



Dr. James Marvin Moye

February 9, 1921 - April 24, 2012

Dr. James Marvin Moye died on April 24, 2012 in Laurel, Mississippi. Visitation will be from 1:00 pm until 2:30 pm before the funeral service which will be held at Covenant Presbyterian Church on April 27, at 2:30 p.m. Burial will be at Hickory Grove Cemetery in Laurel. Dr. Moye was born on February 9, 1921. He was the only son of Whiter Marvin and Frances Mason Moye. A lifelong resident of Laurel, he received his education from the Laurel City Schools in 1940. After graduating from Jones Junior College in 1942, he entered the Army Air Corp and was commissioned as a pilot in 1943. He served for 14 months as a flight instructor at Taft Air Force Base in California, he was assigned to the 451 Bomb Group flying B-24s from Italy. On Friday, October 13 at 1300 hours, he was shot down over Vienna, Austria while flying his 13th mission. Captured by the Germans, he spent the next 8 months in several prison camps, including Stalag Luft 3. After 2 failed attempts, he finally made good on his third escape and returned to the Allies just prior to V-E Day. Dr. Moye married his childhood sweetheart, Mae Eleanor Freeman in 1942. After discharge from the service, he enrolled in the Southern College of Optometry graduating in 1947. Dr. and Mrs. Moye returned to Laurel where he began his optometric practice. He practiced until his 80th birthday in 2001. Active in several optometric organizations both in the State of Mississippi and Nationally, Dr. Moye served in many capacities. He was President of the MS Optometric Association for 2 years. He was on the Board of Directors for the MS Optometric Foundation, Member of the Board of Examiners, and served

on the Board of the Southwest Contact Lens Society. He was both Chairman and Member of the American Optometric Association Practice Administration Committee for many years and worked on the American Optometric Association Interprofessional Relations Committee. He was a Member of the Board of the Foundation for Education and Research in Vision and the Advisory Committee on Health for the Department HEW for the Southern Region of the U.S. As a charter member of the American Optometric Association's Political Action Committee, he chaired the first fundraising event held in MS. The American Optometric Association named him Key Man of the Year. Dr. Moye also served the State of Mississippi as a member of the Board for Health. Determined to thank the Red Cross for their help when he was in prison camp, Dr. Moye served as a Board Member and Chairman of the Red Cross of Jones County. He worked with the Jones county group continually for over 50 years. Dr. Moye also served on the Southeast Advisory Council of the American Red Cross. Working tirelessly for his hometown of Laurel and the surrounding community, Dr. Moye was a member of the School Board for the Laurel City Schools. He also served as President of the Laurel Jaycees and was honored to receive their Man of the Year Award. Dr. Moye was also a member of the Laurel Community Concert Association, past member of the Laurel Lions Club, Board Member of the Laurel Chamber of Commerce, United Way and Co-Chaired the Building Fund for the Laurel Little Theatre. He was an active member of both the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion. In 1982, Dr. Moye was named King of the Laurel Junior Auxiliary's Golden Jubilee Charity Ball. He also gave of his time as a member of the Advisory Committee of the School of Business at the University of Southern Mississippi. A member of the Republican Party for 60 years, Dr. Moye has been recognized as one of the founding fathers of the Mississippi Republican Party serving on the State Executive Committee; vice-chairman of the Mississippi GOP; Chairman of the 5th Congressional District; Delegate to the Republican National Conventions in 1964, 1968 and 1980 and an alternate delegate to 2 conventions. He also served as a Republican National

Committeeman and a member of the National Republican Executive Committee. He was Chairman of the State Steering Committee for Reagan for President. Dr. Moye was a devout Christian and was active in the Presbyterian Church. He was a charter member of Trinity Presbyterian Church and later Covenant Presbyterian Church. He served as an Elder in both churches and taught Sunday School continually for over 60 years. Dr. Moye was preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Feriba Brown. He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Mae Eleanor Freeman Moye; two daughters and two sons-in-law: Marilyn and Joel Thoms of Petal and Jamie and Brad Farber of St. Peters, Missouri; three sisters, Frances Moye of Biloxi, Margaret Anderson of Louisville, Kentucky; and Sue Lightsey (Bill) of Laurel; 6 grandchildren, Marcy Moye Thoms Scoggins, Joel Thoms, Jr., Kirk Thoms, Stephanie Farber Dunn, Christopher Farber and David Farber; and 7 great grandchildren, Kathryn and Will Scoggins; Trey, Claire and Bo Thoms; and Palmer and Taylor Dunn; and a host of nieces and nephews. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Covenant Presbyterian Church, the Mississippi Republican Party or the American Red Cross. Memory Chapel is in charge of the arrangements.

Tribute Wall

MH

“ *God bless you Doc. ?*

Margaret Hutchinson - March 26, 2014 at 06:08 PM

MH

GOD BLESS YOU DOC!

Margaret Hutchinson - July 11, 2020 at 10:26 PM

JH

“ *I did not know that Dr. Moyer had passed away. I'm so sorry for your loss. He was a wonderful Christian man and a friend to me for most of my life.*

Jadee Williams Hall - October 23, 2013 at 07:23 PM

PS

“ *Dear Mrs. Moyer and family, Dr. Moyer was on the Laurel City School Board the first year that I started my teaching career.(1964) During that first year, he fitted me for contacts and from that year on, I returned to Laurel to Dr. Moyer for annual check-ups. After teaching one year in Laurel, I married and moved to Texas. Each summer, my husband and I would venture back to Laurel to have our eyes examined by our favorite doctor. Eventually, I think he became the eye examiner for the whole family including aunts, uncles and cousins. He was one of a kind and will always be remembered in a special way.*

Patricia (Calcote) Sessions - May 14, 2012 at 11:39 PM

DD

“ I would like to offer my condolences. Dr. Moye was my eye Dr. for many years & I thought the world of him. I'm sorry for your loss.

