



## James Morgan Francis

January 29, 1929 - May 13, 2018

James Morgan Francis, age 89, of Versailles, passed away Sunday, May 13, 2018, at his home. He was born January 29, 1929, in Linn Creek, Missouri, a son of the late Roy Clinton and Jessie Mae (Patterson) Francis.

James grew up in Sunrise Beach, and attended Oak Hill Grade School and Versailles High School.

On December 23, 1950, in Versailles, he was united in marriage to his surviving wife, Willa Dean (Irwin) Francis. Together, they shared sixty-eight years of marriage and raised seven children on their family farm in Versailles.

James was a veteran of the United States Army having served in the Korean Conflict. He was awarded the Korean Service Medal W/4 and Bronze Service Stars – United Nations Service Medal and Meritorious Unit Commendation. He was honorably discharged with the rank of Technical Sergeant.

James spent his life working as an electrician and an IBEW Union member. Following his retirement, he enjoyed spending his time farming.

He was a member of the Masonic Lodge 320 in Versailles.

James was an outdoorsman who enjoyed coon hunting and fishing. He also

spent time with Willa playing cards and dancing.

In addition to his wife, Willa, he is survived by his children, Jim Francis and wife Liz, Roger Francis and wife Marya Lynn, Jerry Francis and companion Sharon Larsen, Kathy Brown and husband Dale, Julie Decker and husband Frank, David Francis and wife Kathy and Sue Conley and husband Michael; seventeen grandchildren; thirty-eight great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; his sister, Alma K. Merriott and many other relatives and friends. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Glen Roy Francis and his brother-in-law, Jack G. Merriott.

Funeral and Masonic services will be held at 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 16th, at the Kidwell-Garber Funeral Home in Versailles. Graveside services and interment with full military honors will follow in the Versailles Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, at the funeral home. Memorial contributions are suggested to the Missouri School for the Blind, 3815 Magnolia Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63110.

Arrangements are under the direction and care of the Kidwell-Garber Funeral Home of Versailles.

# Cemetery Details

## Versailles Cemetery

550 Clay Road  
Versailles, MO 65084

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 16. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Kidwell-Garber Funeral Home - Versailles Chapel  
207 North Monroe St.  
Versailles, MO 65084  
(573) 378-4655

## Service

MAY 16. 3:00 PM (CT)

Kidwell-Garber Funeral Home - Versailles Chapel  
207 North Monroe St.  
Versailles, MO 65084  
(573) 378-4655

# Tribute Wall

HG

“ It is hard to see our dear friend of so many years leave us. We enjoyed Jim's family in the early years and followed them with the passing of time. We pray God will comfort each of you. Blessings on you ! Homer and Twila Garber

Homer & Twila Garber - May 16, 2018 at 07:52 PM



Michael Conley

“ Jim Francis changed my life! We met over 30 years ago when I married his youngest daughter. I was a city boy with no clue what it took to farm, raise cattle or even live in this part of the country and most important raising a family. The lessons I learned from him changed my life forever. His patience with my stupidity was loving and firm! He had no problem letting me know when I was wrong, but with the heart of Christ his advice was welcomed and honored. He was truly my second Dad! I love this man and will always be grateful for his friendship.



Michael Conley - May 16, 2018 at 09:26 AM

PP

“ Peggy Penrod lit a candle in memory of James Morgan Francis



Peggy Penrod - May 16, 2018 at 05:08 AM

CM

“ *Cindy Marriott lit a candle in memory of James Morgan Francis*



cindy marriott - May 15, 2018 at 10:13 PM

BB

“ *Many good memories of this man throughout my childhood. Mom and Dad, Jim and dean playing cards. My grandma was talking today of dancing the jitterbug with Jim at my wedding almost 24 years ago. He will be sadly missed by many. I am sorry for your loss, god bless the Francis family.*

Bill Bielinski - May 15, 2018 at 07:13 PM

LC

“ *My heart goes out to the Francis family during this difficult time. I have some wonderful memories of times spent at their home and getting to know Jim & Dean and family. Thinking of you all and praying for your comfort at this time of loss.*  
*Sincerely, Linda Cable*

Linda Cable - May 15, 2018 at 04:22 PM



“ *Love ,thoughts and prayers coming your family's way from bill pattonvand penny Patton haile*



Penny Patton - May 15, 2018 at 03:28 PM

TK

“ *The Francis family will always be special to me. Jim, like his mother, had a very strong work ethic. His father, Roy, was a delight to know because of his sense of calm and sense of humor. May memories of Jim and our Lord comfort Jim's family during this time.*



Tom and Yvonne Kerr - May 15, 2018 at 02:33 PM



“ *Kaye Branch lit a candle in memory of James Morgan Francis*



Kaye Branch - May 15, 2018 at 01:02 PM



“ *Pat Calton lit a candle in memory of James Morgan Francis*



Pat Calton - May 15, 2018 at 12:46 PM



“ *Deanna Hodges lit a candle in memory of James Morgan Francis*



Deanna Hodges - May 15, 2018 at 08:58 AM

DM

“ *Diana Moore lit a candle in memory of James Morgan Francis*



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**Diana Moore** - May 14, 2018 at 10:28 PM

DF

“ *Don & Bonnie Fields lit a candle in memory of James Morgan Francis*



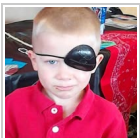
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**Don & Bonnie Fields** - May 14, 2018 at 08:35 PM

CM

“ *Carrie Mitchell lit a candle in memory of James Morgan Francis*



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**Carrie Mitchell** - May 14, 2018 at 08:16 PM



“ *Pam Hill-Ramey lit a candle in memory of James Morgan Francis*



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**Pam Hill-Ramey** - May 14, 2018 at 08:09 PM