



## James "Mac" McKinney

August 13, 1943 - December 6, 2020

SPANISHBURG - James Mathew "Mac" McKinney, 77, of Spanishburg, went to be with our Heavenly Father on the morning of Sunday, December 6, 2020. Born August 13, 1943 in Herndon, he was the son of the late Wiley McKinney and Violet Green McKinney.

James loved to fish and hunt and loved his family immensely. He was a good friend, loving father, husband, brother and papaw. He looked forward to playing Santa Clause every year. He was a big guy with a big heart and laugh. He loved to tease and joke and will be missed by many.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his son, Robert Brian McKinney; sister, Jean Lavigne; and brother, Jack, Eldee, and Billy McKinney.

Survivors include his wife of 45 years, Donna McKinney; son Joseph McKinney and wife Kelli of Bristol TN; daughters, Susan Chorba and Tom and Elizabeth Avery and Doug all of Toledo, OH, Rebecca Boeke and Kevin of Petersburg, MI and Shannon Walls and Jeff of Princeton; brothers Wiley, Weldon, and Chester McKinney; sister Betty Green; twelve grandchildren, Stephen, Johnathan, Isabelle, Baylee and Riley McKinney, Alexis Walls, Reed and Emma Boeke, Alex and Adam Avery, Allison Mahoney and Alyssa Merrick; six great grandchildren, McKenzie McKinney, Barret Mahoney, Emma, Logan, Andrew and Madelyn

Avery; and numerous loved nieces and nephews.

A graveside service will be conducted at 11:00 a.m. Friday, December 11, 2020 in the Garden of Nativity at Roselawn Memorial Gardens in Princeton. Friends attending the service are asked to meet at the cemetery.

Because of James's love for the Christmas season, and the joy playing Santa brought him, the family asks that toy donations be made to Toys for Tots in his name in lieu of flowers.

Arrangements by Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home in Princeton. Online condolences may be shared with the family at [www.bailey-kirk.com](http://www.bailey-kirk.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Roselawn Memorial Gardens

450 Courthouse Road  
Princeton, WV 24740

# Previous Events

## Graveside

DEC 11. 11:00 AM (ET)

Roselawn Memorial Gardens  
450 Courthouse Road  
Princeton, WV 24740

# Tribute Wall



“ James "Mac" McKinney

December 27, 2022 at 03:07 PM



“ My heartfelt condolences go out to the family. My kids truly believed he was the real Santa. He was so kind and caring!



Augustine Dellorso-Mullins - December 13, 2020 at 02:18 PM



“ We have so many wonderful memories with him. This breaks my heart. He had so much love and patience for the kids. My heart goes out to the family and everyone he touched. Love and prayers.



Beven - December 11, 2020 at 04:09 PM



He so loved playing santa. Would come home and tell me about the kids

Donna mckinnbey - December 20, 2020 at 06:30 PM

SV

“ To my friend Donna and the McKinney family-I am so sorry for your loss. I pray for comfort and a feeling of peace for you all. -Shelley

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**Shelley Vest** - December 11, 2020 at 11:03 AM

VL

“ To all the family, I'm very sorry for your loss. Mac and I were sitting at the same table at the last reunion and talked more than usual. I will treasure that memory . I loved all the Santa pictures. He told me he had the best Santa suite, and he sure did. Oh how he loved the custard that Mom would bring to the picnic. I'm very grateful for our wonderful family and the fond memories. Mac, you will be missed by all.

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**veronica Lennon** - December 11, 2020 at 09:13 AM

MS

“ The most magical Santa moment ever for this young bow hunter .... when "Santa" discussed hunting with this boy!



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**Marjorie Stallard** - December 11, 2020 at 08:10 AM

TB

“ Hands down our Favorite Santa! I am so sorry for you loss but know that the Joy and Love he shared with all families will never be forgotten. He will live on through the Christmas Spirit. God Bless your Family, The Bears



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**The Bear** - December 11, 2020 at 06:22 AM

JE

“ Maci loved Santa’s beard as you can tell in this picture! Her 1st Christmas picture with Santa is absolutely perfect and we will never forget her amazement with him!



