



## James L Gromer

November 9, 1951 - August 26, 2023

James L. Gromer, Kankakee, IL

Jim was born in Kankakee, IL on November 9, 1951, to George & Doris (Magruder) Gromer. A lifelong resident of the Kankakee area, Jim graduated from Bradley Bourbonnais Community High School in 1969. He took a job with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) shortly thereafter. Jim would retire from IDOT after a distinguished 32-year career. Always a paragon of hard work, Jim started his own company, Stripe-It-Rite, in 1992 with his wife of 42 years, Mari. After retiring from IDOT, Jim continued to operate his own business and worked for Tyson Engineering, Inc. and Piggush Engineering, Inc. For many years he also worked nights, tending bar at the Moose Lodge and Bon Vivant Country Club. Jim was an active member of Moose Lodge 802 AND Laborers Local 751.

While Jim was an incredibly hard worker, he also knew how to have fun. He loved listening to rock and roll (at full volume), attending concerts and driving his red Corvette. After retirement he loved to golf and to watch golf (also at full volume) often while snoozing on the couch. Sunday mornings would find him out for coffee with his buddies, reconnecting with old friends or visiting his cousins. Jim enjoyed traveling, taking many trips to Mexico and the Caribbean over the years. He was always ready for a game of euchre or backgammon. Most of all, Jim loved his family. He was a dependable and tireless provider for those he loved, committed to ensuring their happiness. Jim set an example of dedication to hard work for his children and grandchildren, such as they never

took his generosity for granted.

Jim passed away on Saturday, August 26, 2023, after a long battle with cancer. His strength in the face of his illness was an inspiration to those close to him, and while his loss is mourned, the way he enriched the lives of his family and friends is celebrated.

Jim is survived by his wife Mari Hamilton Gromer, his daughter, Stacy Cordes and her husband, Jon, his son Adam and his wife Katherine Darr, and his grandkids Jackson and Austin Cordes and Alyssa Darr. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Jerry Gromer.

We would be remiss if we didn't thank his amazing team at University of Chicago, Dr. Ari Rosenberg, Kate C., Kari S., and Jeff C. These kind and compassionate people did everything they could to make Jim's journey easier. We're grateful for the help and support of Uplifted Care Hospice.

Memorials may be made to Relay for Life of Kankakee County or Uplifted Care Hospice.

Cremation rites have been accorded.

There will be a gathering of friends from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 31, 2023 at Schreffler Funeral Home, Kankakee.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life Open House

AUG 31. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Schreffler Funeral Home - Kankakee Chapel

1900 W. Court St.

Kankakee, IL 60901

(815) 932-2421

<https://www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com/>

# Tribute Wall

TO

“ *Mari & Family--Jim was one special guy. Always a wave, a smile, time for a chat as we drove up and down 1870. He was always doing something. In fact, it wasn't too long ago that he was out there whacking down bushes--what energy! You guys were a great team and are left with wonderful memories. He will be missed. Mike & Carole Toliuszis*

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**Toliuszis** - September 10, 2023 at 08:17 PM

CM

“ *Jim was such a nice guy. He will be missed by many. I worked with Jim at IDOT. Way back in 1986 I got my first project as resident engineer. I called him at least once a week to ask for help in how I should do things. He never failed to give me the assistance I needed. Not a lot of people would have helped me the way he did.*

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**Chris McCarter** - September 06, 2023 at 01:03 PM

RV

“ *Mari, my sincere sympathy to you at the loss of your husband, Jim. You two always seemed to be a good fit for each other the few times our paths crossed. I wish you strength as time goes on.*

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**Rose M Velatini** - September 05, 2023 at 02:00 PM

DG

“ *My deep sympathy on the passing of Jim. Good friend, always looked forward to seeing him at union meetings. May he rest in peace, Dan Guenette*

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**Dan Guenette** - September 02, 2023 at 12:28 PM

CG

“ Jim you are going to be deeply missed! You have been a best friend to me forever and have known you since the 70's!! I am never going to forget how much you've helped me since I moved back from Cal. Always there for me both Mari and You.RIP I have so many memories of you that will never be forgotten! Thank you for being a best friend!! I can say Peaceman to you one last time Jim! Forever in my heart ❤️ we lost an amazing human being! RIP 💔😭 Cindy You always made me smile!

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**Cindy Gifford** - August 30, 2023 at 04:23 PM



“ Many good times and laughs will be forever meshed in my memories... His smile will be forever missed.. RIP my friend 🙏

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**Julie Bretzman** - August 30, 2023 at 11:14 AM

MS

“ Our condolences & sympathies to Mari & Family - Jim will be missed by all who have been touched his presence in our lives. He was a great friend, co-worker (Moose Lodge 802 - 1970's) husband and Dad.

We first met when his family moved to St. George in the 1960's - Jim and Jerry were fun to be around because you knew the laughter would always be a part the hanging around together.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Mari and the entire Gromer Family.

Mike & Deb Spilsbury

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**Michael L. Spilsbury** - August 29, 2023 at 10:24 AM

JE

“ *My sympathies to Mary & Children, Jim was a good guy and friend to many, be comforted in the knowing you will be together again!*

**Jerry** - August 28, 2023 at 08:18 PM

AH

“ *Jim was always full of humor and loved making people laugh. The world will be a sadder place without him. Condolences to his family.*

**Al Herms** - August 28, 2023 at 07:47 PM

RO

“ *Roberta Olson lit a candle in memory of James L Gromer*



**Roberta Olson** - August 28, 2023 at 05:10 PM

JS

“ *Oh Mary, I just heard about Jim. I am so very sorry for your loss. My sympathy to you, your family, and all who loved him. May your memories bring you comfort.*

**Janice Krizik Schmidt** - August 28, 2023 at 03:51 PM

MA

“ *Jim was a great guy with a wonderful sense of humor. He was also very artistic. He will be missed a lot. Sending prayers and hugs to the family.*

**Mary** - August 28, 2023 at 03:00 PM



“ *mari, hi i just found out that Jim has passed on, im hear for you call me if you want* ”

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**vicki I olenjack** - August 28, 2023 at 02:52 PM