

## James M Gehrels

July 29, 1936 - January 14, 2022

James M. "PeeWee" Gehrels, 85, of Winters passed away Friday, January 14, 2022.

He was born July 29, 1936 in Munday to Ruben and Dessie Gehrels. He grew up in several rural towns around Texas and Abilene. He graduated from Winters High School and joined the Air Force. Shortly after joining the Air Force, he married Martha Cooke September 4, 1955 at the First Baptist Church in Winters. Martha preceded him in death March 21, 2021. The Air Force took him many places, including England, Shreveport, and California. After leaving the Air Force, James worked for the Winters Post Office, where he remained until his retirement. He was an ordained Baptist minister, performing numerous weddings and funerals for relatives and friends in the community.

James is survived by four children: Kathy Ruebush and husband Shelby of San Angelo, Craig Gehrels and wife Kelly of Winters, Chris Gehrels and wife Omega of Katy, and Curt Gehrels of Winters; sister Donna Stamps of Carlsbad, TX; as well as eight grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. The family will receive friends Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at Winters Funeral Home from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. The funeral service will follow at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at Winters Funeral Home. Burial will follow at Lakeview Cemetery.

# Previous Events

## Receive Friends

JAN 19. 1:00 PM (CT)

Winters Funeral Home  
120 State Street  
Winters, TX 79567

# Tribute Wall

RM

“ During my formative, teen years in the 1960s, I was gifted to know Pee Wee as a man of deep Christian faith and devotion and service to his family, neighbors, and community through such things as his preaching, pastoring, counseling, befriending, briskly hoofing it on his walking mail delivery route, running the clock at school football games, and so much more!

*I treasured his seemingly indomitable spirit, his gusto for life, and his quick wit!*

*Pee Wee enriched the lives of untold numbers of people. I was fortunate to be among them. 💜*

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**Robert Moore** - January 24, 2022 at 12:17 PM

JT

“ I remember Jim loved to flick my ears when I would come over to play with Clay and Carrie at Martha and Jim's house. He loved to joke and play around. I loved his smile, laughter, and good heart. He will be missed. Love, Austin.

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**John Turner** - January 22, 2022 at 12:21 AM

JT

“ *Kathy, Craig, Chris and Curt... so many memories of being with you Sunday afternoons and all holidays, especially Christmas! A couple of weeks in the summer and now laying to rest the last parenting influence any of us had. Your mom and dad loved you immensely and shared their joy by touching the lives of so many people. Jim has graduated to his final reward for a life well lived and is rejoicing with your mom and all our ancestors. We are so BLESSED to have had them supporting, influencing, and encouraging us always. God bless you all and bring a smile to your saddened heart as we rejoice in Jim's passing.*

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**John Turner** - January 19, 2022 at 05:09 PM

TW

“ *Tammy Tischler Wunsch lit a candle in memory of James M Gehrels*



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**Tammy Tischler Wunsch** - January 19, 2022 at 04:47 PM

GK

“ *Gina King lit a candle in memory of James M Gehrels*



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**Gina King** - January 19, 2022 at 01:29 AM

JT

*Kathy, Craig, Chris and Curt... so many memories of being with you Sunday afternoons and all holidays, especially Christmas! A couple of weeks in the summer and now laying to rest the last parenting influence any of us had. Your mom and dad loved you immensely and shared their joy by touching the lives of so many people. Jim has graduated to his final reward for a life well lived and is rejoicing with your mom and all our ancestors. We are so BLESSED to have had them supporting, influencing, and encouraging us always. God bless you all and bring a smile to your saddened heart as we rejoice in Jim's passing.*

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**John Turner** - January 19, 2022 at 02:14 PM

GK

“ *My condolences ti the Gehrels family. Pew Wee was a wonderful man who impacted a lot of life's in the best way! I remember when he painted the windows at the Dairy Queen I thought that was just the neatest thing, he was very talented and he also brought a lot of smiles and joy to people. He was definitely one of the good ones, a great man! God Bless!*

*Gina Nesbit King*

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**Gina King** - January 19, 2022 at 01:28 AM

LM

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



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**Lesvia Millican** - January 18, 2022 at 09:42 PM

CD

“ Dear Gehrels family, I was so sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. He was a very special part of the McNeill family and will be greatly missed. He surely loved his family and many times led our reunion Sunday morning service. Love of family and our Lord was always the center of his message. He always stressed how important it is to let the ones you love know how you feel while you have the chance, as life is uncertain. Praying that the love you shared and precious memories will help you through this sad time.

