



James Kenneth Willette

January 21, 1946 - February 13, 2015

James Kenneth Willette, age 69, of Drummond Island, Michigan, died February 13, 2015 at his home. He was born January 21, 1946 in Hastings, Michigan to Kenneth Duane and Marian Helen (Mote) Willette.

Jim grew up in Clarksville, Michigan and graduated from Saranac High School in 1964. He married Sharon Ann Wood on October 29, 1965 at Clarksville Bible Church. Jim worked as a machine operator for nearly 35 years for General Motors. He retired in 1999 and he and Sharon moved to Drummond Island to the home they had been building there since purchasing property on the island in 1981. After retiring to Drummond, Jim worked part time doing maintenance work for Woodmoor Lodge.

Jim served in the Army National Guard for 10 years, was a member of the Forgotten Eagles, and a member of the Moose Lodge on Drummond Island.

Jim enjoyed hunting, fishing, riding his Harley, bowling, golfing, and playing softball. He played recreational softball until he was 50 years old and enjoyed playing on teams with his sons.

Jim is survived by his wife, Sharon; sons, Michael James (Donna) Willette of Hastings, and Mark (Kelly) Willette of Clarksville; grandchildren, Brooke Willette, Logan Willette, Ashley (Travis) Albert, and Austin Willette; and his

mother-in-law, Pat Wood of Grand Rapids. He is also survived by two brothers, John (Maria) Willette and Joel (Beth) Willette, both of Clarksville; and one sister, Jean (Dave) Faulkner of Ionia, Michigan.

A memorial service will be held at Clarksville Bible Church, 216 S. Main St., Clarksville, Michigan on Saturday, February 28, 2015 at 1:00 P.M. The service will be followed by a gathering time at the church to share memories of Jim.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of the E.U.P., 308 W. 12th Avenue, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

R. Galer Funeral Home, 24549 S. M-129 in Pickford, Michigan is serving the family.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.rgalerfuneralhome.com.

Tribute Wall



“ James Kenneth Willette

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ James Kenneth Willette

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ James Kenneth Willette

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ Sharon,

I was very saddened to learn recently of Jim's passing. We had obviously lost touch over the years. But I have many fond memories of playing baseball with Jim on the Clarksville traveling team and our coach Earnest Townsend. I also remember hanging out at Morrison Lake with Jim and you at your parent's home during the summers. And I had the pleasure of working for Jim's father Ken at the Clarksville Lumber Yard when I was in high school and college. Jim was a great guy and a good friend when we were growing up in Clarksville. I want to offer my sincere condolences over your loss. God bless you and your family during this time.

*Steve Bechtel
Flanders, NJ*

Steven Bechtel - March 23, 2015 at 03:56 PM

KB

“ I am so sorry to learn of Jim's passing. Sharon, you are in my thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.

Kathy Bentley

Kathy Bentley - March 02, 2015 at 04:51 PM

SM

“ Sharon and all the Willette family - We were so sorry to hear of Jim's passing. Our prayers and thoughts go out to you. Jim will certainly be missed. I knew Jim since the early 1950's when our families met while camping at Silver Lake, Michigan. And we visited and stayed in touch from then on. I have great memories of all those years, and home movies and pictures to support them. Can still see all of us (Jim, John, Jean, Joel, my brother Walt and I) running down the sand dunes! We won't be able to attend the memorial service on Saturday, but know that I will be thinking of all of you. May God bless you!

*Gary and Suzanne (Frazier) Mansell
Middletown, Ohio*

Suzanne & Gary Mansell - February 25, 2015 at 03:34 PM

JO

“ I have known Jim since 1950 when we lived in Freeport and my father pastored the churches at Freeport and Pleasant Valley. We moved to Charlotte, Michigan the following year and then the next year we moved to Pleasant Valley where my father pastored just the church at Pleasant Valley. We lived there for the next fourteen years so I saw Ken, Marion, Jim, John, Joel and Jean on a weekly basis. Ken worked at Runciman's Lumber in Clarksville at that time. My father worked for himself in carpentry work along with pastoring at Pleasant Valley. This meant that I often stopped by Runciman's on a regular basis as my father purchased lumber, paint and tools and other items there. Ken was always there.

I remember Jim from attending Church and Sunday School. Since he attended Saranac High School and I attended Lake Odessa High School it was pretty much on Sunday's that I remember seeing him and being around him. I remember that he was always friendly and got along with everybody. I was sorry to learn of his passing and equally sorry that I wasn't able to spend more time with him getting to know him better.

May God bless you richly, Sharon and the entire Willette family.
James Ovenshire

James Ovenshire - February 18, 2015 at 05:16 PM

CR

“ Sharon, Was so sorry to hear of your loss. My thoughts and prayers go out to you. May you feel Gods comfort as you endure your loss.
64 Classmate, Cathy (McVay) Roush

Cathy Roush - February 18, 2015 at 02:01 PM

FR

“ We live in Clarksville and will remember Jim as a fun loving guy and enjoyed the ball games when the school still had the ball diamond!!!

Frank and Pat Reser

Frank and Pat Reser - February 18, 2015 at 06:33 AM

MP

“ You have my sympathy in the loss of Jim.

Mike Peacock and family

Mike Peacock - February 18, 2015 at 05:17 AM

DG

“ Sharon,
So sorry to learn the news of Jim's passing.
Keeping you in my prayers, words to help you are hard for me, I have trouble finding them to help myself. Just know that I am thinking of you.

*Sincerely,
Doris Graul*

Doris Graul - February 17, 2015 at 08:13 PM

GF

“ Dear Willette Family and Friends,
I wasn't privileged with the remarkable acquaintance of Mr. Willette as you were, but it saddens me to read of your loss. Please accept my family's sincere condolences. Many are comforted in knowing that our Almighty God and Creator assures us in the Bible that soon death and mourning will be no more. May you have peace.

Greene Family - February 17, 2015 at 06:48 PM



“ DEAR ASHLEY and TRAVIS and FAMILY SO SORRY to hear the BAD NEWS....so HAPPY in no more PAIN.....JUST wanted U ALL to know that we are THINKING OF U...And let US know if there is anything WE can do more than HAPPY TO HELP and SENDING HUGS.....<3 PAUL and CANDY.....

Candy Wilson - February 17, 2015 at 02:12 PM

DH

Dave & I have many memories if Jim. So sorry to hear of the loss of Jim...He was quite a character.. Heaven is gaining a very special angel.. He decided to wait till Heaven for the Angel part..Lol!! Our hearts go out to the Willette's and the Wood's Many memories. Love to all.

Dave & Gina Harwood - February 28, 2015 at 06:37 AM