Diane Cooper Daughdrill - May 03, 2012 at 07:18 PM

DB

“ Mae, I was sorry to heard about Doc. He was a very real gentleman. I will remember great times and hard times. He, Ernest, Walt and I ran at the stadium for years so that we might live longer and then you had to try to choke us with your brand muffins (door stops, pothole covers, concrete stuffers, whatever they were wasn't edible)but the time together in the Bible, praying and talking will always be remembered. My prayer is that the Lord blesses you. David,Susan, Morgan & Carter

David Brand - May 03, 2012 at 01:58 PM

GB

“ May 01,2012. Mrs.Moye, Marilyn, Jamie and families, my sincere sympathy. I have been out of town and just learned of the passing of Dr. Moye. He was a remarkable man. I have always thought of him with great admiration. I worked for him(1969-70). I was young and he taught me many lessons. Responsibility and punctuality are the two that I reminiscence. I have fond memories of Dr. Moye. Sincerely, Gelinda Jones Barrett

Gelinda Jones Barrett - May 01, 2012 at 12:53 PM

RC

“ My deepest and heartfelt sympathies to Mrs. Mae and the Moye family for the lost of a true hero and good friend. He introduced me to the Laurel GOP upon my arrival in Laurel, 2002. My prayers are with you all.

Rev. Steve Campbell - April 30, 2012 at 10:55 PM

JD

“ Dear Jamie,
I just found out about your dad's passing. I remember so many good things, and his joyful relationship with my father and his recounting of good times at Fine Bros. He was the "real Showstopper".
Our love and prayers are with you and yours always.
Johnny and Sherri Davis

John T. Davis - April 28, 2012 at 05:04 PM

SH

“ Dr. James Marvin Moye

Skipper & Dianna Herring - April 27, 2012 at 07:28 PM

DM

“ With deepest sympathy.
From all accounts he lived a very full and fruitful life.
Bud and Debbie Matthews

Debbie Matthews - April 27, 2012 at 06:02 PM

PM

“ Dear Marilyn, What a collection of wonderful memories are running through my thoughts. I always thought he was the best. My prayers are with you-I know you will miss him.

Pamela Mashburn - April 27, 2012 at 11:47 AM

PH

“ I was saddened to hear of Dr. Moye's death. What a wonderful man he was! I have such fond memories of him and the stories my Daddy (Thunder McLeod) shared of their many years as friends. My sincere condolences to Mrs. Moye, Marilyn and Jamie.

Pat McLeod Hayes - April 26, 2012 at 10:39 PM

DP

“ I appreciated the opportunity to know and work with Dr. Moye in the formation of the Republican party in Jones County. Our experience as WW II veterans created a bond between us, as well. We also shared common philosophies and goals within the presbyterian church. We will be in prayer for his family during this time.

Dr. and Mrs Charlie H. Probst - April 26, 2012 at 08:03 PM

PW

“ Dearest Mae Mae, Marilyn and Jamie, Doc was an extraordinary man the likes of whom I have rarely known. For those of us lucky enough to be included as his "Chillun" (as he liked to call us)we are deeply saddened to hear of his passing! But as he often told me, " I know where I am going and I will look forward to seeing you there!" What a homecoming he had waiting for him! All our love, Perri and Brian

Perri Wood - April 26, 2012 at 04:55 PM

MS

“ Marilyn,
So sorry to hear of your loss, but he had a life that he and his family could be proud of. My prayers are with you and your family.
Marcus

Marcus Stennett - April 26, 2012 at 01:00 PM

NW

“ Dear Marilyn, I am so very sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. He was a very good and sweet man. I pray that the Lord holds you and your family close and blesses all of you.

Norma Martin Wiese - April 26, 2012 at 12:34 PM

BT

“ Dr. Moye was one of the most genuine men I have ever had the pleasure of meeting. Every time I interviewed him or saw him in a different setting, he had a smile on his face and an encouraging word to say. He was kind, gentle, giving, and a wonderful role model for so many. He will be fondly remembered and greatly missed.

Beth Taylor - April 26, 2012 at 12:04 PM

SS

“ Ms Mae-Mae, Marilyn and Jamie....Dr. Moye was, of course, a very special person....Working for him for nine years was a privilege and I will always be appreciative for all of the things that he did for me....I will always have fond memories of Drs. Moye, Davis & Brownlee.....I know that he will be missed and you are in my prayers.....Shirley

Shirley Simpson - April 26, 2012 at 11:01 AM

BV

“ As a former employee I will never forget what this wonderful man taught me not only the job but living life as well. There is not enough words to describe what a remarkable human being he was. But then again your family had a life time with him and I had 10 blessed years. May God be with your family during this time.I remeber Dr. Moye telling me to not cry or be sad with his passing but rejoice in knowing he is in a wonderful place.

Beckie Valentine - April 26, 2012 at 08:41 AM

AH

“ I am so sorry to learn of Uncle Jimmy's passing. He was very special to all of us. It is good to know that he is at peace and in a better place.

I remember him entertaining us with his jokes, blowing smoke rings and great impressions. What a sense of humor he had!

Alexis Hogue - April 25, 2012 at 06:02 PM