*Connie Kelly Dupre*

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**Connie Kelly Dupre** - January 18, 2022 at 09:29 PM



“ Pee Wee Gehrels led me to the Lord. That alone is more than I could ever pay him back for. He did a lot of things for a lot of people. People that didn't feel comfortable going to anyone else. I doubt that he ever experienced the appreciation that he deserved. I have a feeling that he is now hearing, "Well done good and faithful servant". He did not waste his time on this earth.

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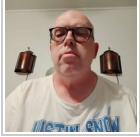
**Russ Perry** - January 18, 2022 at 08:34 PM

DC

“ Such a wonderful and creative man. I always loved spending time chatting with him, especially seeing him later in life with the afternoon "coffee crew". He was always smiling and making everyone laugh. My prayers to the Gehrels family.

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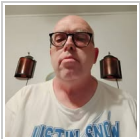
**David Carey** - January 18, 2022 at 11:50 AM



“ Dear Heavenly Father who art thou in Heaven, please comfort the Family of James(PeeWee) M. Geherels, Dear Heavenly Father, please wrap your loving and healing arms around them in this hourly need, and let them know of your presence. Dear Heavenly Father who art thou in Heaven, please welcome James in your Holy Kingdom of Restful Peace. I remember Pee Wee when Dad was in the Fire Department and I was the mascot. He was a very sweet and wonderful person. I took my niece and nephew to the museum and he showed them alot of things and they enjoyed the museum. I am going to miss you.

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**Jeremy Jones** - January 18, 2022 at 11:49 AM



“ Jeremy Jones lit a candle in memory of James M Gehrels



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**Jeremy Jones** - January 18, 2022 at 11:42 AM

SB

“ Oh man he was a great man he was my first pastor in the church under the hill I can still see him on the podium preaching great memories of a great man

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**Sonya Belk** - January 18, 2022 at 07:51 AM

DK

“ Pee Wee married my husband and I 35 years ago. It was a beautiful service! He was a great and kind man. My prayers go out to the family!

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**Denna Kuhrt** - January 18, 2022 at 03:59 AM

ST

“Kathy, Craig, Chris, and Curt, I am so sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. Your Mom and Dad were always special to me, and I have so many good memories spending time during the summer with Grandmother and Granddaddy which always included being over at your house, too. I was there when all of you were born...am I old or what? Kathy was the first baby I ever held! I remember going to the drive-in movie all those times (for free of course because your Dad's sister owned the theatre) and your Mom would cook all kinds of goodies for us to take to the show. I remember when I started playing golf around 10 years old, and your Dad and I would go play on Sunday afternoons at the Winters Country Club. I played better then than I do now at 72! Boy, did he love golf, and boy, did he love his family. He will be missed. My prayers are with you now and in the days to come.

*I love you guys,  
Your cousin Steve*

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**Steve Turner** - January 18, 2022 at 03:22 AM

TW

*Kathy, Craig, Chris and Curt, my condolences to all of you and your families. So many great memories of just hanging out with all you guys, especially at the reunions. We played golf in San Angelo and had a great time with your dad! He married Doak and Lydia and officiated my moms funeral. I am forever so grateful for him being a part of my life. God bless all of you.*

*Tracy*

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**tracy witherspoon** - January 18, 2022 at 11:40 AM

SH

*The best gift given by God to his family and those who knew PeeWee, blessings and condolences to Kathy, Craig, Chris, and Curt and all your family.*

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**Scott & Cynthia Hubbartt** - January 18, 2022 at 02:44 PM

TT

“ Prayers to each of the Gehrels Family. He always had a smile and a laugh to share.

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**Tony & Bobbie Truelove** - January 17, 2022 at 07:59 PM

BH

“ I remember the day PeeWee married my husband and me 33 years ago. He will be missed by many. PeeWee was a kind friendly man to so many. RIP 🙏🙏

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**Butch & Deana Holmes** - January 17, 2022 at 06:41 PM