

James Willard Hall, age 91, passed away on August 8, 2024. He was born June 13, 1933, in Belmont, Montana. His mother was Violet Mae (Paulson) Hall. His father was George Washington Hall. He spent his first years on the family farm with his parents. He had a younger brother, Raymond Charles. The Hall family later moved to Havre, Montana, where his father was a cofounder in an automotive parts business.

Young Jim grew up in the automotive business, which became a large part of his life. His first job was as a janitor, at age 8. He attended college at both Northern Montana College and the University of Montana, studying Business. On June 29, 1957, Jim married Helen Pankratz, who he met at Northern Montana College. Together, James and Helen built a family in Havre, Montana.

He continued his career at Valley Motor Supply, eventually becoming the President of the company as it grew across Montana and into neighboring states. Jim was also very active in the community serving as an elder at First Presbyterian Havre, a Master Mason in the Masonic Lodge, and a Shriner in the North Central Montana Shrine club. In 1989, James retired to spend time with family, enjoying their home in Billings and their vacation home in Bigfork.

James loved working in his workshop, building shelves for his various homes, play kitchens for his children and grandchildren, picnic tables, benches, and loveseats. He could regale anyone with the intricacies of cars from the 1940's and 1950's. He spent many hours restoring old cars with his children. James was beloved by his grandchildren, playfully calling them "Susie," to their delighted laughter. He spent one summer building a go-cart with his grandson. James adored his wife, Helen, and treasured the times spent with his family. James never met a stranger that didn't leave as a friend.

James is survived by his wife (married 67 years), 2 daughters – Wanda Mostad (Tom), Linda Steiner (Cody) and son, James A. Hall (Kristine). James has six grandchildren – Jessica (James), Alyssa (Erick), Katelyn (Daniel), Drew (Jorgeann), McKinley and Laina. He is also survived by his great-granddaughter, Olivia.

Should friends desire, memorials may be made to the Shriners Children's Hospital or the charity of one's choice.

## **In Memory Of James Willard Hall**

### **Funeral Service**

Thursday, August 22, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.  
First Presbyterian Church  
2420 13th Street West - Billings, Montana

### **Officiating**

Pastor Dave Thompson

### **Music**

Organist: Sandi Rabas

### **Hymns:**

"Morning Has Broken"  
"Abide With Me"  
"It Is Well With My Soul"

### **Pallbearers**

All of James's friends and family  
are considered honorary pallbearers

Following the funeral service, a luncheon will  
follow at the church.

### **Graveside Service**

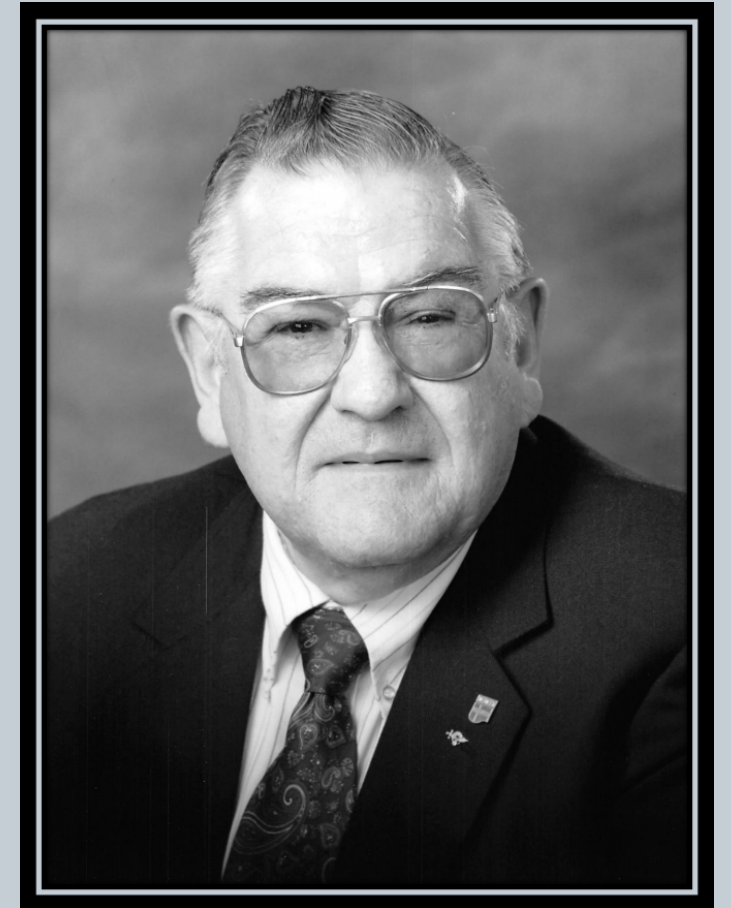
Friday, August 23, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.  
Old Calvary Cemetery  
Miles City, Montana

### **Officiating**

Bob Thaden

### **Arrangements By**

Stevenson & Sons Funeral Home



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In Loving Memory Of

**James Willard Hall**

June 13, 1933 - August 8, 2024

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