



J.W.

May 13, 1924 - January 20, 2016

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Jesse William "J.W." McKinney, 91, of Falmouth, KY, passed away on Wednesday, January 20, 2016. at the River Valley Nursing Home in Butler, KY. Born on May 13, 1924, in Pulaski County, KY, he was a son of the late Henry and Minnie Bullock McKinney. On August 26, 1950, he married Okla Vonda Ramsey McKinney, and his wife of 65 years survives his passing.

He attended both the University of Kentucky and Eastern Kentucky University, where he met Vonda. After their marriage they moved to Pendleton County to teach at Mt. Auburn and later at Northern Elementary, where he retired in 1984. While at Mt. Auburn, he taught 5th grade, 8th grade, served as head teacher, principal, and bus driver. While at Northern he taught 6th grade. J.W. was also a term member of the Pendleton County Board of Education. During these years he spent the summers working for the Food Bank (Locker) part time.

J.W. was a truly dedicated Christian and member of the Falmouth Baptist Church since 1950. He was ordained a deacon in 1960, taught Sunday school for over 50 years, and enjoyed taking a big part in many activities of the church, such as serving on numerous committees, and serving as treasurer

for the Union Association of Baptists.

J.W. served in the US Army for 2 years, serving in the Philippines, where he was injured and received a purple heart. He was then stationed in Japan, during which time he served as a cook under the supervision of Gen. MacArthur until his discharge.

In later years, J.W. and Vonda purchased a small farm in the country that brought lots of enjoyment. He raised pure bred cattle and worked the land.

Even as he became unable to do, he enjoyed sitting in his swing under the tree to watch Marty or the neighbor men do the work. He was a long time member of the Pendleton County Farm Bureau.

In addition to his wife of 65 years, Vonda, he is survived by 2 children: Camilla (Hunter) Matthews of Madison, AL, and Marty (Amy) McKinney of Falmouth, KY; 5 grandchildren: Sarah Ann Dey of Madison, AL, Gretchen Christine Matthews of Madison, AL, Hunter Benjamin Matthews III of Lexington, KY, Aryn Elizabeth Applegate of Butler, KY, and Morgan Alayne McKinney of Falmouth, KY; 3 great grandchildren: Gavin, Ben, and Jesse; and a sister, Juanita Mize of Pulaski County, KY.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Carl McKinney and a sister, Geneva Gover.

Funeral services will be held on Sunday, January 24, 2016, at 2:00 P.M. at the Falmouth Baptist Church with Bro. Cohen Copley and Bro. George Naylor officiating. Pallbearers for the service will be the Deacons of the church.

Honorary pallbearers for the service will be Arnold Ross, Pete Steele, Steve Thomas, Donnie Wolfe, and Gary Afterkirk. Burial will follow in the Pleasant Hill Cemetery. The visitation will be held from 4-7:00 P.M. on Saturday at Woodhead Funeral Home.

Memorial contributions are suggested to Falmouth Baptist Church: 403 Maple Ave, Falmouth, KY 41040

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **23**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Woodhead Funeral Home
310 W. Shelby St.
Falmouth, KY

Tribute Wall

DK

“ J.W.

Debbie kappes - February 16, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ Mr. McKinney had a heart of gold, but a paddle you didn't want him to use. Unfortunately he did several times on me at Mt. Auburn school. But I always felt like it hurt him more than me. I loved him and everything he stood for. Thanks Mr. McKinney for caring so deeply about each and every student you ever had! My prayers are with his family!

Debbie - February 15, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BE

“ I will always remember Mr. & Mrs. McKinney as two of my favorite teachers at Mt. Auburn school. He was always so kind and cared so much for each and every student. He will be missed by Pendleton County and so many people throughout the country. The smile he always had on his face is how I will remember Mr. McKinney. Our prayers are with your family. God bless.

Betty - February 03, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ I had the privilege of having MR. McKinney as a teacher in my 7th and 8th grades. He made learning fun. My memory tells me that I smiled more in those two years than all of my other school years. I will always remember Mr. McKinney as a fine person, a fine teacher and a friend.

