



James Daniel Gryder

March 23, 1929 - September 24, 2025

James “Jim” Gryder, 96, of Siloam Springs, Arkansas, passed away on Wednesday, September 24, 2025, at Circle of Life Hospice in Springdale, Arkansas. Born on March 23, 1929, in Stony Point, North Carolina, Jim was the son of James Vernon Gryder and Ruby Grace (Lackey) Gryder. Jim faithfully served his country as a forward observer for artillery in the United States Army during the Korean War. On April 6, 1957, Jim was united in marriage to Doreen Esther Johnson in Milaca, Minnesota. Following his military service, Jim pursued higher education, earning a bachelor’s degree from Southern Illinois University and later a master’s degree from the University of Illinois. His dedication to the development of young minds led him to a career as a junior high mathematics teacher in the Sterling Public Schools of Illinois. Mr. Gryder was a student of Scripture and served faithfully in his church over the years in Serling. After moving to Siloam Springs, he attended Gum Springs Church. He was also an avid gardener and landscaper, and spent many hours outside. Jim will be remembered and missed by all who had the privilege to know him. He was preceded in death by his mother, Ruby Grace (Lucky) Gryder; his father, James Vernon Gryder; two sisters, Lorene Shelton, and Reba Inge; two brothers, Ray Gryder, and William Gryder. He is survived by his wife, Doreen Gryder of Siloam Springs, Arkansas; his daughter, Kathy Carlson (James) of Siloam Springs, Arkansas; two sons, Dan Gryder of Atlanta, Georgia, and Tim Gryder (Lori) of Siloam Springs, Arkansas; three granddaughters, Abigail Metinou (Brice) of New York City,

New York, Clair Kupersmith (Tyler) of Siloam Springs, Arkansas, and Kate Gryder of Siloam Springs, Arkansas; four grandsons, David Carlson (Sarah) of Siloam Springs, Arkansas, Andrew Gryder of Atlanta, Georgia, Dylan Gryder of Atlanta, Georgia, and Will Gryder of Siloam Springs, Arkansas; two great grandchildren, of Siloam Springs, Arkansas; one sister, Annie Holder of Greenville, North Carolina; two brothers, Norris Gryder (Jerry) of Richmond, Virginia, and Floyd Gryder (Pat) of Stafford, Virginia; many nieces and nephews on both sides of the family.

A visitation is scheduled from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 1, 2025, at Wasson Funeral Home in Siloam Springs, Arkansas. A funeral service is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, October 2, 2025, at Wasson Funeral Home in Siloam Springs, Arkansas with Stanley Church officiating, and a committal service to follow at Oak Hill Cemetery in Siloam Springs, Arkansas.

Memorial Contributions may be made to Circle of Life Hospice in Springdale, Arkansas, or Siloam Springs Senior Activity and Wellness Center.

Cemetery Details

Oak Hill Cemetery

2122 W. University St.
Siloam Springs, AR 72761

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 1. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Wasson Funeral Home
441 U.S. 412
Siloam Springs, AR 72761
(479) 524-5131
wasson@wassonfuneralhome.com
<https://www.wassonfuneralhome.com>

Funeral

OCT 2. 10:30 AM (CT)

Wasson Funeral Home
441 U.S. 412
Siloam Springs, AR 72761
(479) 524-5131
wasson@wassonfuneralhome.com
<https://www.wassonfuneralhome.com>

Committal

OCT 2 (CT)

Oak Hill Cemetery
2122 W. University St.
Siloam Springs, AR 72761

Tribute Wall

SE

“ It saddens greatly that I was not able to be at the memorial service. I would have gladly made the trip to honor him. I was out of the country and have just now learned of his passing. “Mr. Gryder” (even now, out of respect, I cannot address him as simply “Jim” even though, years ago, he told me that I could) had a very profound and lasting impact on my academic career. He was instrumental in teaching me how to be a scholar (a word he used). I had him for mathematics (algebra) in Junior High School in Sterling in the early 1970’s - I was a classmate of his son, Dan. Hello Dan! I will be forever grateful for his influence. Rest in Peace, Mr. Gryder. May God always Bless you forever. Sean P. Maloney

sean - October 17, 2025 at 12:44 PM

DG

Thank you Sean, we should catch up sometime!

