

# James Sylvester Cunningham

## May 4, 1925 — May 14, 2020

James Sylvester Cunningham, 95, of Columbia passed away May 14, 2020, at Columbia Post Acute. James was born May 4, 1925 near Ashland, the son of James W. and Cordelia Taylor Cunningham. He graduated from Ashland High School in 1943.

He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II serving on the USS Uvalde in the Pacific Theater and being awarded the Combat Action Ribbon, Philippine Liberation Medal and two Battle Stars. He was called back to service during the Korean War and was assigned to the Seabees (MCB-6). He was discharged at Brooklyn Navy Yard in August 1952 as a Chief Petty Officer.

He married Alva Jane Sappington in Ashland on Aug. 9, 1947. He was survived by his wife, Alva, of the home; granddaughter, Vivaca, and her husband, Chet Crowser, and three great-grandchildren, Arden, Nora and Holden Crowser, all of Missoula, Montana; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Laurel Jane Cunningham Fuemmeler, and five brothers, Robert, Harold, Hartley, Lewis and twin John.

James retired from MFA Oil Company in 1990 as Secretary-Treasurer after 43 years of service. He was a member of various Masonic organizations, Twilight Lodge #114, York Rite, Tiger Shrine, Moolah Shrine, Eastern Star, KYCH and others. He was also a Life Member of the American Legion, VFW, Seabees of America, AMVETS and 40 & 8.

Other memberships include IOOF, Knights of Pythias, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Sons of Union Veterans – Columbia Tiger Camp, Sons of the American Revolution, First Families of Missouri, Ira P. Nash Chapter of the War of 1812, and proud to be a great-great grandson of Ira P. Nash, one of the first settlers of Boone County prior to 1800.

Due to the current public health guidelines, a private family graveside service was held at New Salem Cemetery in Ashland.

FORM APPROVED  
Budget Bureau No. 33-R012-42

**REGISTRATION CARD** (Men born on or after July 1, 1924, and on or before December 31, 1924)  
(Also for the registration of men as they reach the 18th anniversary of the date of their birth on or after January 1, 1943.)

<b>SERIAL NUMBER</b> W-207	<b>1. NAME (Print)</b> James Sylvester Cunningham	<b>ORDER NUMBER</b> 12,877
<b>2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print)</b> McBaine, Boone, Missouri		
<b>3. MAILING ADDRESS</b> Same		
<b>4. TELEPHONE</b>	<b>5. AGE IN YEARS</b> 18	<b>6. PLACE OF BIRTH</b> McBaine
	<b>DATE OF BIRTH</b> May 4, 1925	Missouri
<b>7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS</b> J. W. Cunningham, McBaine, Missouri (Father)		
<b>8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS</b> High School Student		
<b>9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS</b>		

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.

DSS Form 1 (Rev. 11-16-42)      c16-21630-4 (OVER)      James Cunningham (Registrant's signature)