

James Alan Haynes

October 23, 1939 - June 22, 2024

James Alan Haynes was born on October 23, 1939, and was preceded in death by his parents the late J. Sidney Haynes and Edith Haynes, his brother Noble Sidney Haynes and his sister Meredith Haynes. He is survived by a loving family including his wife Sandra Haynes, married on June 2, 1984, daughters Kim, Sherrie and husband Bill, and grandkids: Blake and wife Cassidy, Haley, Chacey, Josh and wife Haley, Breanna and husband Cody, and great grandkids Bruin, Cannon, Briar & Gatlin.

Mr. Haynes graduated from Tyler High School, Tyler Junior College, and later earned a BBA degree from the University of Texas in Austin. He also earned a Master of Business Administration degree from Texas A&M Commerce Texas. He was a member of Delta Upsilon Fraternity and enjoyed the life time friends he made. Mr. Haynes was a member of Green Acres Baptist Church.

Mr. Haynes taught at Tyler Junior College before opening The Sportster in 1973, a retail sporting goods store. The Sportster, Inc. was awarded in 1978 the "SPINKS" Leadership Award by the National Association of Sporting Goods Dealers as the outstanding independent retail sporting goods store in the nation.

He worked ardently for Texas sportsmen and served on a number of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department boards and other conservation organizations.

He was a true sportsman known as an avid hunter, fisherman, and canoeist. He traveled worldwide hunting and fishing. He helped establish the “Sabine Bottom Texas Parks and Wildlife Management Area”, “The Mineola Nature Preserve” on the Sabine River, and was a past chairman of the board of trustees for The Texas Kid Fish program, The ShareLunker Foundation, as well as the Texas Parks and Wildlife Inland Fisheries Advisory Board. On May 4, 2019 he was inducted into THE TEXAS FRESHWATER FISHING HALL OF FAME.

His greatest joy was helping kids, especially his grandkids, with hunter education and fishing. He worked to help pass the first Texas Hunter Safety Law in Texas and taught numerous students hunter safety. He actively worked to support conservation, fish and wildlife issues, helping pass the first legislation for a Spring Turkey Season in Texas and served as a director for the National Wild Turkey Federation. He was a longtime member of the East Texas Woods and Waters Foundation and multiple other conservation organizations.

Serving as Honorary pallbearers: Josh Culpepper, Blake Branch, Bill McCaa, Clint McCaa, Francis Kay, Bill Sheehy, Benny Swan, Gary Traylor, Allen Hill, Barry Snell, Glenn Ab Walters, Bill Naleid, Gary Sapp, Dr. Tom Gregory, and Dennis Darryl.

Memorial services will be held on Wednesday, June 26, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at Stewart Family Funeral Home.

Memorials in honor of Alan Haynes may be made to The Hospice of East Texas, 4111 University Blvd., Tyler, TX 75701 or St. Paul Children’s Foundation 1358 E. Richards, Tyler, 75702 or the East Texas Woods and Waters Foundation, 1001 ESE Loop 323, Suite 300, Tyler, TX 75701

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN **26**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy
Tyler, TX 75703
(903) 581-2008

Tribute Wall



“ Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of James Alan Haynes



Stewart Family Funeral Home - June 24, 2024 at 09:44 PM

ES

Lovely video! I am Ray Sasser's widow and we enjoyed many times hunting turkeys with. Alan! He was so interesting and Smart. I always enjoyed talking with him!

Emilie Sasser - June 24, 2024 at 07:52 PM

SH

Thank you very much. Sandy Haynes and family

sandy Haynes - June 25, 2024 at 09:37 AM

TC

I have always felt a debt of gratitude to Alan. After I finished school at UT Austin, we wanted to move back to Tyler. Beth went to the Sportster and told Alan he needed to hire me so she could come back to Tyler and have our first child. He said: How can I say no! I worked at the Sportster for 9 years. There was never a dull moment. Alan helped us get cheap housing when we first came and help many other ways. He arranged for vacations and a cruise for Beth & I. We took off one afternoon to go fishing as it was a guarantee they were biting. We were going to catch them and eat them for dinner at the lake. We never got a bite. Finally he gave up and we stopped at the Teaselville store and got baloney and cheese and made sandwiches. When people asked him how the fish were, he said they tasted like baloney! I could tell a hundred stories! I appreciate the opportunity he gave me to get started in business. God bless Sandy and Family! Terry & Beth Cooper

