



## James "Jim" Orr

May 11, 1927 - March 10, 2015

James "Jim" Orr, age 87, of Royal Oak, passed away March 10, 2015 at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. He was born May 11, 1927 in Ferndale. Jim was a World War II U.S. Army veteran. He was a graduate of Wayne State University, where he received both his Bachelor's and Master's of Education. He became an English teacher at Lamphere High School and then an English Literature professor at Oakland Community College. He was a true renaissance man. In his spare time, he was a prolific reader and loved spending time with his family. He was the beloved husband of the late Patricia "Pat", whom he married November 19, 1949 in Ferndale; loving father of Susan Don Suter, James A. Orr, Cynthia Leo Petherbridge and Michael Kara Orr; proud grandfather of James Orr, Ben Orr, Adam Orr, Tucker Orr, Ian Orr, Rachel Brian Watson, Kelly Matt Kulesza and Kaileigh Orr; and great-grandfather of Jayden Orr, Colin Watson, Abby Watson, Chloe Orr, Lainey Watson and Aspen Kulesza. A celebration of life dinner will be held on Sunday, March 29, 2015 from 6-9 p.m. at Pasquale's Restaurant, Royal Oak. In Jim's honor, memorials to the Michigan Humane Society are appreciated. Arrangements by the Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, Royal Oak, 248-541-7000. Please share a memory at [www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com](http://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com).

# Tribute Wall

LA

“ *My thoughts and prayers go out to all of you. Knowing how kind Cindy is, he must have been a great man to have had such a positive influence on her personality. I also know from listening to Cindy how much she treasured her relationship with her father, and know how much she will miss him. Very, very sorry for your loss - he sounded like an incredible man.*

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**Laura Adderley** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TJ

“ *Sorry for your loss Jimmy,*

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**Tony Jackson** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ *Orr Family! never met Mr Orr, Kelly spoke highly of him. His obituary is beautiful, so sorry for your loss. Rob and Marcia Robinson*

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**Marcia Lynn** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RT

“ Susie, Jim, Cindy, Mike and The Rest of The Orr Clan, I had mixed emotions when heard of your Dad's Bumpa's passing. I was so sad for you guys and the world because we have lost such a great man, but I was happy for your Dad, because I know that he is reunited with your Mom. Your father was easily in the top five of my favorite men in the world. He was always kind, patient, generous and possibly the most level-headed man I ever knew. Growing up around the Orr house, I am certain he was unhappy with at least some of the uproar my presence caused. He never let it show. I always felt welcome. As we got older, that never changed. The one thing that did change was my love and respect for the man I referred to him as my Second Dad. Hearing his story, working on the railroad and going to school to become an educator while raising family, opened my eyes to what it takes to be father, as did his dedication to his family. Even as a kid, I noticed his love, not only for you and your mom, but your grandma, as well. When we became older, he was always offering me a drink, practically before we'd sit down. I loved hearing his stories, because they were always fresh at least for me. When my parents passed away, he had many kind words that helped me heal my grieving heart. I will never forget that. I will bet there was a heck of a heavenly party for him Tuesday night. I picture him walking through the pearly gates with his departed family and friends gathered around him, and my Dad walking up with a Red, White and Blue or Ballantine beer in his hand, and saying "Cripe Jim, what took you so long?" I could go on and on about what a terrific man your Dad was, but I know that all of you already know that. He touched so many lives in so many positive ways I didn't even get into his life as an educator, or how he always made people feel like a peer, despite being far more educated and well-versed, I could write a tome about him. But I won't, I'll just close by saying: God Bless the Orr Clan, and God Bless You, Jim Orr Second Dad. Love you all.

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Randy Thomas - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM