



## James "JIM" Burton Clifford

October 11, 1948 - March 11, 2010

James Burton "Jim" Clifford, 61, Okmulgee resident and educator, died Thursday, March 11, 2010 in Okmulgee. He was born on October 11, 1948 in Henryetta, Oklahoma to Preston "Jack" Clifford and Mozelle Clark Clifford. Jim graduated from Henryetta High School in 1966; earned a B.A. Degree in Music from East Central State college; M.S. Degrees in both Counseling and Administration from Northeastern State University; and pursued graduate music studies at Tulsa University. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church and the following educational organizations: Oklahoma Retired Educators Association; Cooperative Council of School Administrators and the Oklahoma Education Association as well as the National Education Association.

He was hired by the Okmulgee Public School system. He married Rosalie Gillum on October 30, 1970. Jim's educational career spanned forty years, with thirty of those being an administrator. His first job as a music teacher at Okmulgee Junior High School, Okmulgee High School and at Attucks, the sixth grade center in Okmulgee; Principal of the Intermediate School in Little Axe; Henryetta as Counselor for the Elementary School and Principal of Webster Kindergarten and Early Childhood Center as well as Henryetta Elementary School; Principal at Eastside, Westside, Okmulgee Elementary and retiring from his position as Principal at Okmulgee Primary School on March 1, 2010 due to his battle against leukemia.

His parents and a grandson, Gavin Michael Hare, preceded Jim in death.

Survivors include his loving wife Rosalie of the home, son Jeremy Todd Clifford and wife Candice of Preston, OK, two daughters Cristina Michelle "Cristy" Clifford from Okmulgee, Bradley Page Clifford of the home, Granddaughters Eden Lawson of Broken Arrow, Ok, Reagan Hare of Salmon, ID, sisters Shelba Rayburn and husband Glendel of Ardmore, OK and Patricia Leach and husband Jesse of Henryetta, OK.

Funeral services will be Monday, March 15, 2010 at 10:00 am at the First Baptist Church with Rev. Craig Denslow officiating. Burial will follow in the Okmulgee Cemetery. Visitation will be on Saturday 12-6 pm and Sunday 1-6 pm. The family will be available at the funeral home 1-3 on Sunday.

Pallbearers will be Eric Leach, jeff leach, Travis Rayburn, Randy Rayburn, Dewayne Rains, Jeff Perkins. Honorary will be Joe Nix, Clint Eager and Billy McClure.

They request memorials be sent to Leukemia Society of America, Oklahoma Chapter, 3613 N.W. 56th. #230, Oklahoma City, OK 73112. McClendon-Winters Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be made at [mcclendon-winters.com](http://mcclendon-winters.com).

# Previous Events

## Service

MAR 15. 10:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Okmulgee  
311 W. 5th Street  
Okmulgee, OK

# Tribute Wall



“ James "JIM" Burton Clifford

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December 20, 2022 at 11:29 AM



“ I just now read online of Jims passing. I am so sorry for you and your family. I have many fond memories of him! Your family was always very warm and loved the Lord. A fond memory I have is when the both of you sang at your church I believe it was his last Sunday as the music minister. There was an icecream social afterwards. That was a great day. Send my love to your family. God bless you in your sorrow. Janet###imported-begin###Janet Coyle Mercer###imported-end###

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May 20, 2010 at 11:17 AM



“ We're sorry to hear of Jimmy's passing. We've been friends for ever. We will miss him too. Sorry we couldn't make it to the service. We will remeber him always.###imported-begin###Jerry and Blache Dickey###imported-end###

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March 21, 2010 at 11:37 PM



“ Rosalie,  
I was so sorry to hear "Mr. Clifford" Jim passed away. Kaye Coffey called all of us.  
I remember when we studied for tests at OU. Are you still teaching? I have retired because my husband Dave is ill also.  
You will be in our prayers.  
Ann Coleman  
Norman, OK###imported-begin##Ann Coleman###imported-end##

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March 17, 2010 at 04:45 PM



“ I only knew Jim a little over one year, but it was instantly obvious that he was an intelligent, caring, and compassionate person. He always found time for a word of support and kindness. All of us have a hole in our hearts from his loss, but we are also better off for having known him. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.###imported-begin##Marianne Long###imported-end##

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March 16, 2010 at 11:14 AM



“ I was so sad to learn of the passing of Mr. Clifford. He had such a kind spirit and was a pleasure to work with. His faith was an inspiration and an example of what faith is about. I know he will be truly missed but I feel that he left a legacy behind that will last a long long time. You are all in my prayers.  
Marilyn Jackson###imported-begin##Marilyn Jackson###imported-end##

