



Mark Gilstrap

October 26, 1951 - September 4, 2017

'OBITUARY FOR REV. FR. MARK GILSTRAP Reverend Father Mark Gilstrap was born October 26, 1951, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, to Marvin Ray and Mary Eunice Martin Gilstrap. He died Monday, September 4, 2017, in Owasso, Oklahoma, at the age of 65 years. Fr. Mark completed his secondary education in Kansas City and graduated with the Van Horn High School Class of 1969. He continued his education at the University of Tulsa where he earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Chemistry in 1976. He was married December 23, 1971, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, to Tatiana (Toni) DeFalco. He began his working career as a geochemist and lab manager with the University of Indiana, then ASEC Manufacturing, and most recently with Oklahoma State University. Most important in his life was his faith. He converted with his family to Orthodox Christianity and was baptised on Lazarus Saturday in 1984. He was ordained to be reader for the small parish of St John Climacus in Bloomington, IN on September 27 (Sept 14, Julian Calendar) in 1987. On February 15th 1992 (Feb 2) he was ordained to the diaconate and served at both St. John Chrysostom in House Springs, MO and St. George the Great Martyr in Blue Ash, OH. On December 1st, 1996 (Nov. 18th) he was ordained to the priesthood. In 1997 he was entrusted by Archbishop Alypy to found a parish in the Tulsa area; which materialized in Owasso as Holy Apostle James Orthodox Church. He enjoyed several pastimes including amateur radio with the call sign K5MSG, and was on the leading edge of internet email lists (listservs). He was an avid builder and tinkerer, who always had multiple

projects in process. Those he leaves behind who hold many cherished memories include: His wife; Tatiana Six children; Mary Slone and husband Larry, of Skiatook, Oklahoma Moses Gilstrap and wife Ashley, of Owasso Galina Gilstrap, of Tulsa Peter Gilstrap and wife Genevieve, of Owasso Kyranna Gilstrap, of Tulsa Sophia Gilstrap, of Owasso Best "Papa" to four grandchildren; Isaac and Jonah Slone, Ella Gilstrap, and James Gilstrap Two brothers; Dennis Gilstrap and wife Sally, of Oklahoma City Stanley (Adrian) Gilstrap and wife Lynna, of Inola, Oklahoma And a host of nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents. Funeral service will be held 10:00 a.m. Thursday, September 7, 2017, at the Holy Apostle James Orthodox Church in Owasso. Committal and interment will follow at the Holy Apostles Orthodox Church Cemetery in Bixby, Oklahoma. Arrangements and services were entrusted to Mowery Funeral Service of Owasso. www.moweryfs.com In lieu of flowers donations can be mailed to: Father Mark Gilstrap Memorial Fund, RCB Bank 12200 E 96th St N. Owasso, OK 74055'