of James Patrick Vaughn*



Veronica Biddle - January 14, 2021 at 11:21 AM



“ *Anthony Nieto lit a candle in memory of James Patrick Vaughn*



Anthony Nieto - January 12, 2021 at 11:02 AM

CD

“ *Carol Downing lit a candle in memory of James Patrick Vaughn*



Carol Downing - January 11, 2021 at 07:00 PM

GS

“ *Glenn Shoaf lit a candle in memory of James Patrick Vaughn*



Glenn Shoaf - January 11, 2021 at 01:11 PM

JC

“ Jim's pattern for living exemplified the teachings of his faith. Eternal rest my friend..

Jeneane Campbell - January 10, 2021 at 11:39 PM

BK

“ Bob Klabenes lit a candle in memory of James Patrick Vaughn



Bob Klabenes - January 10, 2021 at 12:42 PM

DM

“ David Miller lit a candle in memory of James Patrick Vaughn



david miller - January 09, 2021 at 05:34 PM

LC

“ Leo Cazenave lit a candle in memory of James Patrick Vaughn



Leo Cazenave - January 07, 2021 at 08:35 PM

PF

“ *PATRICK L FORD lit a candle in memory of James Patrick Vaughn*



PATRICK L FORD - January 07, 2021 at 12:07 PM

MO

“ *Morgan Owen lit a candle in memory of James Patrick Vaughn*



Morgan Owen - January 07, 2021 at 09:46 AM

GM

“ *A true saint has gone to be with our Lord and Savior. Brother Jim was a true brother who loved people, his church family and most of all his Lord. Jim will be truly missed by all who knew him. My fond memories of Jim was the fellowship we had every Sunday morning after Mass as he would unfold his military stories. Sherri and family be encouraged in knowing that you all had a wonderful dad.....*

Galian Murphy

Galian Murphy - January 06, 2021 at 10:29 PM

DD

“ *Dollene Duff lit a candle in memory of James Patrick Vaughn*



Dollene Duff - January 06, 2021 at 06:19 PM