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March 15, 2010 at 04:46 PM



“ My deepest condolences. Mr. Clifford is a very special man. He gave me my first teaching job. He greatly influenced my career and he was an excellent mentor when I was working on my Master's in School Administration. I appreciate all he has done for me. Thank you.  
I regret deeply not being able to attend the funeral. My prayers are with his family and friends.##imported-begin##Jackie Brown##imported-end##

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March 15, 2010 at 01:37 PM



“ We will miss Jimmy So much, he was always there when we needed him.  
Our prayers are with you and we are thinking of you in this time of your lose.  
Jim we will see you on the other side.##imported-begin##Howard & Roxann Hobbs##imported-end##

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March 14, 2010 at 11:14 PM



“ My deepest sympathies. "Mr. Clifford" was such a big part of my teaching experience. I know he will be missed.##imported-begin##Sherrilee Goodin##imported-end##

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March 14, 2010 at 10:07 PM



“ I have not seen Jimmy since High School  
But I remember him well. I am so sorry for your loss. I pray that God will keep you close and that you find comfort in the memories that will always be with you.##imported-begin##Dianna (Evington) Payton##imported-end##

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March 13, 2010 at 06:14 PM



“ A new star is shining brightly in heaven, he will be missed on earth. A friend to all and a great man.##imported-begin##D'Ann Simons##imported-end##

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March 12, 2010 at 11:42 PM



“ I AM SO SORRY TO HERE THAT JIM PASSED. I THINK HE WAS A GREAT PERSON. HE ALWAYS HAD THE KIDS AT HREAT AND LOVE EVERY ONE OF THEM. WORDS CANT DESCRIBE THE PRESON HE WAS BUT ANY ONE THAT CAME INTO CONTACT WITH HIM JSUT FALL IN LOVE WITH HIM. IF U NEED ANY THING MRS. CLIFFORD PLZ JUST GIVE ME A CALL. LOVE TANYA AND FAMILY.##imported-begin##Tanya Lopez##imported-end##

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March 12, 2010 at 10:01 PM



“ Jimmy was a great guy. The world will miss him.##imported-begin##Matthew Baker, Linda Baker##imported-end##

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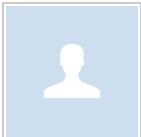
March 12, 2010 at 08:11 PM



“ RIP##imported-begin##Bernel Sawyer##imported-end##

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March 12, 2010 at 05:49 PM



“ SORRY TO HEAR OF JIMMY'S PASSING. MAY GOD BLESS HIS FAMILY AND GIVE THEM PEACE.##imported-begin##GEORGIA BEAL##imported-end##

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March 12, 2010 at 12:11 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Jimmy's passing. He was a very compassionate and loving person. We were in band together at Henryetta High School. He will be missed. Many prayers for the family.##imported-begin##Phyllis Berryhill##imported-end##

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March 12, 2010 at 08:49 AM



“ Jimmy Clifford has been my life long friend. His greatest spiritual gifts have been compassion and humility. We will easily find Jim in the Celestial City by looking for the most gentle and kindest Saint in Heaven.

While on Earth, Jim lent dignity to every person. When Jesus thinks of his Child, Jim Clifford, He smiles. I smile, as well.

Jim is a SPIRITUAL CHAMPION. His godly wisdom can be gleaned from his published books.

I plan to have a divine reunion with Jimmy in Heaven. "Jim: Please meet me by the NARROW GATE."

Humbly, Joe Jameson (a recovering pharisee)##imported-begin##Joe Jameson (Tucson, Arizona)##imported-end##

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March 12, 2010 at 08:06 AM



“ Always remembered. Good school friend.##imported-begin##Dennis Lamb##imported-end##

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March 12, 2010 at 07:03 AM



“ My sincere sympathy to the family for your loss. Jeneane Campbell##imported-begin##Jeneane Campbell##imported-end##

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March 12, 2010 at 12:40 AM



“ I was so sad to hear about Jimmy passing away from this life. But I know that I will see him someday in Heaven. I am so glad that he wrote the books. They have helped me tremendously.##imported-begin##Marlyn (Hamon) Harris##imported-end##

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March 11, 2010 at 10:18 PM



“ Words that describe Jimmie are kind-hearted, dedicated, loving, jovial, talented, and a peacemaker. He'll be missed by his family, friends, and coworkers. Rest in peace, Jimmie.##imported-begin##Sharon (Mordecai) Sawyer##imported-end##

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March 11, 2010 at 09:38 PM