

## JAMES ARTHUR MCKNIGHT

Mr. James Arthur McKnight, age 75 of Crockett, left his earthly body to go be with his Heavenly Father, Saturday, December 6, 2009 at ETMC in Tyler.

On August 4, 1934 in Crockett, Texas, Lafayette Hailey and Mary Lee McKnight became the proud parents of a sweet baby boy whom they named "James Arthur." He was the first of five children. Mr. McKnight attended and received his formal education at Williams High School, Houston County, Texas. He accepted Christ at an early age and united with Friendship Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. Oscar Henderson.

Mr. McKnight married Johnnie F. O'Neal on August 23, 1975. No children were born to this union. He worked for Vulcraft as a Professional Transportation Engineer for 30 years. He enjoyed traveling with family, and was an avid reader, his most enjoyable period was working at the Ritz Theater and meeting people; He believed that hard work and honesty were the ethics to live by; he was also a great conversationalist.

Survivors include his wife Johnnie F. McKnight, of Crockett; four daughters Sheralyn Beckman, Carmen Gutierrez, both of Houston, Yolanda McKnight, of Crockett and Carolyn Morgan, of Houston; two step-daughters Rita (Lucious) Wallace and Dana (Fred), all of Montgomery; three brothers Tom (Sharon) Jones, of Crockett, Larry Jones and Willie Bowens; sister Dorothy (Edgar) Williams; brother-in-law John M. O'Neal; sister-in-law Nannie O'Neal; 12 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Preceded in death by his parents Mr. and Mrs. Lafayette Hailey and Mr. and Mrs. Tom Jones, Sr.

Funeral Services for Mr. James Arthur McKnight were held Saturday, December 12, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. at Friendship Baptist Church in Crockett with the Rev. Oscar Henderson Pastor and Officiating. Interment followed in the Mt. Moriah Cemetery in Crockett.

Active Pallbearers were Demond Denman, Calvin Hicjs, Derrick Simon, Lucious Wallace, Jason Lansford and Sam Duncan, Jr.

Honorary Pallbearers were Devon McKnight, Shedrick Mask, Larry Jones, Marquis McKnight, Clarence Mask, Tom Jones, Jr. and Willie Bowens.

**Emanuel Funeral Home**