



Jim Skelley

AUG 18, 1942 - MAY 5, 2016



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Jim Skelley

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Jim Skelley, 73, of Decatur, passed away Thursday, May 5, 2016, at his home surrounded by his family.

Jim was born August 18, 1942, in Decatur, to Royal Eugene and Rosemary Ulah (Collett) Skelley. He was an Air force Veteran. He married Lynda Hatch on September 12, 1962, in St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Decatur.

Jim loved riding horses with his wife Lynda on his favorite horse, Beau.

Jim is survived by his wife of 54 years, Lynda Skelley; three children, Todd (Sandy) Skelley of Decatur, Terri (Dave) Rathje of Decatur and Tom Skelley of Decatur; six grandchildren, Devin, Alice, Isaac, David James, Rachel and Gracie; one great-grandson, Declan; one sister, Sister Rosemary Skelley O.S.U. of Decatur; four brothers, Bob (Connie) Skelley of Mt. Zion, Tom (Janet) Skelley of Decatur, John Skelley of Pegram, TN and Dan (Candy) Skelley of Maroa.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one sister, Peggy Hayes and one daughter-in-law, Christy Skelley.

The family would like to give special thanks to Dr. Mario Velasco, Dr. Yoon, special nurse Rachel Melton, nurses and staff at Cancer Care Institute, and Decatur Memorial Hospital 5th floor nursing staff. The spirit, care, and attention they covered Dad with.

Mass of Christian burial will be 11 a.m. Tuesday, May 10, 2016, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 407 E. Eldorado, Decatur, with the Rev. John Burnette, Celebrant. Burial will be in Graceland Cemetery. Memorials may be directed to Saints James & Patrick Parish.

The family of Jim Skelley is being served by the Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home, 2091 N. Oakland Ave. Decatur, IL. Please view the online obituary, send condolences, and share memories at www.gracelandfairlawn.com.



Tribute Wall

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SP

Scott Perry posted:

As I sit here tonight after Jim's funeral, Feeling lost and sad. my mind goes to my childhood. Jim always a had a way to speak to me as if I were a equal not as if I was a child. Jim and I enjoyed a good cheeseburger and plenty of conversations that usually had us bust out laughing. From the time I was 13 to the present day Jim always gave the most sincere advice and the best advice, I will truly miss that. I realized now that Jim had such a profound effect and influence in my life and to be honest I am a far better man because of it too. Jim was the most selfless and sincere man I have ever met outside his wife and children who are the same. A man cannot get any better than this. He lived life to the fullest and I truly believe he cherished every sunrise and the start of every day! With a Stanley thermos by his side! We should all be so lucky to do this but Jim lived it! His was a life lived to the fullest, a man so loved by all who knew him. I truly feel this. If you want to see Jim legacy look no further than his wife of 54 years, the perfect couple if there ever was such a concept, I believe this was the truest of true love. They were truly meant for each other. they are that and more. Look also to their children as they are the finest examples of Christians and as human beings can be. They inherited the best traits a human being can get in life from their parents. That is the finest example of a life lived to the fullest with love, pride, kindness and genuine selflessness. All this I have seen every time I spend time with the Skelley family. My heart aches for their loss cause I in my own way feel I have lost him too. I truly hope there is a Heaven and I hope I am too enough to get there cause I truly want to see him again! I owe him a lot of cheeseburgers and I intend to repay that! Thank you Jim for being there for me, I will be there for your family if they need me always! Rest In Peace!

May 10 at 7:24 PM

EB

Everett Boykin, Jr posted:

Lynda,fond memories of you & Jim! We were competitors, coaching little league baseball & you were a wonderful, kind person to work with. May God comfort you! Everett Boykin

May 9 at 2:42 PM

PF

Phyllis Fleigle posted:

I was a classmate of Jim in grade school at St Pat"s . He always had a smile and friendly way about him. I have not seen him since 8th grade but I do remember him and will keep him in my thoughts and prayers May his family find comfort in knowing Jim was well loved and respected and now in God's loving hands. Phyllis Durbin Fleigle

May 9 at 12:43 PM



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ST

Sandra Tyrie posted:

Lit a candle in memory of Jim Skelley

May 9 at 10:33 AM

PO

Pat Omara posted:

prayers and thoughts to the skelley family,as far as i am concerned there was no better than jim skelley and hands down the best roofer decatur ever had,if you ever need jim skelley he was allways willing .even when jim was sick and i didnt know i had called jim after a torential rains of a few days just a few months ago and he informed me of his illness but also lined me up with his son tom who came over soon to help me out. jim was allways there i cant say enough to the credit of the kind person jim skelley was i will miss him

May 9 at 7:29 AM

MB

Matt Brown posted:

Jim was a great man. He has the respect of everyone at Jones & Sullivan Enterprises and we fully enjoyed working with him over the years. Condolences to the family.

May 9 at 7:00 AM

LD

Leslie Dawson posted:

Our most sincere condolences for your loss. Jim was a great and kind hearted man. Although we only knew him for 10 years we consider him a true friend. We were priviledged to share a couple "wild" new years together. His humor always lay just below the surface but popped out with kindness and wisdom. We will miss him so much! With love and friendship to the family, Ed and Leslie Dawson

May 9 at 4:54 AM

AS

Adrian And Donna Skelton posted:

Lynda: Our prayers are with you and your family today for peace and comfort in these times. We have known You and Jim since we were kids (even though we are a little older). Jim's life has shown respect for others, and he was truly a good man. Please knowOur prayers will continue to be with you in the coming days. From Birmingham Alabama, Adrian and Donna Skelton

May 8 at 2:58 PM



Tribute Wall

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CA

Carole Ahola posted:

Lynda, Sending my deepest sympathy to you and your family. Carole (Gallina/Chamblin) Ahola

May 8 at 2:19 PM

PM

Patrick McBride posted:

Please accept our condolences. We will all miss Jim. He was genuine on many levels. His work ethic was a significant influence on me.

May 8 at 2:13 PM

JO

Judith Osborne posted:

Linda, and family, I am so sorry for your loss, and hope your memories sustain you during this time. Judy (Grimm) Osborne

May 8 at 8:56 AM

NE

Nellie posted:

Jim and Linda were my neighbor very good friend rest in peace Jim

May 6 at 12:04 PM

LA

Laf posted:

"What moves through us is a silence, a quiet sadness, a longing for one more day, one more word, one more touch, we may not understand why you left this earth so soon, or why you left before we were ready to say good-bye, but little by little, we begin to remember not just that you died, but that you lived. And that your life gave us memories too beautiful to forget" Your Siemens FS Family – Portage, IN

May 6 at 3:26 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Jim by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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