



James Worthy Matthews

March 19, 1929 - November 15, 2020

James W. Matthews was born March 19, 1929 in New Castle, Pennsylvania. He was the youngest of four children born to the union of the late James Stephen Matthews and Mary Elizabeth (Janscar) Matthews.

At the age of 12, James quit school to help provide for his family when his father passed away (later in life, he earned his high school diploma through a GED). At the age of 15, he worked at a dynamite plant and then did odd jobs until he was drafted into the United States Army at the age of 18. He was immediately sent to Japan with the 1/24th Infantry Battalion, a group of 600 soldiers and only 100 of them survived. James saw the destruction of Hiroshima and was within 30 days of discharge when they were sent home. For his faithful service, James received the World War II Victory Medal and the Army of Occupation Medal-Japan.

James returned to Pennsylvania where he met Marie Reno. They were united in marriage on November 20, 1948 and shared over 71 years of marriage together and were blessed with four sons.

Work was difficult to find, so James, along with his family, drove a Packard to California where he got a job as an assemblyman with the Chrysler Company. He saved his money and later moved the family to Oxnard, California where he got a job with the United States Postal Service. He spent the next 32 years

with the postal service and retired in 1988.

James and Marie came to Missouri where their son was stationed, so they could help care for their granddaughter.

In his spare time, James enjoyed woodworking, especially working with a lathe and he also enjoyed gold prospecting when they still lived in California. He was a member of the VFW Post 470 of Plato, Missouri.

James passed away Sunday, November 15, 2020, in his home at Plato having attained the age of 91 years. He will be sadly missed, but fondly remembered by all those that knew and loved him.

James leaves to cherish his memory, his wife Marie; two sons, David Matthews (Anita) of Plato, MO, and Bill Matthews (Gloria) of Oklahoma City, OK; nine grandchildren and several great-grandchildren; a number of nieces and nephews; as well as a host of other relatives and friends.

In addition to his parents, James was preceded in death by three sisters and two sons.

Services were held at 11:00 a.m. Thursday, November 19, 2020 in the Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. Robert, Missouri with Pastor John Perling officiating. Serving as escorts were family and friends. Burial with military honors followed in the Missouri Veterans Cemetery of Waynesville with military honors being provided by the Missouri Honors Team. Services were under the direction of Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville / St. Robert.

Cemetery Details

Missouri Veterans Cemetery - Fort Leonard Wood

25350 Hwy H
Waynesville, MO 65583

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 19. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
981 Hwy Z
St. Robert, MO

Service

NOV 19. 11:00 AM (CT)

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
981 Hwy Z
St. Robert, MO

Tribute Wall



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of James Worthy Matthews*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - November 25, 2020 at 02:01 PM



“ *James Worthy Matthews*

January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM



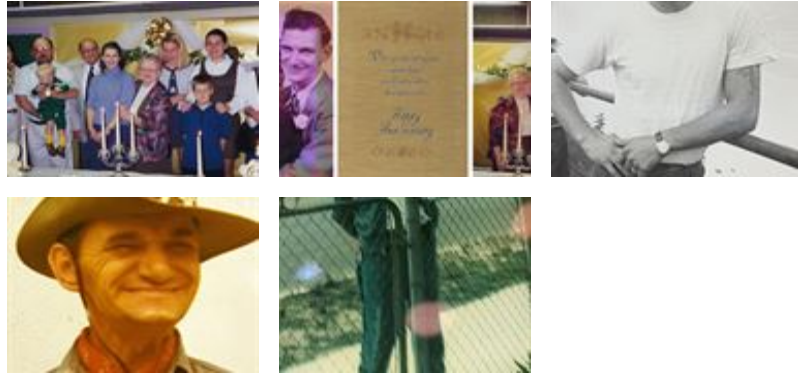
“ *2 files added to the album Memories Album*



Frank Reno - November 22, 2020 at 08:45 PM



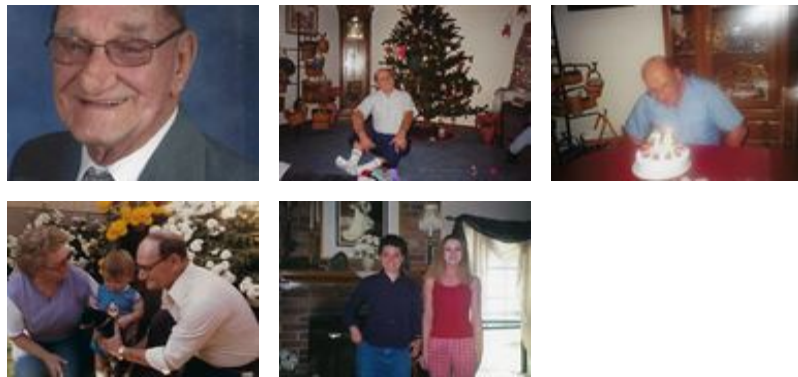
“ 8 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - November 19, 2020 at 09:47 AM



“ 39 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - November 18, 2020 at 05:05 PM



“ Marge Scott lit a candle in memory of James Worthy Matthews



Marge Scott - November 18, 2020 at 01:17 PM

BR

“ *BEVERLY RICHARD lit a candle in memory of James Worthy Matthews*



BEVERLY RICHARD - November 17, 2020 at 01:30 PM

NS

“ *Nonie Selfridge sent a virtual gift in memory of James Worthy Matthews*



Nonie Selfridge - November 17, 2020 at 11:21 AM

PG

“ *Our deepest condolences to family and friends!!!*



Pulaski County Camp Gideons - November 17, 2020 at 09:11 AM

RR

“ *Our thoughts and prayers go out to all the family at this time. He was a great man and a great uncle. We had a lot of good times together over the years I know he will be deeply missed by everyone that knew him. He taught me a lot of good things when I was growing up. God Bless.*

Robert Reno - November 17, 2020 at 09:07 AM

FR

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Frank Reno - November 16, 2020 at 09:19 PM