



James J Mortemore

August 3, 1943 - November 14, 2017

James J. Mortemore passed away at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne on November 14, 2017.

He was born August 3, 1943, in Toledo, Ohio. His parents were Edwin G and Nellie (Curson) Mortemore. He graduated from Bedford High School, Temperance, Michigan in 1961 and Fort Wayne Bible College (Taylor University) in 1966. He married Kay L. Falb on June 24, 1967, celebrating our 50th anniversary this past June on an Alaskan cruise. He was in pastoral ministry most recently at Six Mile Church moving to Bluffton in 1983. He began serving as custodian at Bluffton Columbian Elementary School in 1986 and retired from Bluffton High School in 2012 as athletic custodian. In his retirement he made wood craft items to sell at local farm markets and craft shows and enjoyed spending time with his grandsons and the family dog Topsy. He learned his basic woodworking skills from his father who died when Jim was 15. He was a member of Murray Missionary Church serving as an usher, adult Sunday school teacher, member of the church board and in whatever capacity he was asked.

God has blessed us with a son Roger James (Aimee), Fishers, Indiana and daughter Miriam Kay, Bluffton, two grandchildren, Adam Butler (17) and Caleb James (14) Mortemore. Also surviving are his sister Helen Sims, Fort Wayne, and brother, Ed C Mortemore (Barb), Grand Rapids, Ohio, 9 nephews and 9 nieces.

Preceding him in death were his parents, nephew Don Mortemore, and brother-in-law Bill Sims.

Funeral Services will be held at Murray Missionary Church on Saturday, (Nov. 18th) at 10 a.m. Pastor Mike Gilbert will officiate. Visitation will be held on Friday from 2 to 8 P.M. at Thoma/Rich Lemler Funeral home in Bluffton and for one hour prior to the service on Saturday at the church. Burial will follow at Six Mile Cemetery, Bluffton. Memorials are to Murray Missionary Church and One Mission Society, Greenwood, Indiana.

Funeral 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.thomairch.com.

Cemetery Details

Six Mile Cemetery

4795 SE State Road 116
Bluffton, IN

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 17. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home
308 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
<http://www.thomarich.com>

Visitation

NOV 18. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Murray Missionary Church
1117 North Washington St - Murray
Bluffton, IN 46714

Service

NOV 18. 10:00 AM (ET)

Murray Missionary Church
1117 North Washington St - Murray
Bluffton, IN 46714

Tribute Wall



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of James J Mortemore*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - November 17, 2017 at 07:27 PM



“ *James J Mortemore*

September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *Darn! Just saw this two years to late. Sort of grew up with Jim. From the age of 11 to 18 I lived next door to him on Whiteford Center. We became instant friends sharing sports as our most common interest. What a baseball player! Track? Fastest kid at BHS for 3 years! He was the only person I wouldn't swear around. I had a lot of respect for his believes. Both his parents were so kind to me, ever tho I probably seemed like The Kid From The Other Side of the Tracks. Around the age of 13 we formed our bicycle repair business....made enough to split a Coke, sold our inviters to an other kid.....who's still in business to this day. Like a lot of kids, went our own way after HS. Got his number after stopping to see his Mom when we were in our mid-thirty's. We talk by phone late 70s early 80s. Our birthdays were 3 days apart with Jim a year older. I'll never forget him. So sorry for your loss. WHAT AH GUY. RIP Buddy.*

*Joe Condron
Toledo, Ohio*

Joe Condron - July 17, 2019 at 12:58 PM



“ *The world has lost a wonderful man. I will miss seeing him at the Das Marit market every season. You have our deepest sympathy.*

*Dee & Becky Teeple
Berne*

Becky Teeple - November 18, 2017 at 06:11 PM

DM

“ With our sympathies. Lane's wooden wrecker will always bring sweet memories of this gentle God-serving man. <3 Stand strong on God's Promises.

