



Roger Lee McFadden

May 23, 1942 - November 20, 2025

Roger McFadden was born May 23, 1942 in Memphis, Tennessee, at St. Joseph's Hospital, to James W Lacey and Virginia Gooden Lacey. Roger's father worked for the Illinois Central Railroad, and was involved in a bad train wreck in December of 1941. He ultimately passed away due to his injuries when Roger was seven years old. Virginia later married Leonard Harper McFadden, who adopted Roger. Both he and Virginia preceded Roger in death.

Roger attended most of his school years in Kennett, Missouri, enjoying many friends and he would say, grew up during the best of times, during the 50's and 60's. He participated in sports and student government. Roger attended college at Southeast Missouri State in Cape Girardeau, graduating with a BSE Degree in 1964. It was there that he met the love of his life, Pat, and they were married August 24, 1964.

Roger's first venture into the insurance field was as an independent adjuster with General Adjustment Bureau, Inc. After handling claims for seven years, he was offered the manager job for an independent agency in St. Louis, Missouri. While in Missouri, Roger served two years as City Councilman. Seven years later, in 1980, he was hired by C.W. "Chuck" Bovay to join Lanier Upshaw, Inc. in Lakeland, Florida, which became one of the largest insurance agencies in Florida.

Roger always felt blessed to live in Lakeland and work with the fine people at Lanier Upshaw, Inc. Roger always had a sense of humor, and enjoyed making after dinner speeches , and was a great storyteller and joke teller. He was active in Kiwanis and served as president of Citrus Center Kiwanis as well as Lt. Governor of the Florida District. Additionally, he was very active in Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Polk County, serving on the board for seven years, one year as president. He was also Big Brother of the year.

Roger is survived by his wife of 61 years, Pat, of Lakeland, Florida; his brother Rodney (Dona) of Springfield, Missouri; sisters in law, Barbara Hardin (John) of Exeter, Missouri; Caroline Ferguson (Larry) of Springfield, Missouri, Shirley Mitchener (Robert) of Loveland, Colorado; Linda Diamond of Springfield, Missouri; and Kathy Reedy (Tom Ward) of Jackson, Wyoming.

Memorial contributions may be made to: The Pat McFadden Athletic Academic Scholarship, c/o Florida Southern College, 111 Lake Hollingsworth Drive, Lakeland, Florida 33801. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Tribute Wall

DJ

“ I was great full for him and pat to be there me and mom. He was loving to all. I love both so much hope to see you pat soon. Rip roger. I was proud to have him as a big brother. And part of the family. Love douglas



Doug Johnson - December 28, 2025 at 05:09 PM

JG

“ Jamie Griffin planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Roger Lee McFadden.

Jamie Griffin - December 02, 2025 at 02:17 PM

KK

“ Pat, I am so sorry to learn of your loss of Roger. I have missed you both so much over the years since we worked together at OTC. I think of you often. I pray that our God in Heaven will bless you with peace and comfort as you grieve.
With Love, Kathy Keithley

Kathy Keithley - December 01, 2025 at 02:19 PM

KK

“ Roger was always so respectful of everyone. I loved his sense of humor and enjoyed his visits to Pat's office when I served as her Administrative Assistant at Ozarks Technical College in Springfield, MO. I would be hard-pressed to find his equal in my memory.
Kathy Keithley

Kathy Keithley - December 01, 2025 at 02:07 PM