



James Jay `Lowery

November 26, 1944 - May 9, 2021

James Jay Lowery passed away peacefully on May 9th at home in New Castle after a courageous battle with cancer. He was 76 years old.

Jim graduated from New Castle High School, Class of 1963, and Virginia Polytechnic Institute And State University, Class of 1967. He was a proud member of Tech's Air Force ROTC and earned both a BS and an MS in Chemical Engineering. He served as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Air Force. Most of his engineering career was with Celanese (Hoecht) in Charlotte, NC, where he resided until returning to New Castle.

Jim was preceded in death by two his parents, Jesse James and Gertrude Reynolds Lowery, and his brother, Stuart Samuel Lowery.

Jim was an unusual soul who loved to entertain his family with his life's stories and his deep interest in politics. He loved collecting lots of things like antique lamps, antique toys and tools.....lots and lots of tools! And he collected chainsaws!!! He also loved all things 'farming.' He was so proud to continue owning the farm that had been in his family for nine generations!

Jim is survived by his four sisters

Linda (Joe) London, Cheryl (James) Lockhart, Karen (George) Barnhart; and Susie (Ron) Kaffen, Jim is also survived by his sister-in-law, Jackie Lowery.

Nieces and Nephews, who loved Uncle Jim dearly include: Kim (Cindy) London, Teresa (James) London, Jackie Oppelt, Whitney (Greg) Stinson, Aaron (Annie) Kaffen, Adam (Jen) Kaffen, and Jessy (Matt) York.

Uncle Jim was also loved by his great-nieces:
Rachel Oppelt, Lily and Charlotte Hamilton,
Taylor Kaffen, Ida Kaffen and Eloise York.

Per his wishes, Jim has been cremated, and his ashes will be interred at Huffman Memorial Park in New Castle Virginia. A graveside memorial service will be held 11:00 AM Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at Huffman Memorial Park. Military Rites will be performed by VFW Post #4491.

A special thanks to his niece, Jackie Lockhart Oppelt , for caring for Jim through his time in New Castle. Thanks to his home health caretakers, Brandy, Brandon, Katie, Linda and Barbara. A special thanks to his doctors and to Carillion Hospice for their care and support.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to your favorite cause in Jim's honor.

Cemetery Details

Huffman Memorial Park

Cumberland Gap Rd.
NEW CASTLE, VA 24127

Previous Events

Graveside Service

JUN 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

Huffman Memorial Park
Cumberland Gap Rd.
NEW CASTLE, VA 24127

Tribute Wall

“ Jim was my roommate for several quarters at VPI, as we were both co-ops. "Ole" we always called each other. (This was a term which Cadet roomies called each other, short for "Old Lady.")

One of my favorite memories is about both his brilliance and his personality. We were about to graduate--Spring of '68. Jim had never gotten anything other than an "A" or a "B." What an incredible mind!

Anyway, this last quarter, he was really sweating because he feared he was about to get his first "C." (I was usually elated to get a "C.") In those days, there was no such thing as privacy: grades were posted by name on the professor's door or bulletin board. Jim went by to check on this grade and--much to his relief and surprise--he had received an "A."

Then, as he checked another course--about which he had been fairly confident of an "A"--he discovered that he had, in fact, received his first "C." But, even after being taken up to the heights only to be thrown off a cliff, he laughed.

We used to parody a popular song with our less-than-perfect voices: "To know, know, know us is to love, love, love us; just to see us smile, makes your life worthwhile." Of course, we had interchanged 1st and 2nd person pronouns.

A cousin had given me a cricket "farm" which we had in our room. Jim dubbed it "The Bar None Ranch." He had a rich sense of humor; I cannot begin to recount the laughs we had. He went with me once to Chattanooga for a blind date. I think I still have a picture of him in a beret with a cigarette holder in his mouth, though I don't recall him smoking.

We enjoyed the Corps but never took the Mickey Mouse parts too seriously. I think we used to hide small water pistols in our sleeves to squirt the higher ranking Cadet officers when they came

marching to the center in reviews.

RIP, Ole.

Wayne Blythe--wtblythe@vt.edu

Wayne Blythe - June 18, 2021 at 12:27 PM

SD

“ *I've known Jim (I called him Lowery) for 42 years. I loved him dearly. This is such a sad loss. I send love and healing light to each member of his family. May we all know Peace.*

Sherry Davis - June 09, 2021 at 09:46 AM

RG

“ *My prayers and condolences go out to the Lowery family. I was a close friend of Sam whom I worked with at the Hi-Way Department. And, I met James through Sam. Again, I am sorry for your loss. Rodney Rex Gearheart.*

rodney gearheart - May 31, 2021 at 11:26 PM

AW

“ *Dr. B our thoughts and prayers are with you and*
We also miss you very much.

A.W. Webb and family

A. W. Webb - May 20, 2021 at 11:04 AM

CG

“ Karen and George,
Our thoughts and prayers are with you and all
of your family as well. May Our Heavenly
Father give you all peace and comfort now
and in the days to come. It's never easy as
my family and I know all too well but know God's healing has taken
place and we as believers in The Father, The Son and The Holy
Spirit KNOW this is not goodbye...it's a see ya later! Take Care
Always,
Love in Christ,
Cortni Gallimore-Wojciechowski
and Family



Cortni Gallimore-Wojciechowski - May 15, 2021 at 09:35 PM