McDonald Funeral Set For Thursday

Funeral services for James E. McDonald, 51, a University of Arizona physicist whose body was found in a desert area north of Tucson Sunday, will be held Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 4831 E. 22nd St.

Arizona Mortuary East is in charge of arrangements. The service will be conducted by the Rev. Russell L. Lincoln. There will be no visiting hours and burial is private.

He is survived by his wife, Betsy Ann of Tucson; four daughters, Nancy K., Gail Ellen, and Jan Lorraine, of Tucson, and Romlyn Louise of Los Angeles; and two sons, Lee Hunt of Tucson and Kirk T. of Pasadena, Calif.

McDonald, of 3461 E. 3rd St., was an outspoken scientist on controversial issues ranging from UFO to SST.

He was a senior physicist specializing in clouds at the UA's Institute of Atmospheric Physics.

His death was apparently a suicide, according to sheriff's deputies. An autopsy was performed, but no report was immediately available.

Sheriff Waldon V. Buttr said a note and a .38 revolver were found beside the body. There was a bullet wound in the head.