



James Alan Drake

October 19, 1939 - January 11, 2024

James Alan Drake, 84, of Odessa, TX, peacefully passed away on January 11, 2024, surrounded by the warmth of his home in Odessa, Texas.

Born on October 19, 1939, to Cline and Myrtle Marie (Marsh) Drake in Inglewood, California, James embarked on a journey marked by love, family, and cherished moments. On April 24, 1964, he united his life with Lorrene Joyce (Leach) in a beautiful ceremony in Lubbock, Texas.

James leaves behind a legacy of love and connection. He is survived by his devoted spouse, Joyce Drake, and their eight children: Dennis Wayne Lange (Debbie), Alan Drake (Pattie), David Drake, Kim Drake, Brian Drake (Tonya), LaDonna Prieto (Isaac), Ronald Drake (Alice), and James Drake. His presence lives on through twenty grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren.

In the tapestry of James's life, he was preceded in death by his granddaughter, Brianna Michelle Drake, his parents, Cline B. and Marie (Marsh) Drake, and three brothers: Charles Drake, Flavil Drake, and Paul Drake.

James was more than just a man; he was a beacon of kindness and warmth. Those fortunate enough to know him found a friend for life. His dedication to family was unwavering, evident in the hard work he devoted to their well-being.

An avid golfer, James spent a week full of cherished moments on the golf course with his brothers every year. His love for Nascar racing became a family tradition, as they set up camp for a week to revel in the excitement of the races. Fishing expeditions were frequent, creating lasting memories with loved ones. Hockey was not just a sport for James; it was a family affair. Dressed in spirit for the games, he made every outing a celebration. His furry companion, Coach, held a special place in his heart, and Tuesday nights were reserved for their hamburger ritual.

Over the years, James and Joyce became Santa and Mrs. Claus, with their children transforming into elves. They spread joy by visiting local nursing facilities, sharing cookies baked by Joyce.

Moreover, the warmth of family bonds unfolded regularly at Dumplings and Mama's Kitchen, where James and his dear ones gathered. These moments were more than just shared meals; they were a symphony of love and connection, echoing with laughter, stories, and the comfort of being together. On the days that James had school drop off duty for the grandkid/s, they would stop at Saucedo's for a breakfast burrito, every time, without fail.

In the final two weeks of his earthly journey, James and Joyce reminisced about the life they built together. Their love, stronger than ever, reflected a journey that spanned a lifetime, leaving an indelible mark on the hearts of those who knew him.

A viewing to celebrate James's life will take place on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, from 2-8 PM at American Heritage Funeral Home. A funeral service, commemorating the richness of his existence, will be held on Wednesday, January 17th, 2024, at 2:00 PM at American Heritage Funeral Home, with burial immediately following in American Heritage Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

American Heritage Cemetery

4100 North FM 1788
Midland, TX 79707
(432) 563-9767
info@thehealingstartshere.com
<https://thehealingstartshere.com>

Previous Events

Viewing

JAN 16. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

American Heritage Funeral Home
4100 N FM 1788
Midland, TX 79707
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Funeral

JAN 17. 2:00 PM (CT)

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Burial

JAN 17 (CT)

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Tribute Wall

BG

“ Uncle James will truly be missed by all family members who could always count on him to be,do,anywhere or anything as he was needed. We could always count on him.Uncle James was a big support to me and my family with the passing of my dad. He always had the right words and big hugs for me. It was well known That he and I had many water fights with each other at family reunions always looking over my shoulder to not get drenched. He was just a very awesome Uncle and I for one will miss him dearly. ❤️

Becky kenney Gillespie - January 16, 2024 at 06:17 PM

BH

“ There is too many words and not enough. I always thought so highly of Uncle James. I know he will always be deeply loved. His memory will be cherished through all the family. Even as it grows. I hope mama met him at the gate to welcome him to the loved ones gone before.

Babara Henderson - January 15, 2024 at 08:09 PM

FP

“ From J-W Power purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of James Alan Drake.



From J-W Power - January 15, 2024 at 02:13 PM

FP

“ From J-W Power planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Alan Drake.

From J-W Power - January 15, 2024 at 02:13 PM