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**julie eller** - December 11, 2020 at 06:09 AM

LE

“ *Mr. McKinney was the only Santa my babies ever knew. I’m so thankful for the memories. Prayers for your family during this difficult time.*



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**Leah** - December 10, 2020 at 11:37 PM

AN

“ *My boys loved getting to see ‘the Real Santa’ every year when they were younger! My family will cherish the sweet memories and smiles he always brought us. Many prayers and love. The Nash family.*

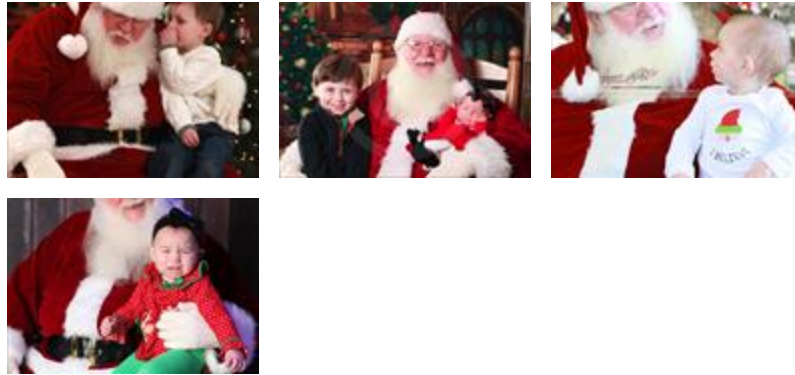


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**Angela Nash** - December 10, 2020 at 10:48 PM

DP

“ We have so many amazing memories and will always cherish the time we had with Santa. He was such a wonderful man we send our love and prayers to you all.



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**Dana Palmer** - December 10, 2020 at 10:30 PM

JV

“ MY family sends love and prayers!

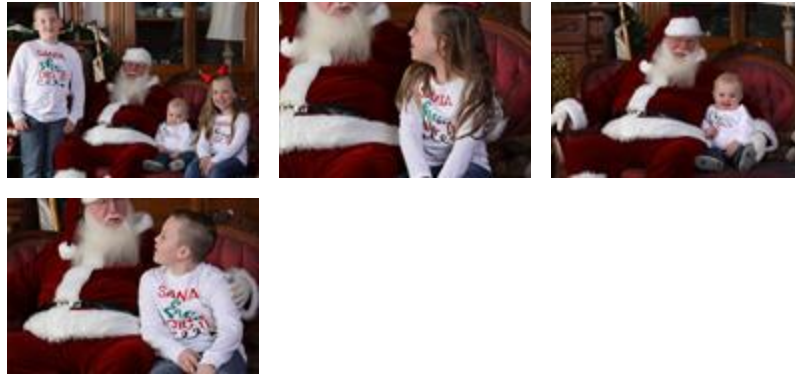


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**Jerri Vance** - December 10, 2020 at 10:11 PM

KP

“ *Our deepest condolences go out to your family. My kids truly believed he was the real Santa. He was just the sweetest. He definitely made their Christmas's brighter.*



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**Kristin St. Peter** - December 10, 2020 at 10:05 PM

SS

“ *My boys looked forward to seeing Santa every year. You could tell he loved the kids and what joy he brought to them. Prayers for your family*



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**Samantha Shew** - December 10, 2020 at 10:03 PM

MS

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



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**Marjorie Stallard** - December 10, 2020 at 09:57 PM

MS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Marjorie Stallard** - December 10, 2020 at 09:56 PM

VG

“ Donna,  
I'm very sorry for your and your family's loss. Please know that my heart and prayers are with you all during this very difficult time and in the days to come.

*Vanessa Godfrey*  
*Former BRMC co-worker*

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**Vanessa Godfrey** - December 10, 2020 at 05:23 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of James "Mac" McKinney.



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December 10, 2020 at 10:33 AM

MK

“ Dear family, Don and I are so very sorry for the loss of this sweet cousin. I'm so glad he and I had a talk recently via Facebook. He'll be greatly missed by all of us. We always enjoyed eating his catfish at the reunions.

Please know we've wrapped you in our prayers for God's love to comfort you.

Mary Kate Green Kidd and Don

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**Mary Kidd** - December 09, 2020 at 11:50 PM



“ Divine Light was purchased for the family of James "Mac" McKinney.



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December 09, 2020 at 08:58 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James "Mac" McKinney.



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December 09, 2020 at 08:28 PM

CM

“ Condolences to All of the family. The Lord has gained another Beautiful Angel.



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**Chris and Debbie Majors** - December 09, 2020 at 08:09 PM

NS

“ *Sorry for your loss.*

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**Nancy Shrader** - December 09, 2020 at 06:43 PM

AM

“ *Mac, you were such a big inspiration to our community. You made Christmas very special for the kids, elderly and the sick. You will never be forgotten.*

*You were one in a million..God Blessed us all having you in our life's.*

*Thoughts and prayers to all the family*



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**Arlene/Buddy Midkiff** - December 09, 2020 at 02:12 PM