



## James C. Carlson "Papa"

December 13, 1942 - March 13, 2022

James C. Carlson (Papa) Bluffton, Indiana had time to say his goodbyes to his family and friends. Secure in the knowledge that his work on earth was done and surrounded by his family, he passed away from a prolonged illness, including kidney disease at his home in his favorite chair on Sunday, March 13, 2022, at the age of 79.

Jim is survived by his loving children, Raine Carlson Spott of Schererville, IN; Diana (Jim) Yonker of Bluffton, IN, Christine (Dr. Michael) Rothecker of Elkhart, IN; and Daughter-in-law Darcy Carlson of Knox; His brother Paul (Claudia) Carlson of Cedar Lake, IN. and sisters, Sue (Ed) Pavelka of Hobart, IN and Nance (Rob Gale) Carlson of Punta Gorda, FL. His cherished grandchildren: Maritza and Lauren Spott; Jenna, Brynn, and Matthew Yonker; Aidan, Sarah, and Emily Rothecker; and Zachery, Alex, AJ, and Savannah Carlson and many beloved nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his loving wife Andrea (Lockridge) "Nana;" his much-loved son, James Keith Carlson; his parents Clarence and Helen (Szumilas) Carlson; his sister and brother-in-law Katherine (Kitty) and John Batliner.

Jim was born on December 13, 1942, in Hammond, Indiana. He graduated from Hammond Tech in 1961 and proudly joined The United States Airforce serving as Sergeant. He married Andrea, his high school sweetheart, settled in Merrillville, Indiana, and they spent 56 years together. He worked thirty-two

years for Indiana Bell Telephone Company and retired to Bluffton, Indiana in 1998. He was a member of the American Legion, Bluffton Elks, and a past member of The Hammond Mohawks. Jim was an avid golfer and achieved his lifetime goal by getting a hole in one! He loved time with his family, a good joke, and breakfast at The Corner Depot, especially French toast Fridays! The family would like to give special thanks to friends and neighbors for their kind care and support.

A graveside service will take place at 11:30 AM Central Time on June 11, 2022 at Crown Hill Cemetery in Knox, Indiana. The service will be followed by a luncheon at the Knox Community Center, located at 55 E. Lake Street, Knox, Indiana 46534.

Memorials may be made in Jim's memory to the American Legion Post #111 Honor Guard and can be sent to the funeral home. Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the family at [www.thomarich.com](http://www.thomarich.com).

# Previous Events

## **PUBLIC GRAVESIDE SERVICE**

JUN 11. 11:30 AM (CT)

Crown Hill Cemetery  
Knox, IN

## **Funeral Luncheon**

JUN 11. 12:15 PM (CT)

Knox Community Center  
55 Lake Street  
Knox, IN

# Tribute Wall



“ *James C. Carlson "Papa"*

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September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *My daughter thought of Jim and Andi as her grandparents, she loved both of them so very much. I will never forget how much they helped a single mom at the time and offered to watch Brianna while I worked. They were a blessing to the both of us and will never be forgotten. Brianna and I both send our deepest condolences.*

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**Heather** - April 18, 2022 at 11:50 PM



“ *Jim was our next door neighbor in Hammond back in the day. My brothers and I pretty much hung out with Jim's younger brother, Paul. Great family!*

*Our condolences to the family members. Jim was a great guy!*

*Don Naglich*

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**Donald Naglich** - March 20, 2022 at 02:51 PM

AB

“ Dear Nance and family,

*Kathy and I are very saddened to hear of your loss. While we never met James, just hearing all the stories Nance shared with me over the years of her and her family show how kind and loving James was.*

*Losing a loved one is always difficult. Yet we see the product of a life well lived in the memories we have of our family, and their kindness and goodness carries on in the lives of those they touch.*

*With deepest condolences,  
Alex and Kathy Bozzi  
Wallingford, CT  
abozzi4@gmail.com*

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**ALEXANDER BOZZI** - March 15, 2022 at 07:35 PM


KB

“ Please accept our sincere condolences on the passing of your beloved Papa. We've had the privilege of being neighbors for over 20 years. Andrea and Jim were so loving to our children and always there to support us when parenting got tough. Beautiful people that will be dearly missed!

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**Kierstin Bueter** - March 15, 2022 at 12:31 PM

DY

*Thank you for these kind words. Your family is means the world to us.*  


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**Dee Yonker** - March 15, 2022 at 07:50 PM

TF

“ Our condolences to the Carlson (Yonker, Spott, and Rothecker) family. Papa was a fun and loving man. Mr. C cared about our son, Tristan, like he was one of his own grandchildren. Papa would always bring out his great sense of humor and laugh that would always make Tristan smile. We are going to miss you Papa. Rest in Peace.



*The Stultz Family,  
Greta, Jeff, and Tristan*

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**The Stultz Family** - March 14, 2022 at 05:24 PM