

JAMES ALLEN CHISHAM

KANSAS DISTRICT OF KIWANIS HALL OF FAME – 2015

James Allen Chisham, was born on August 13, 1939 in Wellsville, KS. He spent his childhood in Wellsville and graduated from Wellsville High School. Jim attended Arkansas City Junior College and transferred to Southwestern College in Winfield where he earned his Bachelor's degree in education in 1963. He completed his Masters degree at Pittsburg State University in 1966. Jim's life long career was as a professional educator (both teacher and principal).

Jim gave much of his time and devotion to civic and volunteer positions. He was a member of the Wellington City council for 11 years and was elected mayor for two terms. He was a life member of the NEA, KNEA, and Wellington NEA where he served as President for one year. Jim served and was a member of numerous other Education Professional Associations. The pinnacle of his professional career came in 1997 when he was elected to the Kansas State Teachers' Hall of Fame.

Jim joined the Wellington Kiwanis Club in 1984. He was named a Distinguished Lt. Governor, served as Governor of the Kansas Kiwanis and served on the Board of the Kansas Kiwanis Foundation for many years including one year as Secretary. He served as President of the Kansas Kiwanis Foundation from 2002-2003 and was well known and highly respected by Kiwanians across the country for his tireless work.

Jim was a member of the Kansas Association of Retired School Personnel, a member and past President of the Wellington Retired School Personnel. Jim was honored as the 2006 Distinguished Service Award winner for his community commitment from the Wellington Area Chamber of Commerce.

Jim was a devoted member of the Assembly of God Church having served on their board for 29 years and was treasurer for 20 years. Jim devoted his life to teaching, to his community and to his family. He was married to Phyllis Oliver in Wagoner, OK in 1960. She preceded him in death. Jim and Phyllis had three children and seven grandchildren. Jim passed away on February 3, 2010 in Wichita.