



## James Hilton Gillis

August 5, 1940 - November 23, 2015

USAF Lieutenant Colonel James Hilton Gillis "Big Jim", of Thistle Dew Farm in Greenville, Florida, passed away Monday, November 23, 2015 in Tallahassee, Florida surrounded by his family. He was 75. He was born on August 5, 1940 in Jessup, Georgia to Hilton and Evelyn Gillis. In 1962 he married the love of his life and soul mate Jacquelyn McDowell Beverly, and together they had 4 daughters, Christy, Sterling, Suzy and Jaime. Jim served in the United States Air Force as a bombardier / navigator on B-52s and later the F-4 Phantom jet. He is a Vietnam War Veteran and served as a JAG officer. Jim graduated from Florida State University and in 1973 received his Juris Doctorate degree from the College of Law. Jim is survived by his wife Jackie, 4 daughters, his nieces that he and Jackie raised Charlotte and Mikie, brother Charles Gillis, sister Lynn Harn, grandchildren James Lee, Lori, Cameron, Lindsay, Casey, Jennifer, Autumn, Joey and David. He is further survived by many nieces, nephews, family and friends. Jim enjoyed, fishing, shooting, cooking, wood working, watching FSU win football games and writing and telling stories. He was a published novelist and was working on his third book this month. Jim was the consummate officer and gentleman and will be greatly missed by all who knew him. Memorial donations may be made in Jim's name to the National Rifle Association or the Florida State University Student Veterans Center.

A memorial service will be held Sunday, Nov. 29, at 1 p.m. at Goose Pasture Trail at Lake Iamonia, Tallahassee, Florida.



# Tribute Wall

JP

“ *I, and all his other classmates and friends, will remember Jim as very special person.  
With with more than half a century of fond memories,  
Julie (Cookie) Pelissier*

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**Julie (Cookie Kinard) Pelissier** - November 29, 2015 at 06:30 PM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased  
for the family of James Hilton Gillis.*



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November 28, 2015 at 01:25 PM

SP

“ *JACKI...MY PRAYERS ARE WTH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY...JIM  
WAS SUCH A FUN PERSON AND ALWAYS SO NICE....I ALWAYS  
ENJOYED SEEING THE BOTH OF YOU AT OUR  
REUNIONS...SANDRA PENNEY PARKER*

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**SANDRA PARKER** - November 27, 2015 at 03:04 PM

PS

“ *Jacki and all the family,  
Jim (or Hilton as I have know him all my life) go back almost 70 years when he moved into his childhood home on 14th Street. I lived two blocks away on 13th Street. We played, built forts, climbed trees, fought, blew up things, set fires, etc, & etc. between our homes before any other house sprang-up. Yup! We go back a long, long way. The statute of limitations and failing memories have covered most of our youthful tracks...THANK GOD! All of our memories are fond ones. At one of our recent reunions, we both agreed we were lucky to survive childhood.*

*I am in shock and thank God that I had the chance to live those times with Jim... YOU WILL BE MISSED!*

*Paul & Linda Schowalter*

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**Paul Schowalter** - November 27, 2015 at 12:48 PM

GB

“ *We have any fond memories of Jim going back to four years at South Dade High School. We shared good times with him and Jacki in Tallahassee and on many adventures with SDHS Class Reunions and Mini Reunions over the past 17 years! He will be missed and we extend thoughts and prayers to Jacki and her family.  
George and Marianne Brown.*



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**George Brown** - November 27, 2015 at 09:57 AM



“ Aunt Jackie, Christy, Sterling, Suzy and Jaime: I am so sorry to hear of Uncle Jim's passing. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. -  
Kenneth Owens

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**Kenneth Owens** - November 25, 2015 at 12:01 PM