David Littleton - January 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ *Mr. McKinney was a teacher and friend to everyone of my brothers and sisters (15 in all). Everyone knew him as a kind gentle man with a big heart. He will truly be missed. Prayers and thoughts to his family.*

Janet - January 28, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ *Dear Family, I missed the visitation, didn't know when it was...I pray for you all and know that he had a wonderful life...I wish all the best...take care,*

Deb Ramsey Barnett - January 26, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ *Praying for all of you! What fond memories we have of Mr. McKinney. He made math come alive for me and found a true friend in him. We will miss him greatly!*

Ronita Angell Simpson - January 26, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ *I am sorry I did not find out about arrangements in time to attend. What a very special teacher and man Mr. McKinney was to me and to many others. Never will I forget his gentle nature, kind heart, and forever smile. He was simply great. My prayers will be with the family.*

Maxie Kordes - January 25, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BE

“ Sorry for your loss. We are devastated by the news. It is as if we too have lost a family member. JW's kindness to me had a profound effect on my adult life. We apologize for not making it in person. This winter storm prevented us from making the trip. We are disappointed we were not able to attend in person.

Ben - January 23, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ I'm very sorry for your loss.

Doug Wulfekamp - January 23, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ I am really sorry for your loss. Mr. McKinney will always be remembered as the principle of Mt. Auburn Elementary school. He saw all and dealt with us all equally. One fine teacher.

Darlin Lonaker Seidl - January 23, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Sorry for your loss. He has remained my favorite teacher throughout the years. He was a great man.

Joyce Florer - January 23, 2016 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ I began my teaching career under j.w. Such a kind spirited man. I tried to pattern my career after him. I made a great choice.

Ted Sullivan - January 22, 2016 at 12:00 AM

VA

“ My heart goes out to the entire Family. He was a special man to so many. I was blessed to know him and have him as a teacher.

Victoria ALSIP - January 22, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ So sorry for your lost. He was a great man. He was a great teacher too. This man help me get my G.E.D May he rest in peace

Phyllis Garland - January 22, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I always enjoyed him ,along with his family at church. He was a very good friend to my dad (Jr Florence) and now they can be friends in heaven.

Dianna Ramsey - January 22, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CD

“ Our deepest sympathy to the McKinney family as well as the community. Mr. McKinney will always hold a special place in my heart with many wonderful childhood memories from Mt. Auburn School and Northern Elementary. He was a fine man and a community leader that left his influential mark on so many.

Colleen Dalga - January 22, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ Mr. Mckinney was one of the finest people that I ever met. While at Mt. Auburn he displayed great love every student. and was a fabulous teacher. We have lost a great man. I want to express my deepest sympathy to his family and friends. Thanks Mr. McKinney

David Wagner - January 22, 2016 at 12:00 AM

VS

“ *Sending sympathy and prayers to the family.*

Violet Schoonveld - January 22, 2016 at 12:00 AM

VA

“ *We will truly miss you Uncle Jay. You were a wonderful and caring man. I have many memories of fun times with you. When Jeff was young he always wanted to go see Uncle Jay. He always enjoyed the tractor and horse rides and just being with you. I'm sure you and my Dad are laughing it up in heaven.*

Van - January 21, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ *A mighty fine man, no better, with a wonderful, life-long testimony and witness. It would take a big, thick book to recount what you have meant to so many. Thank you, Mr. McKinney.*

Charles Don Wells - January 21, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ *My heartfelt sympathy to the family and community. What a wonderful man. No matter how many years between meetings he always remembered me and made me feel special. So many great memories at Mt Auburn school. May every student be blessed with such a fine educator in his/her life. Thank you Mr. McKinley!*

Maurie Houston Harlan - January 21, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LO

“ *So sorry to hear about Mr. McKinney. You have my deepest sympathy. I'll never forget that he gave both of my children their first ride on a horse. He was so kind and caring every time I came to visit over the years.*

Lorrie - January 21, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Prayers for the peace and comfort only God above can give when He places His loving arms around you.

marilyn fryman - January 21, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BE

“ J. W. was a fine compassionate man. He was a true teacher and friend to all. He was loved and respected by his students and co-workers. Our sympathy to all the family.

Betty - January 21, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ Just to let you know your family has our deepest sympathy.

charlotte whaley - January 21, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ So very sorry for your loss! Your all in our thoughts and prayers! He touched many lives over the years.

Bonnie Buerkley - January 21, 2016 at 12:00 AM