



A Celebration of Life Service
McPherson Free Methodist Church
McPherson, Kansas
Saturday, January 13, 2024, at 11:00 AM

Officiants
Rev. Tom Mayse
Rev. Tom Griffith ~ Rev. Dallas Burgeson

Service Music
Solo: "I Can Only Imagine"
Greg Fields, vocalist
Hymns: "This is My Father's World" #58
"When We All Get to Heaven" #542
Coleta Steers, pianist

Prelude Video Tribute Music
"Feelings" by The Grassroots, "Long Train
Running" by The Doobie Brothers, "A Beautiful
Morning" by The Rascals, "Easter Song" by 2nd
Chapter of Acts, "He's Alive" by Gaither Vocal
Band, "Rocky Mountain High" by John Denver, &
"Carol of the Bells" instrumental by David Foster

Guestbook Attendants
Michael Malone ~ Rodney Malone ~ Brett Malone

Ushers
Jerry & Nancy Malone ~ Dave & Linda Ferrell

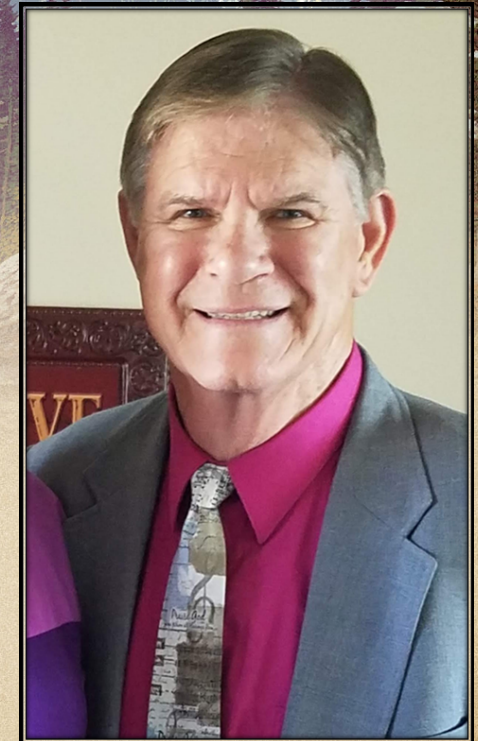
Final Resting Place
McPherson Cemetery

Memorial Donations
The family suggests that memorial donations be
made to Central Christian College of Kansas,
McPherson Free Methodist Church, or McPherson
Family YMCA in care of Stockham Family Funeral
Home, 205 North Chestnut, McPherson, KS 67460.

Appreciation
Jerry's family wishes to express sincere appreciation
for your prayers and kindness, evidenced in thought
and deed, and for your presence at this service.

Stockham Family Funeral Home

A Celebration of Life
Jerry Fithian
1951 - 2023



A Celebration of Life Jerome "Jerry" K. Fithian

June 6, 1951 ~ December 29, 2023



Jerome Kane (Jerry) Fithian entered the arms of his Loving Savior on Dec. 29, 2023. Jerry, son of L. Boyd & Inez Bertha (Grapenthin) Fithian, was born June 6, 1951, in Denver and joined sister, Janet, and soon to be (10 months later!), sister, Joann, in their Montclair area home.

Jerry's faith walk was diligently woven throughout his growing up years but came to fruition his freshman year in college. He was very involved in Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF) in junior high and high school but was challenged with a personal relationship with Jesus by his college roommate. Through his mentorship and Campus Crusade for Christ, Jerry gave his heart, soul, and mind to Jesus and began his lifelong adventure walking with Christ.

While Jerry was in the second grade, the family relocated to Broomfield, CO where he would graduate from Broomfield High School in 1969. Being part of two state-qualifying basketball teams (winning it all in 1967!) was among the many highlights of his high school years. Jerry continued his education at Colorado State College (renamed University of Northern Colorado in spring 1970), playing three years for the mighty Bears basketball team, before earning his BA degree in 1974. He received his MA degree from Emporia State University in 1995.

Jerry's first teaching and coaching position was in Estes Park, CO. After two marvelous learning years at Estes Park High School, Jerry was recruited by acquaintances made at Northern Colorado to leave his native state and venture to Central College in McPherson, KS where he taught various business courses and was the assistant men's basketball coach. He would remain at Central Christian College of Kansas in various teaching and coaching capacities until retiring in July 2012. In September, Jerry joined the fun 'helpful hardware folks' at Graber's ACE Hardware, remaining for nine years. Other 'joyous jobs' included Sunday School teacher/usher (Free Methodist Church), bus driver (USD 418), part-time accountant (McPherson Travel), adjunct instructor (Hutchinson CC), real estate agent (Randy Flickinger & Assoc), finance manager (Wallace Chevrolet), restaurant server (Perkins), radio broadcaster (KNGL/KBBE), and, one of his favorites, city trolley driver (McPherson CVB).

Honor Loving Memory

He met his 'green-eyed lady', Carol E. Kane, while a dormitory Resident Assistant in fall 1970. They would marry June 9, 1973. To this 50-year union were born two children: daughter, Jamie Noel, and son, Jordan Kane, who brought their delightful spouses, Justin and Jennifer, to the family mix. Grandchildren Charlotte Mae Elizabeth Fithian and Jackson Thomas Fithian were behind the ever-present twinkle in Jerry's eye.

Jerry cherished spending time with all of his relatives and many friends, including his men's prayer and Bible study groups. Throughout his life, he enjoyed playing, coaching, officiating, and broadcasting basketball. He also enjoyed water and snow skiing, golfing, bowling, card and game playing, traveling, dining out, putting together puzzles, solving brainteasers, and just 'hangin' out'.

Survivors include his wife, Carol of McPherson; daughter, Jamie Long (Justin) of Ramona, OK; son, Jordan Fithian (Jennifer) and grands, Charlotte and Jackson, of Concord, NH; sister, Joann Vollmer (Denny) of Evans, CO; 4 nephews, 2 nieces, other relatives and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Boyd & Inez; a half-brother, James Fithian; a sister, Janet Fithian; and his parents-in-law, Allen and Lucille "Sally" (Simpson) Kane.