



I'm Free

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took his hand when I heard his call,
I turned my back and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work, to play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I've found that peace at the close of the day.*

*If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.*

*Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My Life's been full, I savoured much,
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch,*

*Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free.*

Celebrating the Life of *James Leroy Booth*



June 27, 1954–January 5, 2020

— Service —

Friday, January 10, 2020, 11:00 AM

**First Moore Baptist Church
301 NE 27th St, Moore, OK 73160
Minister Tony Coleman – Officiating**

Celebration of Life

James L. Booth

Musical Prelude	
Processional	Booth Family
Presiding Minister	Minister Tony Coleman
Prayer	Pastor Theodis Manning Sr.
Scripture Reading:	
Old Testament (<i>23rd Psalm</i>)	Noah Petties
New Testament (<i>John 14:1-3</i>)	Scott Fleming
Selection	The Mucker Family
Military Honors	United States Army
Obituary Reading & Resolutions	Minister Brenda Scarborough
Remarks on Behalf of Basketball Referees	Duane Smith
Acknowledgments (<i>kindly limit to 2 min</i>)	Church and Others
Video Tribute	Andre Booth
Selection	The Mucker Family
Words of Comfort	Minister Tony Coleman
Recessional/Viewing	

Acknowledgment

The Booth family wishes to extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to all who shared with us our grief through kind words and deeds of love. May God bless each of you.



Obituary

James Leroy Booth was born in Liverpool, England June 27, 1954 to Eric Lee Booth and Lillian Margaret Booth whom proceeded him in death.

As a part of a military family, he lived in many places growing up, including England, Germany and Delaware before setting down roots in Oklahoma City. He graduated from Del City High School in 1974. James fulfilled his childhood dream of becoming a soldier and enlisted in the United States Army. After serving in the Vietnam War, he worked for Phillips Petroleum 22 years as a Field Services Coordinator before retiring in 2000. He earned many employer awards throughout his career. During that time, he also attended Rose State College. He never abandoned his first love, basketball, a sport he played and refereed for over 40 years. Some of the highlights of his basketball referee career include the United States Basketball League, the Oklahoma Intercollegiate Conference and AAU tournaments. James was a star on and off the court and once had a bedroom completely filled with basketball trophies from his days playing in various leagues such as House of Lights.

James was truly passionate about serving and supporting students. He volunteered several hours per week as a mentor in various local school districts but, in particular, as a Parent Liaison at John Marshall High School, until his life was forever changed by a massive stroke in 2007. James received many awards for his philanthropic efforts, most notably, he was a recipient of the "Shine on Support Staff Award" for Oklahoma City Public Schools and the "Volunteer of the Year Award" from Crooked Oak Public Schools. Additionally, he was nominated by several people for the KOCO "5 Who Care Award" in 1997, and in 1999 received the 97.9 FM "Spirit of the City Award" recognizing local citizens who had made a significant impact in the lives of others. It is no wonder James was well known and thought of fondly. He was a key person for corporate

fundraising on behalf of the schools he served working as a liaison between business and school partnerships. He also personally arranged and escorted students on field trips to the State Capitol and Tinker Air Force Base to expose them to a variety of career opportunities and civic operations. James also graduated from the Oklahoma City Police Department Citizens Police Academy.

While James loved to serve others, the highlight of his life was spending time with his family. Not a day went by that he did not call or come by to express his love or grace them with his presence. James was a very fair, diplomatic man that never met a stranger. He was a gentleman, man of character, great leadership and had a strong work ethic, which attributed to his professional and personal successes. His joy was infectious and lit up every room he walked into, so much so, that his fondness of cologne ensured he left his mark! He had a special place in his heart for helping athletes and at-risk students and anyone going through a trial. Every aspect of his life reflected a servant's heart. He will be deeply missed.

James was preceded in death by his parents and brothers, Phillip Booth and James Chandler, sister, Carol Hill, and his special cousin, Sheryl Mucker. James is survived by his step-mother, Shirley Booth and his favorite uncle, Rev. Billy Mucker. He was a proud father to Shanda Brand, Jalisha Petties (Shevis), Kristin Embery, and a father figure to Shenita Brown, Leshia Paige (Troy), Sasha Tuggle, and Sierra Melendez. And a wonderful brother to Earl Booth, Clifford Booth, Billy Chandler, Jeffery Booth, Eric Booth, Michael Booth, Ireatha Ford (Eugene), Sharon Booth, Keisha Booth and Yonnie Booth. He leaves behind five grandchildren; Vanecia Brand, Naseem Brand, Noah Petties, Nia Petties and Christian McClinton and one great-grandchild Jamariee Brown. He will greatly missed by a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