Dan Gryder - November 04, 2025 at 07:18 AM

PD

“ Mr. Gryder was my math tutor in elementary school and my math teacher in middle school, and he had a profound impact on how I think and solve problems. I’ll never forget the 3D cube puzzles he gave me to “activate my brain” — they sparked a lifelong love of problem solving. When I started middle school, he told me who the top-ranked math student was so I’d have someone to chase (Scott Thomas). He knew exactly how to challenge, engage, and inspire his students, and I’ve carried those lessons with me.

Patrick Dillon - October 07, 2025 at 11:20 AM

LS

“ I remember Mr. Gryder well as his algebra student for two years at Sterling Jr. High in the 1967-69 time frame. He was a very good teacher and prepared me well for a career as an electrical engineer. Please accept my condolences.

Lynn Schultz

Lynn Schultz - October 06, 2025 at 10:41 AM

JP

“ Dear Doreen,
I am deeply sorry for your loss. This is Jenna Perea, the student you talked to in the cafeteria after your husband's service. Thank you for sharing your memories of your husband with me, I really enjoyed reading your husband's obituary, he sounds so kind and wise and like such a servant leader. Remember that the Lord is your strength and your song. In times of trouble, I turn to two different scripture passages Psalms 91 and John 11:35. Psalms 91 reminds us that God is our refuge, our shelter, and our fortress. The verse from John is much simpler. "Jesus wept". It reminds us that Jesus weeps with us. That he sees us. That he feels our pain. No matter if we are full of questions, like Martha, or if we simply need to fall at his feet and weep with Him, He sees us. He hears us. He sees us. He cares for us. He cares for you.

If you ever need someone to sit with, talk to, reminisce with, to do crafts like crocheting or quilting with, to drink tea with, to go to church with, to garden with, or anything else you can call me at 432-230-2123 or email me at pereaj@jbu.edu.

I'm praying for comfort and peace for you and yours.

All the best,

Jenna Perea

Jenna Perea - October 02, 2025 at 04:39 PM

DG

Thank You, Jenna ! Our random meeting was so sweet. After I settle in after my deep grief, I would love to meet up with you again ! Your sweet words meant so much. ❤️

Doreen Gryder - October 06, 2025 at 04:21 PM



“ *Healing Tears - Blue and White was purchased for the family of James Daniel Gryder.*



September 30, 2025 at 04:55 PM

WS

“ *With Love from the Carlson Siblings purchased the Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket for the family of James Daniel Gryder.*



With Love from the Carlson Siblings - September 30, 2025 at 01:30 AM



“ *European Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of James Daniel Gryder.*



September 29, 2025 at 12:53 PM



“ *Healing Tears - Blue and White* was purchased for the family of James Daniel Gryder.



September 29, 2025 at 11:13 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of James Daniel Gryder.

September 29, 2025 at 10:32 AM



“ *Red, White & Blue Sympathy Basket* was purchased for the family of James Daniel Gryder.



September 29, 2025 at 10:32 AM



“ *Becky Inge and family* purchased the *European Sympathy Dish Garden* for the family of James Daniel Gryder.



Becky Inge and family - September 29, 2025 at 09:32 AM

TG

“ I remember the Gryder's many years ago when they went too the Tampico Baptist Church. That was the church our oldest daughter went forward to accept Jesus Christ into her life. James was a strong Christian and now we can celebrate that he will live Eternally in Heaven with our Lord Jesus Christ.

Terry Gaskill - September 28, 2025 at 10:02 PM

DG

“ A life well lived. You were the best! Thanks Dad.



dan gryder - September 28, 2025 at 07:36 AM

NJ

“ I got to know Jim and Doreen at the senior center and knew they were a very special couple. Doreen always blessed us with her piano playing. We've already missed not seeing them but I know he heard Welcome Home My Dear And Faithful Servant.



Norma Jean - September 27, 2025 at 11:13 AM