Deena R McClure - November 18, 2017 at 11:20 AM



“ I met Jim when we both worked at Columbian Elementary. He was a very kind, funny and just plain nice guy...Miriam, you and your's in my thoughts and prayers. . .Godspeed

Pam Satterfield Manning - November 18, 2017 at 12:17 AM



“ Pam Satterfield Manning lit a candle in memory of James J Mortemore



Pam Satterfield Manning - November 18, 2017 at 12:13 AM

“ Kay, Roger, and Miriam,

It is with great shock and sadness that we learned of Jim's death. Our condolences to your family and all who encountered this gentle man throughout his lifetime. I remember well when Jim and Kay came to town and enrolled you kids in school. Within a few years, Jim was working as a custodian in the schools and eventually at BHS. Although Jim no doubt had more degrees than most of the faculty, he always approached his job humbly and without pretense. Jim was kind to everyone and a generous listener. He spoke ill of no one.

Jim often gave gifts of his woodworking. When the new school opened in 2000, Jim carved substantial three dimensional name plates from fine wood for everyone in the office, including secretaries. He was always working on projects, and this trait endeared him to Donna, with whom Jim had a special relationship. Many pieces in our home Jim has had a hand in building or repairing. Jim and Donna bonded as creative people will. To this day they had projects planned and in the waiting. As Donna is out of the country, she does not yet know of recent events. She will be greatly saddened.

Jim always inquired about our kids, and knew all five by name and personality. I suppose this comes from his ministry, or more likely it informed his ministry. Jim is the embodiment of Christianity, humble, kind, and industrious. We should all strive to be so.

Please excuse us for being unable to attend Jim's memorial service. Please know that we are with you in spirit, and that we could not have greater respect and admiration for the man that we had the pleasure of knowing as a colleague and friend for over thirty years.

Rest in peace Jim.

Ken and Donna Ballinger

Ken and Donna Ballinger - November 17, 2017 at 10:45 AM

JY

“ So Sorry about Jim. We have many years of fond memories....especially from the Hicksville Missionary Church. Remember Jim making Lighthouses for all the kids that learned about 30 memory verses from the Bible for Bible School years ago. He had to make about 13 lighthouses because so many learned their verses!!! Our daughter was 5 then & she & I learned the verses together because she wanted one of those lighthouses together. Special!

Also glad we talked at Dave Browns this fall at the fall festival. So hard to believe. Our sincerest sympathy to all the family. "Smiling" Jim will be missed by all!

Joyce & Noah Yoder & family
Hicksville, Oh

Joyce & Noah Yoder - November 17, 2017 at 09:03 AM

TM

“ All of us at the Rehab Hospital send our deepest sympathy to Kay and the family. We enjoyed seeing Jim here and will miss his smile and talent! Peace to all!

Tina Mohr - November 17, 2017 at 08:52 AM

DL

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Dean and Jean

Dean Lemle - November 17, 2017 at 07:41 AM



“ Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of James J Mortemore.



November 17, 2017 at 07:30 AM

TF

“ Kay & Family, I am so sorry for your loss. I hope you find comfort and peace with your memories of Jim as God blessed you with such a wonderful husband and father. I will keep you in my thoughts.

Tina Frus - November 16, 2017 at 11:59 PM

NS

“ *Nola Starkey lit a candle in memory of James J Mortemore*



Nola Starkey - November 16, 2017 at 11:58 PM

JT

“ *Julia Tobias lit a candle in memory of James J Mortemore*



Julia Tobias - November 16, 2017 at 08:29 PM



“ *2 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - November 16, 2017 at 04:41 PM



“ *Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of James J Mortemore.*



November 16, 2017 at 02:50 PM



“ *Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of James J Mortemore.*



November 16, 2017 at 01:52 PM



“ Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Lavender and White was purchased for the family of James J Mortemore.



November 16, 2017 at 01:07 PM



“ I remember Jim from college days. Always had that smile on his face. He was a competitor and I always finished the task in front of him. His sweet spirit made it easy to enjoy being around him. I am confident he leave a legacy that will carry on his love for Jesus. He will be missed but will see him on the other side.

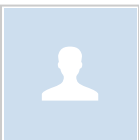
Jim Welty - November 16, 2017 at 12:58 PM



“ 62 files added to the album Life Tributes



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - November 16, 2017 at 12:25 PM



“ Eagle Wings Frame was purchased for the family of James J Mortemore.



