



James P Brown

March 8, 2017

James "Jim" P. Brown, of Kankakee, IL (formerly of St. Paul, MN and Evanston, IL) passed away Wednesday, March 8, 2017 at Miller Healthcare Center. He was born in St. Paul, MN to Cyrus P. and Dorothy E. Brown. He was preceded in death by his parents, sister; Barb and brother Cy (Shirley) Brown. He married the love of his life, Eve Reczek, in Chicago.

He is survived by his wife, daughters; Elizabeth (Sergio) Murer and Jennifer (Paul) St. Clair and his four grandchildren, Alex, Molly, Rachael and Ryan, who lovingly referred to him as "Papa Jim", nieces Kathie Brown and Leslie (Ed) O'Donnell, and great nephew Curtis (Keri) Olufson.

After attending St. Paul Academy, Jim received a B.A. degree from Williams College, Williamstown, MA and attended Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. He was Captain and Platoon Leader in the United States Marine Corps from 1951 to 1953 during the Korean Conflict. He was a member of Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity, Kankakee Lions Club where he was president twice, Boy Scouts of America where he was Past District Chairman, Rainbow Council where he was Vice President and Treasurer, and New Horizons Band where he enjoyed playing the trumpet. He was an avid sports fan, tennis player with a wicked serve, fly fisherman and occasional golfer.

Jim's career included Vice President of Sales and Marketing for Roper

Corporation and in later years, Financial Consultant for Shearson, Smith Barney, and Cambridge Investments.

The moment Jim laid eyes on Eve, he knew she was the one and only. After their honeymoon in New Orleans, the rest is history. Family meant everything to Jim. There was never a phone call or visit that didn't end with "I love you" and his special third-finger salute. From travel adventures (including Caribbean cruises, Europe, Hawaii and Mexico), cheering on his girls and grandchildren in their sporting endeavors, 60-second morning Word Jumble, daily breakfast outings with Eve, his "not often enough" trips to Minnesota to visit family and pals, and everything he did in between, Jim never wasted a minute of living a full life.

Although he will not physically be a part of our future adventures, he will be in our hearts sharing every single moment.

Until Jim's very last breath, he lived by the famous words of Winston Churchill, "Never, never, never give up." You were a fighter, Jim, and your spirit will live on in all of us.

The memorial visitation will be Monday, March 13, 2017 from 10 am to 12 pm. at Schreffler Funeral Home, Kankakee Chapel. A memorial service will follow at 12 pm with Rev. Richard Ross officiating.

Memorials may be made to the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation.
<https://www.themmrp.org/donate-to-mmrf/>

Please visit www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com to sign his online guestbook.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 13. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Schreffler Funeral Home - Kankakee Chapel
1900 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-2421
<https://www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com/>

Funeral Service

MAR 13. 12:00 PM (CT)

Schreffler Funeral Home - Kankakee Chapel
1900 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-2421
<https://www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *James P Brown*

February 03, 2023 at 04:30 AM



“ *Dear Eve,*

Our deepest sympathy on the loss of your beloved husband Jim. Unfortunately we did not hear about Jim's passing until this past week. Our sympathies to Liz and Jennifer. Jim was a real man's man. May he rest in peace.

God Bless.

Anwar (Andy), Bernadette, Nicole & Ashley

Anwar Hakim - March 30, 2017 at 05:57 PM



“ *Mrs. Brown, Jenny and Liz - so sorry to hear of your loss. Sorry to have missed the services- I was not aware your father had passed. He was a wonderful man . Our thoughts and prayers are with you. My love to you and your families- Your old friends - Jamie and Diane (Purcell) Boyd*

Diane Boyd - March 15, 2017 at 10:01 PM

RS

“ I am honored to have had occasion to share Jim and Eve's enthusiasm and love for their Frank Lloyd Wright home and thankful for their longstanding stewardship of this important property. Jim has been a credit to his family, community, and favorite organizations.

Ron Scherubel

Retired Executive Director and Vice President

Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy, Chicago

Ron Scherubel - March 12, 2017 at 07:36 PM

LO

“ What a great picture of Uncle Jim! He was such a special guy and always interested in hearing about what we were doing. He had a great smile and such a gentle soul. We're so sorry to miss the service on Monday, but know that our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. We know he's now with Cy and Barb in heaven.

Sending our love to you all, and looking forward to seeing everyone in Minnesota in May.

He will be deeply missed.

Our thoughts and prayers will be with you tomorrow.

May the Lord hold you in the palm of his hand.

Leslie and Ed

Leslie O'Donnell - March 12, 2017 at 05:30 PM



“ Michele Pasko lit a candle in memory of James P Brown



Michele Pasko - March 12, 2017 at 12:49 PM

JY

“ One of my favorite Pharmacy Customers at Kmart. Mr and Mrs Brown were always there with smiles on their faces, and waited patiently if we were busy. My condolences to Eve and the family.

Julie Yarno - March 11, 2017 at 10:39 AM



“ I always enjoyed talking sports (mostly Bears) with Jim every time I was there to service the heating system. There would be times I could tell he wasn't feeling very well but that never stopped from taking time to talk about sports. Very nice man I'm going to miss him.

Jeff Shepard
Energy Systems

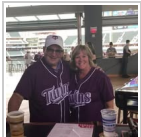
Jeff Shepard - March 10, 2017 at 10:21 PM

MV

“ I was a baker at Kmart. Mr & Mrs Brown would come in most mornings for a donut and coffee. Please accept my condolences.



Melinda Velasco - March 10, 2017 at 10:03 PM



“ Jennifer, Paul, Rachael and a Ryan,
In this tough time in your life, may our friendship, sympathy and heartfelt condolences bring you comfort.

Love,
The Muzetras's



Cindy Muzetras - March 10, 2017 at 07:38 PM

LH

“ Dear Eve, Liz and Jennifer -

We are so saddened for Jim's passing. He was such a wonderful man and as i knew him, Father to Liz (my best friend in the whole world). I can see his zest for life, fighting spirit and kindness in her. I am sure he left this world surrounded by more love than he could have ever imagined. He will take that with him into the next...and hopefully you will all find each other again someday. Please know that our hearts and thoughts are with all of you at this extraordinarily difficult time.



Leslie, Don, Matt, Daniel and Adam Harris

Leslie Bell Harris - March 10, 2017 at 11:01 AM