



James Madison Sparkman

October 20, 1936 - May 26, 2018

James Madison (J. Matt) Sparkman passed away on May 26, 2018, at the age of 81 at S.P.J.S.T. Senior Living in Needville, Texas, surrounded by his family.

Mr. Sparkman, a resident of Lafayette, Louisiana, for 30 years and a resident of Tomball, Texas, for the past two years was the son of the late Will Miller Sparkman and the former Joyce Graham.

He worked for Phillips Petroleum Company for 36 years (1961-1997). While working for Phillips, Mr. Sparkman and his family lived in various locations in Oklahoma, Texas, and Louisiana, where he progressed from working in the gasoline plant gang at the Phillips plant in Oklahoma City to the position of Operations Superintendent in the Lafayette office. Mr. Sparkman was a lifelong, faithful Christian. He served as an elder at Rockport Church of Christ, Graeber Road Church of Christ, and Riverside Church of Christ.

“Papa,” as he was called by his grandchildren, enjoyed playing golf, hunting and fishing, gardening, and entertaining everyone with his jokes and stories. He was a master of the grill and king of the crawfish boil.

In addition to his parents, Mr. Sparkman is preceded in death by Joyce Ann Sparkman, his loving wife of 55 years. He dedicated his life to caring for others, especially his sweetheart as her health declined.

He is survived by daughters, Tracy Batchelder and husband John from Needville, Texas, Elizabeth Sparkman from Tomball, Texas, and Patty Fryoux from Broussard, Louisiana; grandchildren, Robyn Bocks and husband James, Ryan Sparkman and wife Theresa, Matt Batchelder and wife Carly, and Dylan Fryoux; his great grandchildren, Rose Bocks, Myles and Graham Batchelder, and Madelyn and James Madison Sparkman.

A private memorial service will be held on Saturday, June 9, 2018.

Interment will follow at a later date in the Murray City cemetery in Calloway County, Kentucky.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to S.P.J.S.T. Senior Living, 8611 Main Street, Needville, Texas 77461.

Comments



“ Matt taught me about baptism when I was 18 years old and engaged to my husband. He helped me understand when my Joe was getting frustrated trying to help me understand. He was a gentle, kind teacher. Later, we asked him to marry us. He said he would, then rushed out to get a state license. His hands shook during the short ceremony, but he got it done. Years later when he saw us again, he said he was so happy it stuck! He will always be in our hearts!!

Barb and Joe Hendricks - May 30, 2018 at 02:40 PM



“ Please know that the Sparkman Family are in our thoughts and prayers.

Dickie and Lora Thompson



Lora Thompson - May 30, 2018 at 01:31 PM



“ Thinking of you three girls and your families at this time.

Praying for peace and comfort for all of you.

Guyla and Elmo Hubble

Guyla Hubble - May 30, 2018 at 05:33 PM