



Bill James

February 10, 1956 - May 28, 2025

Bill James of Macomb; passed away peacefully at home May 28, 2025; age 69; Born in Detroit, Michigan on February 10th, 1956 to the late Robert and Theresa James. Bill is survived by his loving wife Debra James whom he was married to for 47 years. His dear Children, Jason (Jessica) James, and Melissa (Branden) Collins. Proud Papa of Aurora James, Annabelle James, and Savannah Collins. Beloved brother of Dennis (Sue) James and Frank (Lisa) James , Brother in law of Donna (Kevin) Blaskowski. Cherished by several nieces and nephews. He was a social butterfly and loved spending time with family and friends. Making the most out of each day, he loved and provided for his wife and family fiercely.

Bill was an employee of the Detroit NewsPapers for 31 years and an avid golfer hitting the courses with his friends every chance he got. Concerts were a highlight as he loved music. His passions included spending time in nature watching deer, birds and Eagles and frequently visited Stony Creek Metro Park, Algonac and anywhere else water could be found. Bill was active and enjoyed following the stock markets, camping, boating, and taking many vacations with his family, especially to Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. He loved his many dogs over the years, Mandy, Jake, Toby and Meela.

Bill was kind, caring, and compassionate toward all, reminding everyone "Don't put off until tomorrow what you can do today" (Benjamin Franklin).

Even during his trial with ALS, Bill considered future generations and took part in clinical trials to help find a cure.

A Memorial Service will be held on Tuesday, June 10th, 2025 at Oakland Church, 5100 N. Adams Road, in Rochester, MI. The family will receive guests at 4pm. Service to start at 5pm. Dinner to immediately follow service. In Lieu of flowers, Memorials may be made to ALS Michigan 24359 Northwestern Hwy. Suite 100, Southfield, MI 48075 ~ <https://alsofmichigan.org/donation-opportunities> or towards Oakland Church 5100 North Adams Road, Rochester, MI 48306 ~ <https://www.oaklandchurch.me/give-online> - renovation of children's ministry space to provide for the future of his grandchildren. Please share a memory with his family at www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Celebration of Life gathering

JUN 10. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Oakland Church
5100 N. Adams Road
Rochester, MI 48306

Corner of Silver Bell and Adams. Please use google maps for directions when clicking the link

Celebration of Life Service

JUN 10. 5:00 PM (ET)

Oakland Church
5100 N. Adams Road
Rochester, MI 48306

Corner of Silver Bell and Adams. Please use google maps for directions when clicking the link

Tribute Wall

T2

“ *The Brothers and Sisters of Local 254 purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Bill James.*



The Brothers and Sisters of Local 254 - June 02, 2025 at 03:43 PM

DB

“ *I met Bill a few years back, as we were both golfing at Cracklewood. We played together that day, and I had one of the best days on a golf course one could imagine. We played a similar game and shared similar stories. I knew that day, I met a new life long friend. We had great times together playing various golf courses and always sharing great family stories. Bill loved everyone, but I realized how special his grandchildren were to him. After two short years of knowing Bill, he was diagnosed with his horrible disease. I realize now it's not how long you've known somebody, but the importance they had in your life during your time together. Bill made people feel special, but yet he was in fact the special one. I can't thank him enough for his special friendship. I was heartbroken to hear of his passing, and will miss him dearly. Rest well my friend.*

Dan Battani

Dan Battani - June 02, 2025 at 01:08 PM

DJ

Thank you so much Dan. I'm hoping you can make it to his memorial. Your tribute sums up perfectly how Bill was. Your friendship, although not long enough, was how life should be. Make new friends, appreciate your common interests and enjoy your life. Dan you were a true friend to him. He absolutely loved being with you and golfing. It was meant to be that he met you when he did. He golfed with you right until he couldn't. God Bless.

Debra James - June 02, 2025 at 04:16 PM

JM

“ James M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bill James.

James M. - June 01, 2025 at 04:12 PM

JM

“ James M. purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Bill James.



James M. - June 01, 2025 at 04:12 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Bill James.

May 31, 2025 at 09:53 PM

DM

“ R.I.P. my friend. Dave M.

D. Muszynski - May 31, 2025 at 04:44 PM

DT

Bill was one of best friends, we grew up together hanging out trying to stay out of trouble.

We league bowled for years and played a lot of golf especially in the retirement years. We always enjoyed Bill company in the yearly Billy T golf outing every year. Bill was a kind man sorta like a gentle giant that everyone liked.

Moving in the north didn't get to see Bill as much as I would have liked but shared a lot of laughs when we were together. He will be missed by many. Condolences to the family with thoughts and prayers my buddy Bill RIP..

Dave Tocco - June 01, 2025 at 07:04 AM

DJ

Thank you Dave M and Dave Tocco. Bill loved you both. You guys go back a long way.. you knew him before me (when you guys tried to stay out of trouble ;). I know he's golfing in heaven and walking for miles. I appreciate the kind words. You both were great friends to Bill

Debra James - June 02, 2025 at 04:22 PM

MR

I was glad to meet and work with Mr.Bill , a very nice and loving person, loves his family the most, he always told me his 3 grandchildren brought him joy and that he loved them very much, he loved watching them grow and watching them do their dance competitions,.. I am sure he will be missed by everyone,..R. I.P... Bill..

Marissa Reagan - June 05, 2025 at 02:37 PM

DJ

Thank you Marissa. You were a very good caregiver. Bill enjoyed you a lot. We had some laughs while he battled this horrible disease. Thank you for taking such good care of him. Debbie

Debra James - June 05, 2025 at 07:17 PM