



## James "Jim" Rayburn

October 12, 1952 - November 27, 2023

Funeral Mass for James "Jim" Rayburn, 71, of Tyler will be held on Monday, December 4, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Mary Magdalene Church at 18221 FM 2493 in Flint with the Very Rev. James Rowland officiating. Burial will follow at Rose Lawn Cemetery in Tyler under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home.

Mr. Rayburn passed away at home on Monday, November 27, 2023. He was born October 12, 1952, in Amarillo, Texas. He attended public schools in Amarillo, graduating from Tascosa High School in 1971. He attended college at West Texas State University and the University of Houston. He obtained his pharmacist license in 1976. During his career as a pharmacist, he worked for various retail pharmacies, the J.O. Wyatt Clinic in Amarillo, and owned and operated his own drug store in Amarillo. However, Jim's true passion was music. Throughout his life he played in several local bands in Amarillo, including Vic Fontana and the Automatics. He was also involved with leading worship for the Walk to Emmaus and the Kairos Prison Ministry as well as serving on the worship team at local churches in Amarillo.

In 2012, he and his wife Sandy moved to Tyler, Texas to enjoy a complete change of scenery from the flat, dry Panhandle of Texas. After his initial diagnosis and treatment of cancer in 2012, Jim and his wife resolved to make the most of life. Since that time, they attended over forty concerts (traveling as

far as Toronto, Canada to see Coldplay), taken several road trips, went on ten cruises, two pilgrimages and attended the Oberammergau Passion Play. It was during one of these trips when they stopped into The Church of St. Anthony of Padua in Istanbul, Turkey, Jim made the decision to become Catholic. He loved the fact that no matter where he was in the world, he could attend Mass with his brothers and sisters in Christ and know that even though the language might be different the celebration of the Eucharist was the same.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, John & Hazel Rayburn, his uncle, David Rayburn and wife Marilyn, his uncle, Larry Minx and his grandson, Isaiah Varner. He is survived by his wife, Sandy; his daughter, Audrey and husband John Navarro; his daughter, Lindsay and husband Anthony Ortiz; his daughter, Carly and husband Aaron Varner; his grandchildren, Claudia Navarro, Evie Navarro, Destiny McCollum, A.J. Ortiz, Luke Varner, Aaliyah Varner; and great-grandson, Monty McCollum. He is also survived by his brother, Steve Rayburn and wife Jan; his brother, John Rayburn and wife Shelley; as well as numerous in-laws, nieces, nephews, and friends.

Rosary followed by visitation is scheduled from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 3, 2023, at Stewart Family Funeral Home, 7525 Old Jacksonville Highway in Tyler.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to The St. Mary Magdalene Building Fund, 18221 FM 2493, Flint, TX 75762 or by visiting <https://catholicflint.org/building-fund>.

# Cemetery Details

## Rose Lawn Cemetery

2003 Blue Mountain Blvd.  
Tyler, TX 75703

# Previous Events

## Rosary Followed By Visitation

DEC 3. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

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

## Funeral Mass

DEC 4. 10:00 AM (CT)

St Mary Magdalene Catholic Church  
18221 FM 2493  
Flint, TX 75762  
(903) 894-7647

# Tribute Wall



“ Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of James "Jim" Rayburn



Stewart Family Funeral Home - December 01, 2023 at 05:38 PM

JR

*Incredible!! Sandy, Jim is singing again with angels now!!! love u! Jan*

jan rayburn - December 02, 2023 at 03:58 PM

SR

*The songs on this video were all written, performed, recorded and produced by Jim in about 2007.*

Sandy Rayburn - December 02, 2023 at 05:37 PM

JG

*Sandy, what a beautiful and touching tribute. My prayers of comfort and peace are for you and your family. Jan Gray*

Jan L. Gray - December 02, 2023 at 10:19 PM

JG

*Such a beautiful tribute. Thank you for sharing.*

Jeanne Gray - December 04, 2023 at 11:25 AM

BC

*Sandy, What a Beautiful job! Jim was such a nice guy. He was always well liked and loved. He has such a big smile, especially when he was with you. God Bless you Sandy. May Jim rest in Peace!*

Brad L Carver - December 04, 2023 at 12:34 PM

BS

*Sandy, this tribute to Jim is a beautiful gift of wonderful memories filled with happiness and love from you. You are in my thoughts today!*

**Brenda Sharp** - December 04, 2023 at 12:53 PM

PB

*Only had the strength to watch this today, what an incredible voice and songs, the World needs to hear. All us very moving, so many wonderful memories, you both were truly blessed. ❤️*

**Phyllis Butler** - December 09, 2023 at 11:45 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Rayburn.*



December 01, 2023 at 05:45 PM

MK

“ *Michael and Emily Keen planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James "Jim" Rayburn.*

**Michael and Emily Keen** - December 01, 2023 at 05:45 PM



“ 143 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



**Stewart Family Funeral Home** - December 01, 2023 at 05:37 PM

MM

“ *Mary & Clifton Mire purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of James "Jim" Rayburn.*



**Mary & Clifton Mire** - December 01, 2023 at 11:49 AM

MM

“ *Mary & Clifton Mire planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James "Jim" Rayburn.*

**Mary & Clifton Mire** - December 01, 2023 at 11:49 AM

TC

“ THS Class of 1971 Reunion Committee purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of James "Jim" Rayburn.



THS Class of 1971 Reunion Committee - November 30, 2023  
at 02:07 PM

CD

“ Charlie and Danny. purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of James "Jim" Rayburn.



Charlie and Danny. - November 29, 2023 at 08:32 PM

DR

“ I worked with Jim at J. O. Wyatt Clinic In Amarillo and he was always so kind to everyone he met. My prayers and condolences to his family during this difficult time.

Deann Rodriguez - November 29, 2023 at 04:34 PM



“ Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Rayburn.



November 29, 2023 at 01:00 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Rayburn.*



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November 28, 2023 at 06:32 PM



“ *Hoopers planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James "Jim" Rayburn.*

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**Hoopers** - November 28, 2023 at 06:32 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Rayburn.*



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November 28, 2023 at 06:13 PM