LAMAR, Mo — James Blair Austin, 61, died at 3:35 p.m. Friday, Jan. 15, 1988 at St. Anthony’s Hospital in St. Louis, of an apparent heart attack. He had gone there on a speaking engagement for the AA.

He was born June 8, 1926, at Carthage, Mo., to Chester E. Austin and Mildren A. Blair Austin.

He was a retired school teacher, a veteran of World War II in the Marines, a member of College View Baptist Church in Joplin, a member of the Masonic Lodge at Altoona, Kan., a graduate of Lamar High School, and received both bachelor’s and master’s degrees in science from Pittsburg State University.

He taught school in Kansas City, in Parkwood at Joplin, was former superintendent of schools at Sheldon, Mo., and was an active speaker for the AA in the four-state area.

Survivors include his mother, Mildred A. Austin, Lamar; five sons, James Blair Austin, Jr., Joplin, Stephen Austin, Joplin, Mark Austin of Glen Heights, Texas, and Denis Austin, Kansas City, Mo.; three sisters, Lida Turner, Joplin, Sondra Craft, Grandview, Mo., and Donna Austin, Carthage; and six grandchildren.

Services are pending and will be announced by the Lohmeyer-Konantz Funeral Home of Lamar, Mo.
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