



Mr. James Tom Forgey

October 2, 1939 - October 10, 2020

Mr. James Tom Forgey, 81 yrs. old, of Magnolia, Arkansas, passed early Saturday morning, October 10th, 2020, at John R. Williamson Hospice House in El Dorado, Arkansas.

James Thomas Forgey was born October 2nd, 1939 in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, to James H. and Margerite Forgey.

He was a graduate of Pine Bluff High School, earned a B.S. degree at Southern Arkansas University, a M.A. and Associate of Philosophy, and degrees from University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

He retired as an Associate Professor of History at Southern Arkansas University, where he taught for 37 years. He worked in Law Enforcement at the Magnolia Police Department, the Columbia County Sheriff's office, and was Chief of Police in Waldo, Arkansas.

He was elected to two terms in the Arkansas House of Representatives and was a U.S. Army veteran.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his infant son Andrew Lane Forgey, his wife, Martha Ann Forgey, and his sister Beverly Clay.

He is survived by two brothers, Richard Forgey of Tyler, Texas, and Mack Forgey of California.

No public services have been arranged. Direct Cremation services will be rendered by R.L. Reed Funeral Home.

Tribute Wall

JB

“ I JUST FOUND OUT OF TOM'S PASSING. I COUNT MYSELF FORTUNATE TO HAVE BEEN ONE OF TOM'S MANY FRIENDS AT THE U OF A IN FAYETTEVILLE. HE LOVED HISTORY, WAS AN UPBEAT FELLOW AND INSPIRED THE MANY WITH WHOM HE CAME INTO CONTACT IN FAYETTEVILLE. THE WORLD IS UNDENIABLY A DIMINISHED PLACE WITHOUT TOM.

JOHN BARHAM
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS

John Barham - December 30, 2020 at 08:37 PM

LD

“ Leeann Jordan Davis lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Tom Forgey



Leeann Jordan Davis - October 24, 2020 at 08:52 PM



“ Tracy Jackson-Doss lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Tom Forgey



Tracy Jackson-Doss - October 19, 2020 at 09:28 PM

JT

“ *Judy Talley-Wade lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Tom Forgey*



Judy Talley-Wade - October 19, 2020 at 07:10 AM

SG

“ *Sue Guthrie lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Tom Forgey*



Sue Guthrie - October 16, 2020 at 03:38 PM

RF

“ *As the decedent's older brother and next of kin, I regret the end of our lifetime relationship. My affairs sent me all over the continent and I have encountered Tom's former students wherever I traveled. .Thousands of students were exposed to Tom and they all benefited. His name was James Thomas Forgey and his mother was Marguerite Forgey. Rest in peace, Bro, you deserve it.*

Richard Forgey - October 15, 2020 at 12:51 PM

CW

“ *Carla Williamson lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Tom Forgey*



Carla Williamson - October 14, 2020 at 08:47 AM

JW

“ Tom was a remarkably talented man with many friends who will miss him. He was my good friend of 50+ years. Both an historian and a practicing politician, he succeeded in both fields. His capacity for analysis of both the past and present was seldom exceeded. And he had an infinite share of stories about history and politics. I will miss him like a brother.

James Willis - October 13, 2020 at 12:01 PM

MJ

“ So very sorry for your loss! I knew Tom and Martha from the Magnolia Country Club.

Martha Jones - October 13, 2020 at 09:27 AM

CJ

“ If there was a Hall of Fame for famous Magnolians, Tom Forgey would have to be one of the first ones in there.

My time spent in his classes as a history major was the best I've ever spent being educated, and while not a "Dr." he was most certainly brilliant.

RIP Mr. Forgey. If Heaven has baseball, I'm sure he'll be watching some of the ol' Cubbies from the bleachers next spring.

Cale Jean - October 12, 2020 at 10:01 PM

HF

“ *Dr. Forgey was an Amazing History Teacher. His classes would always fill quickly with students because he was a favorite Professor on the SAU campus. Condolences and prayers for the family. 🙏 Rest In Peace Dr. Forgey.*



Hazel Smith Family - October 12, 2020 at 09:55 PM

LH

“ *Lee Otis Henderson lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Tom Forgey*



Lee Otis Henderson - October 12, 2020 at 07:40 PM

BJ

“ *Tom was a gifted teacher, a great teller of stories, and a rich source of information about Arkansas history. He will be greatly missed and sincere condolences to his family.*

Ben Johnson

Ben Johnson - October 12, 2020 at 05:20 PM

DE

“ *Will be truly missed. The three years I had in his and Mrs Martha's life will never be forgotten.*



Deborah Easter - October 12, 2020 at 02:59 PM

PW

“ *Professor Forgey was an excellent history teacher at SAU. My interest in history was sparked by his ability to deliver such interesting lectures. He kept a cup of coffee nearby as he made history come to life. God bless his family.*
Patricia Williams

Patricia Williams - October 11, 2020 at 08:19 PM

DP

Tom was a dedicated instructor and state representative. We shall miss him.

Debbie Partee - October 13, 2020 at 12:10 AM

PW

As a non-traditional student @ SAU I took American History under Professor Forgey and learned so much history! I even kept the textbook and it is on my shelf of books that I cherish. His lectures brought alive the chapters & eras of history. He was a profound teacher of history! Also, took English classes from Mrs. Forgey. Indeed they were an awesome dual. An honor to have known them both as great educators. Their missions accomplished.

Paula White-Smith - October 13, 2020 at 01:00 AM

PW

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Paula White-Smith - October 13, 2020 at 12:28 PM

KO

“ *Professor Forgey was an incredible influence in my desire to pursue a degree in history. He was a great teacher and a wonderful man. I am better having known him.*

Kelly ONeill - October 11, 2020 at 07:47 PM