

James David Stafford

February 25, 1939 - January 20, 2022

James David Stafford was born on February 25, 1939 in Bedford, Indiana and passed from this life on January 20, 2022 in Lubbock, Texas at the age of 82 years. He is survived by his wife, Lou McMurrey Stafford, his son John Stafford and wife Deanna, his daughter Mary Tovar and wife Sylvia, and his son Charles Stafford and wife Dee. He is also survived by a brother, Stephen Stafford and sister Kathleen Bradley, step-sons Michael Martin, Clay Martin and wife Joanna, six grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son, Andrew Stafford.

Dave was a career sailor, retiring from the Navy as Command Master Chief. He then went back to college to become a teacher, graduating from the University of Houston at Victoria. He taught third grade in Beeville, Texas and later at the McConnell Unit prison in Beeville, until his retirement. He had an incredible passion for teaching, whether it was fellow sailors, students, incarcerated adults, or members of his family. Although retired, he never stopped teaching and will be dearly missed.

Dave loved to travel, having been around the world 3 times with the Navy. He and his wife later visited all 50 states, toured most of Canada, and cruised to many of the Caribbean islands and parts of Mexico and South America. He loved to write poetry and memoirs and was an avid reader. He was especially fond of the following poem by Hannah Kahn which beautifully portrays his

philosophy of life:

Ride a wild horse
with purple wings
Striped yellow and black
except his head
which must be red.

Ride a wild horse against the sky -
hold tight to his wings

before you die
whatever else you leave undone
once
ride a wild horse
into the sun.

David was many things to many people: husband, father, stepdad,
grandfather, great-grandfather, uncle, brother, friend, writer, poet, coach. He is
now, free at last, free at last!

Cemetery Details

Miller Crematory

202 Avenue Q
Lubbock, TX 79415

Tribute Wall



“ I was a neighbor, in Tanglewood, decades ago. I have such good memories of Dave and Lou. I am so sorry, to hear of Dave’s passing. My belated condolences to Lou, Dave’s family and friends.
Linda Johnson

Linda Johnson - October 10, 2023 at 01:19 AM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of James David Stafford.



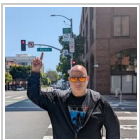
January 26, 2022 at 01:56 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of James David Stafford.



January 26, 2022 at 12:58 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Charles Stafford - January 26, 2022 at 10:29 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of James David Stafford.*



January 26, 2022 at 08:44 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Sanders Funeral Home - January 25, 2022 at 10:27 PM