



James B. Vestal

April 26, 1934 - July 4, 2025

James “Jim” Vestal

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James “Jim” Vestal, 91, of Kansas City, Kansas, passed away peacefully on July 4th, 2025 — a fitting day for a man who deeply loved his country. The date also marked his mother’s birthday and fell just shy of what would have been his wedding anniversary, making his passing feel like a quiet reunion with his beloved wife, Doris.

Born on April 26, 1934, in Dearborn, Missouri, Jim lived a long and meaningful life defined by dedication, hard work, and love for his family.

He grew up on his family’s farm in Dearborn, helping raise crops and dairy cows alongside his siblings. As one of ten children born to June and Mildred (Riddle) Vestal, Jim learned the values of perseverance, humility, and loyalty early in life—lessons that shaped his character for decades to come.

Jim proudly served his country during the Korean War, earning his Airborne Wings as a member of the United States Army. After his military service, he worked for many years as a skilled diesel mechanic at Associated Wholesale Grocers, where his craftsmanship and work ethic were honored with a commemorative clock after 20 years of service.

Throughout his life, Jim held many roles: soldier, mechanic, husband, father, brother, mentor, and friend. But the role he cherished most was “Grandpa.” Each Christmas, Jim ensured the entire family could gather by arranging a celebration at Argentine United Presbyterian Church, knowing his home couldn't contain the joy and laughter of everyone he loved. Those gatherings became cherished traditions, filled with warmth and unforgettable memories his family will hold dear forever.

Jim married Doris (Trail) Vestal on July 18, 1956, and together, they built a strong and loving family. Doris preceded him in death in 2017, along with one of their six children, Midge, in 2021.

Jim had a deep appreciation for life's simple joys. He found peace and pride in building and flying model airplanes, and he never lost his excitement for car racing. Whether working under the hood of an engine or sitting with loved ones to share stories, Jim lived with quiet strength, steady hands, and an open heart.

He is preceded in death by his parents, June and Mildred Vestal; his wife, Doris; his daughter, Midge; grandchildren Amber and Andy; and several of his siblings. He is survived by two brothers, Marlin and Marvin.

Jim is also survived by his children:

Terry Ann, G, Mark, Rodger, and David.

...along with 14 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, 3 great-great-grandchildren, and many extended family members who will carry on his legacy of kindness, craftsmanship, and patriotism.

Jim was, in every sense of the word, a great man — but even more than that,

he was a great grandpa.

Services will be held at Maple Hill Funeral Home on Thursday, July 10th, 2025, with military honors and burial to follow at Shawnee Mission Memory Gardens.

Cemetery Details

Shawnee Mission Memory Gardens

23215 W. 75th St.
Shawnee, KS 66227

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JUL 10. 10:00 AM (CT)

Maple Hill Funeral Home
3300 Shawnee Dr
Kansas City, KS 66106
(913) 831-3345
info@maplehillfuneralhome.com
<https://maplehillfuneralhome.com>

Burial

JUL 10 (CT)

Shawnee Mission Memory Gardens
23215 W. 75th St.
Shawnee, KS 66227

Tribute Wall



“ *Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery created a Tribute Video in memory of James B. Vestal*



Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery - July 10, 2025 at 09:50 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of James B. Vestal.*



July 09, 2025 at 11:51 AM



“ *Gail and Greg Jones purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of James B. Vestal.*



Gail and Greg Jones - July 08, 2025 at 06:33 PM



“ *Gail and Greg Jones planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James B. Vestal.*

Gail and Greg Jones - July 08, 2025 at 06:33 PM

TC

“ *The LEAVENWORTH CLAN purchased the America the Beautiful for the family of James B. Vestal.*



The LEAVENWORTH CLAN - July 07, 2025 at 09:15 PM

AV

“ *Jim was a wonderful man. He was very kind to everyone. He loved his family dearly. We are all blessed to have him in our family. God be with his precious family.*

Adria Vestal - July 07, 2025 at 05:14 PM