Terry Cooper - June 26, 2024 at 09:52 AM

JB

My sincerest sympathy to Sandy and the family. I worked 13 years for Alan at The Sportster keeping records for the store, for No Talent Hunting Club and other interests of his. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Jan Bentley

Jan Bentley - June 26, 2024 at 10:26 AM

GW

Alan and I became friends in Junior High School. There would be gaps in time when we didn't get to see each other, but over the years we hunted and fished a lot. Great teller of tales and just an overall great friend. Sandy and Family, I'm sorry that I missed Alan's service today. Just know that I was with y'all in spirit and will always keep Alan's memory in my heart.

Glenn Ab Walters

Glenn Ab Walters - June 26, 2024 at 01:33 PM

TS

Alan was my fraternity brother at UT. To the members he was not Alan, he was Birdhunter. He was a raconteur of the first order, and became a friend of everyone he met. I don't remember him ever raising his voice except in laughter. Rest easy, Birdhunter.

tTom Stephens - July 01, 2024 at 05:01 PM

LC

“ Love David, Sally and “Michael” Cain purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of James Alan Haynes.



Love David, Sally and “Michael” Cain - June 25, 2024 at 03:12 PM

LC

“ Love David, Sally and “Michael” Cain planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Alan Haynes.

Love David, Sally and “Michael” Cain - June 25, 2024 at 03:12 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of James Alan Haynes.



June 25, 2024 at 01:02 PM

LS

“ Love, Wesley Traylor & Caroline Smith planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Alan Haynes.

Love, Wesley Traylor & Caroline Smith - June 25, 2024 at 01:02 PM

NM

“ No Talent Hunt Club Members purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of James Alan Haynes.



No Talent Hunt Club Members - June 25, 2024 at 11:30 AM

NM

“ No Talent Hunt Club Members planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Alan Haynes.

No Talent Hunt Club Members - June 25, 2024 at 11:30 AM

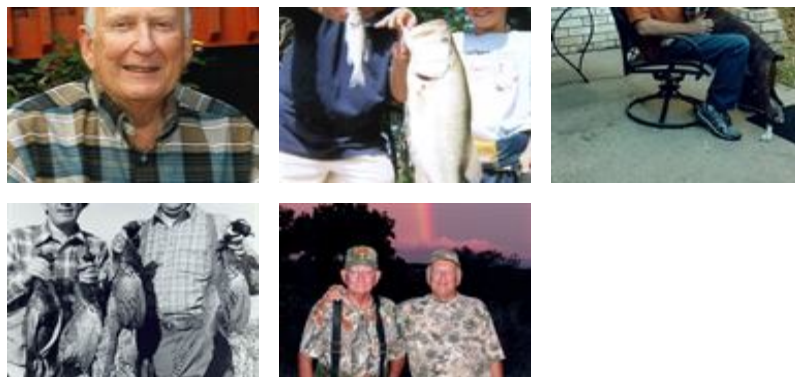
BP

“ Britton P. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Alan Haynes.

Britton P. - June 25, 2024 at 11:20 AM



“ 46 files added to the album Life Tributes



Stewart Family Funeral Home - June 24, 2024 at 05:18 PM

TF

“ Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of James Alan Haynes.



Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame - June 24, 2024 at 03:10 PM

TF

“ Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Alan Haynes.

Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame - June 24, 2024 at 03:10 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James Alan Haynes.



June 24, 2024 at 03:00 PM

TF

“ The Norman Sabens Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Alan Haynes.

The Norman Sabens Family - June 24, 2024 at 03:00 PM

PF

“ Parkinson Family purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of James Alan Haynes.



Parkinson Family - June 24, 2024 at 11:50 AM