



James L. Roorda

September 26, 1922 - June 21, 2017

James L. Roorda, 94, of Kankakee, passed away on Wednesday, June 21, 2017 at Miller Healthcare Center. He was born on September 26, 1922 in Miller, SD to Isaac Gerrit and Anna Marie (Terlouw) Roorda. He married Ruth E. Ingels in Ames, IA on December 20, 1944.

James received his Bachelor of Science degree from Iowa State College in Ames, IA in 1943. He held research and management positions with Armour, Swift and Bunge in the processing of fats and oils as a Chemical Engineer and was a senior scientist retiring in January 1985 and continued working as a consultant after his retirement at Bunge. He was a member of Registered Professional Engineers, American Institute of Chemical Engineers and the American Oil Chemists Society. He was active in the Presbyterian churches in Clarendon Hills and Kankakee, serving as a church school teacher, choir member and Elder and was a member of Interfaith Executive Service Corporation as a technical assistance to businesses in developing countries. James enjoyed traveling, reading, gardening and crossword puzzles.

James is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, James F. (Raellyn Young) Roorda of Chicago and a daughter and son-in-law, Carolyn (Larry) Arnett of Chicago, two granddaughters; Victoria Young and Lynda Young of Chicago, two sisters; Audrey (Gordon) Henry of Newberry, SC and Beulah (Wayne) Zoutendam of Marshfield, WI. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife Ruth, daughter Jeanne Roorda, one brother, Norman Roorda, and two sisters Anna Ruth Rhodes and Joyce Edel.

There will be a memorial service at the Christian Community Church, 2135 W. Wilson Ave., Chicago, IL on Saturday, July 22, 2017 at 10:30 a.m.

Please sign his guestbook at www.schrefflerfuneralhome.com

Events

JUL **Funeral Service** 10:30AM
22

Christian Community Church
2135 W. Wilson Ave., Chicago, IL, US

Comments



“ Uncle Jim was wonderful as a great uncle. I remember him as someone with a wonderful sense of humor. I miss the family reunions when I saw Jim and Ruth. I was always excited to see them.

Jim and Carolyn, I am sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Sarah (Roorda) Wilson - June 29, 2017 at 12:24 AM



“ The Roordas were the first to make us feel like we were "home" when we joined the Presbyterian Church in 1979. Ruth and I shared a birthday month, and we all sang in the choir. They came to hear our daughter sing in her recitals, and often gave us words of encouragement when times were tough. We cannot express in mere words what these two dear people meant to us. They showed grace, kindness, and love.

Wayne, Jeanne, and Jennifer Benson

jeanne benson - June 27, 2017 at 08:12 PM



“ Jim was a constant fixture in our Monday morning exercise class at Westwood Oaks Senior Living. He was always the first one to arrive in the last one to leave and always had a smile on his face. I first met Jim as a sub to the class and then a little over a month or two ago I became the Monday morning instructor. I would try to get Jim to work on his balance some days he was more willing than others and some days he would just smile and do what he could. I was very sad to hear that he had fallen and was in Miller. I am even more saddened that he will not be rejoining our class. I know the residents will be missing him but his instructor will be missing him every Monday morning that he's not in our class. You have my deepest sympathies. Sincerely Nancy Zoller - Pansa
Group exercise instructor Riverside Health and Fitness

Nancy Zoller -Pansa - June 24, 2017 at 02:48 PM



“ My deepest sympathies to you Carolyn and Jim....your mom and dad were dear, dear people. I loved them both. Wonderful, caring and kind people.
May God bring you both peace and comfort during this difficult time.
Sincerely,
Kathie Grazis

Kathie Grazis - June 21, 2017 at 10:08 PM