



## James Kersh

January 24, 1939 - July 14, 2013

Funeral services for Mr. James Kersh, 74 of Carthage, Texas will be 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, July 17, 2013 in the Hawthorn Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow in the Clayton Cemetery under the direction of Hawthorn Funeral Home. Family visitation will be Tuesday evening from 6–8:00 p.m. at the funeral home. Mr. Kersh passed away July 14, 2013 in Carthage.

Mr. James Rex Kersh was born January 24, 1939 in Shreveport, Louisiana. He was the only child born to the marriage of James Clayton and Ella Mae Reed Kersh. James was raised and schooled in Panola County and graduated from Carthage High School and later received his Bachelor of Science and Masters of Education degrees from Stephen F. Austin State University. He began his teaching career in 1960 and taught in New Caney, Brenham, Kaufman Boling and Wharton. However, Mr. Kersh spent most of his career teaching primary English in Carthage. James was extremely proud of the fact that his great, great, great grandfather was Isaac Reed, who established the first Baptist church in Texas, the Old North Church outside of Nacogdoches, and shortly afterwards established Bethel Baptist Church in Clayton. Mr. Kersh was very interested in the history of his family and was extremely pleased to discover that on the Kersh side of the family that he had ancestors who fought in the American Revolution, the War of 1812 and the Civil War for the Confederacy. He is preceded in death by his parents.

Mr. Kersh is survived by numerous cousins on both sides of the family.

If desired, the family request that donations be made in Mr. Kersh's name to

HeartsWay Hospice, 437 W. Panola, Carthage, Texas 75633.

# Cemetery Details

## Clayton Cemetery

158 CR 1521  
Clayton, TX

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 16. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Hawthorn Funeral Home  
307 West Wellington Street, P.O. Box 188  
Carthage, TX

## Service

JUL 17. 10:00 AM (CT)

Hawthorn Funeral Home Chapel  
307 W Wellington St.  
Carthage, Tx

# Tribute Wall

WM

“ I met James at Panola College and we were roommates at SFAU. We got reacquainted about 1991 and visited each other ever since. He was a very good friend even though we lived in different towns. I did not get to visit with James as much as I liked because of a lot of sickness and deaths in my own Family. He was a true friend.  
Walter Manning

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**Walter Manning** - July 25, 2013 at 10:12 PM

CA

“ Charlotte Barnett Addington...CHS....Class of 1985.R.I.P.  
Mr.Kersh.Job well done.sir

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**Charlotte Addington** - July 22, 2013 at 02:35 AM

SP

“ james used to come and visit my family in pasadena. my mom was his first cousin. I was so thrilled he would invite me to come to a play in houston with him. we would get all dressed up and I enjoyed this new exerience.

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**suzanne pollock** - July 19, 2013 at 07:12 PM

DS

“ Mr. Kersh was an exciting teacher. My heart goes out the family.



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**Doris Sanders** - July 18, 2013 at 01:29 PM

BT

“ *My deepest sympathy to the Kersh family. I always remember being greeted with a smile by Mr. Kersh!*  
*Becky Stokes Thomas (Class of '85)*

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**Becky Stokes Thomas** - July 17, 2013 at 08:27 PM

RA

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with the Kersh family. May he rest in peace. Randall and Starla Armstrong*

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**Randall and Starla Armstrong** - July 16, 2013 at 05:07 PM

DS

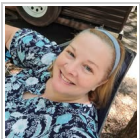
“ *So sorry to hear of James' passing. My prayers and thoughts are with his family. Dona Posey Scott (Classmate 1957)*

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**Dona Posey Scott** - July 16, 2013 at 03:26 PM



“ *Prayers to the family of Mr. Kersh. I have so many great memories of my time in his English class. Elizabeth Hobbs (class of 88)*

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**Elizabeth Hobbs** - July 15, 2013 at 04:22 PM




“ *My prayers are for and sincere condolences to the family of James Kersh. He was a kind and patient educator. I have enjoyed seeing him in recent months at the Winkler House where my mom is a resident. He will be missed.*

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**Monica Mason** - July 15, 2013 at 02:03 PM

ME

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Mr. Kersh. He was a great teacher and person! Keith Harper (class of '86) and Melisa Harper (class of '90).

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**melisaharper@hotmail.com** - July 15, 2013 at 12:29 PM

 Darren McDonald

“ Mr. Kersh was truly a unique individual. Smart, patient and kind. When he learned that I liked jigsaw puzzles, he was nice enough to share two very old puzzles he had of movie stars. They were even stored in a film canister. I appreciated his kindness and his interest in his students as people, not just bodies in a classroom. His passion for teaching and literature were obvious. His kind heart was, too. Whenever you needed his help, he would be there for you. Rest in peace, Mr. Kersh.

*Darren McDonald, Carthage HS class of 1988*

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**Darren McDonald** - July 15, 2013 at 09:23 AM

 Kathy Gollmitzer

I've known James Kersh for many years. He was my cooperating teacher when I did my student teaching in 1983. I will never forget his helpfulness, wisdom, and willingness to share his knowledge and teaching materials with a beginning teacher. James was so good to my children and never forgot them on their birthdays or at Christmas. He loved decorating his house for Halloween and would give all the kids so much candy, they really did not need to go to anymore homes. He and his mother loved to have visitors and would make me feel right at home whenever I would go by their house. He had a keen sense of humor and a passion for collecting things which he was always eager to show his guests who dropped by the house. He was a kind, generous, thoughtful man who loved people. Rest in peace, James. You will be missed.

*Kathy Gollmitzer*

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**Kathy Gollmitzer** - July 15, 2013 at 09:35 AM



*I have few regrets in this life. One is that I did not have the maturity at the time to appreciate Mr. Kersh for what he was: a kind and gentle man who loved us and wanted to educate our minds. I should have joked less, and listened more. Thank you, Mr. Kersh, for the lesson--forgive me for being deaf to it at the time. Rest in peace.*

*Matt Pool, class of '88*

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**Matthew Pool** - July 15, 2013 at 10:27 PM