



James Martin Butcko

July 25, 1947 - August 25, 2024

The world lost a truly extraordinary man with the passing of James Martin Butcko on August, 25, 2024 in his home in Saline, Michigan. Regardless of the challenges Jim faced over the past few years, he greeted each and every day courageously, with unwavering optimism and his signature sense of humor.

Born on July 25, 1947 in Ypsilanti Michigan to Joseph and Mae Butcko. Jim attended Ferris State University where he met his beloved future wife, Michele (Commeyne) before graduating with a B.S. in Business and Economics. After college he was drafted into the US Army, served and received an honorable discharge. He then entered into the family stamping business, at Cresive Tool & Die in Saline, MI.

A long-time member of the 20 Club in Ypsilanti, Jim felt the calling to serve his community. Throughout his life he sat on numerous boards including: Comerica Bank in Ann Arbor, Washtenaw Community College and St. Joseph Community Hospital in Saline, Michigan.

Jim enjoyed sports, from playing baseball and golf to watching football and hockey. As one of the original members of Travis Pointe Country Club, he welcomed newcomers to the game making them feel comfortable on the golf course.

Happiest when spending time with his family and friends, whether on the lake, at the beach in Hilton Head, on the golf course, playing cards or watching his Detroit Tigers, Jim adored good times shared with loved ones. Jim surrounded himself with people. He cherished gatherings, loved making others laugh and listening to peoples' stories. Nowhere was this more evident than on the 4th of July, his favorite holiday. Proud of his mountain of fireworks, a Tigers hat on backwards, with a boyish grin spread across his face, he delighted in summer entertaining. He would become giddy waiting for guests to arrive and night to fall, the excitement radiating off him, as palatable as electricity.

Easy going, good spirited and a charmer to the very end, he made friends anywhere he went with his approachable smile and playful blue eyes. Wherever Jim was, happiness followed, he was quick with a joke, his humor leading to fits of laughter from those around him. Jim said yes, to adventure, to experience, to love and to life. Jim shared his incredible attitude and fun-loving spirit with anyone lucky enough to know him.

Jim is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Michele, his daughters Kate (Greg) Lett and Elizabeth (Anthony) Abbatiello and grandchildren Dominic and Peter James. He will be dearly missed, never forgotten and always remembered.

Friends may join the family for a time of visitation on Tuesday, September 3, 2024 at the Robison-Bahnmilller Funeral Home in Saline from 4:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. Visitation will continue on Wednesday, September 4, at St. Andrew Catholic Church in Saline from 10:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. A Mass of Christian Burial will then take place at 11:00 A.M. Fr. John Linden as Celebrant. Burial will follow the service and will be held in the Oakwood Cemetery in Saline. Military Honors will be held at the cemetery under the auspices of the Washtenaw County Veteran's Honor Guard. In lieu of flowers, memorial

contributions in his name may be made to The Detroit Tigers Foundation - Tiny Tigers Program. If you would like to make a donation by check, please mail to: Detroit Tigers Foundation 2100 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, MI 48201. In the subject line note "Tiny Tigers in memory of James Butcko". You may also donate online at:
<https://www.mlb.com/tigers/community/foundation> To leave a memory you have of Jim, to sign his guestbook or for directions please visit www.rbfsaline.com.

Cemetery Details

Oakwood Cemetery

227 West Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 3. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services
301 E Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176
(734) 429-9760
rbfhsaline@hotmail.com
<https://www.rbfhsaline.com>

Visitation

SEP 4. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church
910 Austin Dr
Saline, MI 48176-1157
(734) 429-5210

Mass of Christian Burial

SEP 4. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church
910 Austin Dr
Saline, MI 48176-1157
(734) 429-5210

Graveside Service

SEP 4. 12:20 PM - 12:45 PM (ET)

Oakwood Cemetery
227 W Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176

Tribute Wall

CD

“ My mom forwarded me this news this morning. I'm sorry to hear Beth. My wife and I bought the lot we built our house on from your family. When we were at the signing we kept interrupting the process trying to figure out how your dad and I knew each other. Finally at the end your dad said "Oh, I used to be a soccer coach". I said "Oh, you were my soccer coach!" That's a story I think of a lot and we tell friends that story all of the time. He seemed like a very man and I'm really sorry for you loss

Charlie Durham - September 02, 2024 at 08:48 AM

CD

* he seemed like a very nice man and I'm really sorry for your loss

Charlie Durham - September 02, 2024 at 08:48 AM

SF

“ Dear Michele, Kate and Beth, dear Butcko family, please accept our deepest condolences from a distant family from Slovakia. We will remember Jim as a great cousin, a man with a loving heart (as we say in Slovakia) always open for all of us, ready to help and ready to make us smile or laugh. This is such a big loss - but we are very happy that we had the chance to meet him and to learn from him his attitude to life, family and friends. We are with you in our prayers. RIP, dear Jim!

Sonia Ferencikova - September 02, 2024 at 02:57 AM

ZF

“ Michele, Kate and Beth, we are so sorry to hear about Jim's passing. We will always remember Jim fondly, and miss his jokes. Please accept our condolences and know that your family is in our hearts, thoughts and prayers. Sending many hugs your way.

Zita and family - August 27, 2024 at 11:00 PM