November 16, 2017 at 12:06 PM



“ *Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- All Red was purchased for the family of James J Mortemore.*



November 16, 2017 at 11:48 AM



“ *Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of James J Mortemore.*



November 16, 2017 at 11:06 AM

GV

“ *Jim was always kind to me when I worked at Columbian! He went above and beyond to make sure I had everything I needed. When I injured my thumb, he made sure that I was well taken care of! He will surely be missed!*
Ginny Vogel

Ginny Vogel - November 16, 2017 at 09:06 AM

MT

“ *We've been thinking and praying for your family. I can still remember Jim doing children's moments and Six Mile. People would bring things in and he would come up with a bible lesson to go with it on the spot. Someone brought in a diaper:) He came up with a lesson about Sin and how we need to get sin out of our lives like a dirty diaper needs to come off of a baby. He was a very special man. Melissa Thompson*

Melissa Thompson - November 16, 2017 at 08:53 AM



“ *Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of James J Mortemore.*



November 16, 2017 at 08:37 AM

AG

“ *Andrea Grover lit a candle in memory of James J Mortemore*



Andrea Grover - November 16, 2017 at 08:01 AM

RF

“ *Jim loved the Lord with all his heart and this love permeated all he did. He also loved his family and was a loving husband and father. Jim used his skills in wood-working to bring joy to countless numbers of kids. I've had the joy of knowing Jim for over 50 years and thank the Lord for the privilege. I pray for God's comfort and grace to be with Kay, Miriam, and Roger in this time.*

Richard Falb - November 16, 2017 at 07:55 AM



“ *Simply Lily was purchased for the family of James J Mortemore.*



November 16, 2017 at 07:27 AM



“ *European Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of James J Mortemore.*



November 15, 2017 at 10:29 PM

DG

“ *Dan Gerdom lit a candle in memory of James J Mortemore*



Dan Gerdom - November 15, 2017 at 09:45 PM

DG

Sorry to hear of Jim's passing. I always enjoyed talking to him over the years and at the Farmer's market. Jim's family will be in our prayers. God Bless.

Dan Gerdom - November 15, 2017 at 09:56 PM

RB

“ I will greatly miss walking our dogs and talking to this wonderful man of God. Jim was always such an upbeat person and wonderful neighbor. Heaven has gained a terrific man and we have lost a bright shining star. Bob & Linda Buehl

Robert Buehl - November 15, 2017 at 08:21 PM

BF

“ Just like Thor, you flew to Heaven with wings and a hammer in your hand. Take this world, but, give me Jesus. We are sad on Earth, but, Heaven is rejoicing.

Blessings my dear dear friend.

Roger, Brenda, and BoCat Ferrell



Brenda Ferrell - November 15, 2017 at 05:27 PM

JF

“ So sorry to hear of Jim's passing. We saw him every week at the dasMarit Farmers Market and he was always such a bright spot, smiling face and such an encourager to everyone. We will miss him.

dasMarit Farmers & Artists Market, Berne, IN

Jeanne Frank - November 15, 2017 at 04:46 PM

KS

“ It was just 5 or 6 weeks ago you visited us, Jim brought a puzzle for our grand children to put together which he made. Of course it was Green and Yellow. Thanks Jim & Kay. Great memory of the last visit with Jim. Bless you Kay.

Keith Schloneger - November 15, 2017 at 03:12 PM

SB

“ We are so sorry, Kay, to learn of Jim's passing. We have such great memories of Jim and Kay when they last visited us. You are in our thoughts and prayers, Kay and family, during this most difficult loss.

Love,
Jim and Sandra

Sandra & Jim Brenneman - November 15, 2017 at 02:09 PM

BF

“ On wings of angels you flew. Welcome home

Roger and Brenda Ferrell



Brenda Ferrell - November 15, 2017 at 01:47 PM

MH

“ Jim will be dearly missed. You never saw him without a smile. Our thought and prayers are with Kay, Miriam & Roger and family.



Mike & Kathy Hershey - November 15, 2017 at 12:56 PM