



## James Allen Hoffman

August 29, 1952 - October 20, 2017

James Allen Hoffman, age 65, of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan passed away late Friday evening, October 20, 2017 at War Memorial Hospital.

Jim was born on August 29, 1952 in Carleton, Michigan, the son of the late Tony and Ethel Hoffman. He graduated from Thurston High School and later attended college. On June 11, 1978, he married Sandra Gibbs in Farmington, Michigan.

Jim will forever be remembered as a kind and gentle soul, who always had a smile on his face, an infectious laugh and was always ready to lend a hand to whoever needed it. He was most passionate about photography. He was the owner of Northpointe Imaging, a photo studio located downtown Sault Ste. Marie for over thirty years. During his career, he photographed nearly two million residents of the Eastern Upper Peninsula. He captured images of life's most valuable and precious moments through his work with family photography, babies, children, senior portraits, weddings, skating shows, dance recitals, theater productions and aerial photos. He photographed countless musicians and concerts at the Kewadin Casino; such as Chubby Checker and KISS. One of his career highlights occurred when he had the opportunity to photograph the 41st President George H.W. Bush. If a picture is worth a thousand words, than Jim told the story of a lifetime.

Jim was an animal lover, and recently started an in-home dog grooming business called "Jim's Trims." He was an avid reader and loved science fiction. He was an amateur juggler, who after being involved for many years with the Hospice of the EUP Madrigal Dinner, was "Knighthed" for his service. He loved to cook and bake and could always be found decorating his latest creation for family members and friends. Jim was a member of the Professional Photographers of America, the Chippewa County Shooting Association, and Calvary Baptist Church.

Jim is survived by his wife Sandra Hoffman; six children: Megan (Zach) Norman of Sault Ste. Marie, MI, Jamie (Megan) Hoffman of Ann Arbor, MI, Sean Silagy and Jasin Stone both of Garden City, MI, Jodie Heikkinen of Sault Ste. Marie, MI, and Wendy Hoffman; and 12 grandchildren: Kirsi, Kinzie, Sean, Jesse, Justin, Noah, Sierra, Amanda, Megan, Harper, Zoey, and Sean-Thomas. He is also survived by a brother Ron (Darlene) Hoffman and a sister Shirley Hill.

A memorial service will be held at 12:00 noon on Thursday, October 26, 2017 at Calvary Baptist Church with Pastor Dave Pearce officiating. Friends may gather at the church from 11:00 AM until the time of the service. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be left to aid in the care of Sandra Hoffman.

# Tribute Wall

CO

“ I will always remember Jim for his kindness...expertise...stories and laughter. I had many opportunities to be in his presence over the past 30 years. A photo shoot was not just taking pictures...it was an experience filled with joy and laughter...sharing stories...his special touch and keen eye. He provided my family with a lifetime of photographic treasures...not to mention all the fun knowing and trusting him! My deepest sympathy for Sandy and all the family for your profound loss. He was a blessing, to be sure!

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**Christina Osborn** - November 11, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ I remember your first photography set up in our basement in Redford. You told me not to open the dark room door or it would ruin the pictures. As a little girl, I did not listen of course, not sure if the pictures were ever ruined or not. I will certainly miss you as my brother, hope to see you again one day. Love, Your Sister Shirley and son Randy Hill, Melissa and family,

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**Shirley Hill and Family** - October 27, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ You were a great friend and always willing to give a helping hand no matter the situation.

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**John Silagy** - October 25, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ Jodi, I am very sorry for your loss.

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**Joan Roney** - October 25, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ We did know Jim a long time but that was not necessary to love him. He came into our lives to take care of our Sophie and Shadow's grooming needs. He was a very fun and full of life man who dearly loved his wife and family. Jim and Sonja Colegrove

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**Jim and Sonja Colegrove** - October 24, 2017 at 12:00 AM

PI

“ Robin and I offer our sincere condolences to Jim's family. It was always a pleasure to just chat with Jim, and the same for occasions I had to work with him as well. He always had a smile and an interesting conversation, and was always interested in what you had to say as well. Rare qualities. He was a guy that when he walked out of a room, it was brighter and the mood was better than when he walked in, and you could say that for the world too when he left it.

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**Paul Ignatowski** - October 24, 2017 at 12:00 AM

VB

“ I am so sorry! He was such a sweet man! Hugs!

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**Violet F Buck** - October 24, 2017 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ As I was listening to the heavens grieving last night, I felt as though the raindrops were the tears that were being shed by each of us who knew Jim. At some point in our lives, we realize that there are people so special to us, that as much as we would love to, we can't hold on to them forever. Sometimes the hurt is too big for words, but just know when we hear the wind whisper and the sound touches our hearts, we will know that Jim's smile and laughter will be with us forever. My heart goes out to Sandy and family. Jim will be greatly missed! God bless, Laurie Davis

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**Laurie Davis** - October 23, 2017 at 12:00 AM