



## Samuel E. "Sam" McVay Sr.

March 20, 2011

Samuel Emmitt ♦ Sam ♦ McVay, Sr. 68 of Jackson, was born on April 22, 1942 in New Madrid County, Missouri to George Harp and Johnnie Gordon Beeson McVay. He went home to be with his Lord and Savior on March 20, 2011 in Ghana, Africa while serving with his wife, Linda, as short-term missionaries to the Father ♦ s House Ghana for children rescued from slavery. Sam married the former Linda Sevic in 1988 in St. Louis, MO. He is survived by his devoted wife, of the home, his mother of Scott City, two sons and daughters-in-law, Sam, Jr. (Amy) and Tim (Sherri) all of El Dorado, Kansas, a stepson and daughter-in-law Greg and June Pope of Waynesville, Missouri and a stepdaughter, Cherie Smith of St. Louis, Missouri. Other survivors include one sister, Marsha McVay Cain (Charlie) of Brinkley, Arkansas and one brother Byron McVay (Laura) of Waynesville, Missouri. In addition, he is survived by 12 grandchildren and 3 step-grandchildren. Sam held a Bachelors degree from Southeast Missouri State University in political science. He also completed both Master and PhD degrees from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale in Community Development and Psychology. Sam also served his country in the United States Air Force retiring after achieving the rank of Colonel. Sam worked as an Assistant Administrator at Good Samaritan Hospital in Mt. Vernon, Illinois and Administrator for Health Services at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. He also served as Administrator of the Veterans Home in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. After several years, he was promoted to serve as the Executive Director of the Missouri Veterans

Commission. After two years of service to the state, he transitioned back to the Veterans Home in Cape Girardeau until his retirement. Sam gained great pleasure spending his time, both as a public servant and as a servant to his Lord. He served as the president of the National Health College Administrators and was also president of the National Veterans Homes Administrators. His dedication to his faith was most important to Sam. He and Linda were volunteers for the Southern Baptist Disaster Relief and traveled to Louisiana to help victims of hurricane Katrina. He also served as the administrator of the First Baptist Church in Jackson for several years. He was a great encourager of people. Sam and Linda arrived in Ghana, Africa on Wednesday, March 15 to serve for four weeks as house parents to eight boys who were bought out of slavery from the fishing industry on Lake Volta. He experienced great joy in teaching these eight young men about flying kites and about Jesus Christ. Sam died serving his Lord. Visitation is scheduled from 4 to 8 p.m. on Sunday, March 27, 2011 at the Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel in Cape Girardeau and funeral services will be held on Monday, March 28, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at the First Baptist Church in Jackson. Internment will be at 3:00 p.m. in the Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield, MO. with full Military Rite by the Missouri Honor Team. The family requests donations to the Fathers House International, P. O. Box 481077, Charlotte, NC ([www.FathersHouseGhana.com](http://www.FathersHouseGhana.com)).

# Tribute Wall

WH

“ Sam never met a stranger and was a friend to all. My deepest sympathy to Timmy, Sammy & Linda.

Wenefride Lee Hannan - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ WOW...what a celebration. Sam would have loved it knowing how many seeds were planted today. We did not see the results of salvations today we would have liked but nobody went away not know how to accept Jesus as their personal Lord and Saviour and having that personal relationship w/Christ. Because of your life sam more seeds were planted. Love this family and what they stand for and the word of the Lord continues to breath on to others. Thank you Lord for allowing us to be a part and have a part of this family and celebration. God bless this family, Phil and Jacqueline Hubbert

Jacqueline Beeson Hubbert - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ Our love to you all

Mary Angeline Hannan Gray - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GH

“ Sam McVay what a wonderful man he was, an inspiration to all who knew him. Sam touched so many lives, always had a kind word to say and a smile to give, always upbeat! Sam is a man that I will never forget, from the first time that I met him he left an impression on my heart of what a kind, caring, compassionate, wonderful man he was and he never met a stranger. My thoughts & prayers go out to you and the family Linda. Sam may be gone home to the Lord, but he will never be forgotten!

Geri Hennemann - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PR

“ *Linda, Sorry for your loss. Our prayers are with you.*

Pat Goodall Rials - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ *Linda, we are so sorry to hear of our loss of such a wonderful man. He was such a pleasure to be around. Our love and prayers for you and your family.*

Cathy Cossey Skinner - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ *Sam will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers are with the Linda and Family!*

Beverly Prater - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *Linda and family. You and the family have our love and prayers. Sorry we could not be there. Will be in touch. Fran Holly and family.*

May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ *Your family will be remembered in prayer. Thank you Sam for all the lives you touched.*

Martha and Chris Chapman - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

HF

“ We have so many good memories to hold in our hearts. Linda, you and Sam have been an inspiration to us and to so many other people. We love you! You're in our thoughts and prayers.

---

**Harvey & Yvonne McVay & family** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ Am grieved for you. I cannot go to visitation today for family reasons....I'll be praying for you, though.

---

**Rock Finch** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ We have had the privilege of being a part of The Father's House for the last several years. We have known of the McVays trip to Ghana and their incredible love for the 8 boys before they even arrived. What an incredible story of a life lived for Jesus to the very end. Our prayers are for your family now. Your story has already blessed many for Christ.

---

**John & Laurie Marshall** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM