



James Mandley

July 8, 1948 - May 5, 2023

James John Mandley, husband, father and son and life-long Royal Oak resident, passed away peacefully at William Beaumont Hospital on Friday, May 5, 2023. He was 74. Jim was preceded in death by his parents, John and Mary, and his son, Michael, and is survived by his wife Susan and two daughters, Monique and Meagan (Greg Glantz).

Jim graduated from Northern Michigan University in 1970 and immediately began his forty year career with Waterford Schools as a science teacher. His two favorite classes to teach were Bio II: Anatomy and Physiology; and Advanced Placement Biology. He also earned his Masters In Genetical Science from Wayne State University in 1978.

An avid outdoorsman, Jim enjoyed his summers and fall weekends at his family's cabin on Starvation Lake. It is there that he shared his love of water skiing, swimming, dirt bikes and motorcycles, and hunting with his children, extended family and friends. Once he retired, it was anyone's guess as to where he'd toddled off to, but he was known to enjoy a summer afternoon sitting in a lawn chair at the end of the dock with "a beer in one hand and a book in the other."

In the winters, Jim was known to tinker, whether it was with a motorcycle engine, carving ducks, or practicing amateur taxidermy. As were his parents

before him, Jim was a voracious reader, which he passed on to his daughter Monique, and had a fondness for movies, a pastime he instilled in his daughter Meagan.

Jim was also known for being a creature of habit, as evidenced by his adoration of his Detroit Tigers, country music, Notre Dame football, Bud Light, and his two life-long best friends, his wife Sue and his friend from Waterford Schools, Jerry Kasten.

Viewing will be Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 705 W. 11 Mile Rd. (4 blks E. Woodward), Royal Oak from 3pm to 6:30 pm, at which time a Sharing Of Memories will take place. All are invited to attend and share a favorite memory.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that those who wish to make a donation do so at New Beginnings Animal Shelter at <<https://www.nbarmichigan.org/>>. Share your memories at www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 9. 3:00 PM - 6:30 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak
705 W. Eleven Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067
(248) 541-7000
royal@sullivanfh.com
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

Celebration of Life-Sharing of Memories

MAY 9. 6:30 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall

RW

“ He was my Anatomy teacher at Mott. Lots of great memories. Awesome teacher and great guy. Rodney White Class of 87

Rodney White - March 28, 2024 at 12:44 AM

CP

“ I am deeply saddened to hear of Mr mandleys passing. He was hands down the best teacher I have ever had and fueled my passion for the sciences. He is the reason I excelled in nursing school. I always wished one day I would run into him and we could have a Guinness together. He shaped so many bright minds and I am so blessed to have had him as a teacher! Until we meet again!

Christina Pardington - August 06, 2023 at 09:45 PM

MH

“ My very first memory of Mr Mandley was the first day of Bio. He made this long speech at the beginning of class about rigorous homework and testing that was pretty intimidating. The second day of class, he looked around the classroom at the empty seats of the students who transferred out and said “now that we got rid of the riff raft let’s have some fun”. He also was nice enough to help me and my dissection partner with our project because we decided to be in a group of just us two. I have very fond memories of Bio and advanced Bio and of the wonderful teacher that made an impact on my life. We’ve lost a beautiful soul! Prayers to his family and know that there are many students who loved him.

Melissa (DeLaire) Haston - May 27, 2023 at 09:19 PM

AL

“ Mr Mandely was awesome. In biology he used humor to help us learn and also to put us at ease while dissecting animals . He would scare kids with his taxidermy and we would always try to make him smile when he would be in a serious mood. He knew how to challenge the kids who needed extra and meet other kids right where they were. He made you feel important !! He will be missed.

Alex - May 26, 2023 at 10:05 AM

AC

“ Mr. Mandley was one of two teachers that sparked learning & gave so much to my life. He was definitely a favorite, so passionate, & hilarious. He had the best comments, adages, or tag lines, my most memorable being, "Too bad ignorance isn't painful." I had been thinking of him several times in the past couple weeks, especially during our trip back to Michigan last weekend. It would have been great to see him again; however, I enjoyed visiting him at Mott until I had learned of his retirement. I then figured he'd be spending time at "Uncle Jim's Cabin," which I'm grateful the family still has. He was one of a kind & the soul you'll never forget...including the way he'd say my name for attendance. Thank you to his family for this beautiful posting, sharing Mr. Mandley with all of us students, & know that he's inspired greatness within the community & beyond. Many prayers & blessings to your family. Abigail C.

Abigail Chandler - May 23, 2023 at 07:02 AM

KB

“ Mr. Mandley inspired me to become a teacher. I tell stories to my students about him and his lessons. My thoughts are with his family. He was an inspiration to so many.

Kelli Bernard - May 22, 2023 at 03:55 PM

MK

“*Mr. Mandley was one of the most influential teachers that I have ever had. I enjoyed his candid approach to teaching accompanied with his stories of life lessons. As a man, husband and a father Mr. Mandley, unbeknownst to him had a direct influence on how I turned out.*

Rest in Peace, Sir.

Matthew King - May 22, 2023 at 03:14 PM

LD

“*This from my 42 year old son: “They changed the prerequisite to get into bio 2 after my freshman year and I didn’t meet the requirement come registration time for my sophomore year. They said I could ask him if it was alright for me to take the class. When I asked, he just asked me “do you think you’re ready for this class?” I said yes and he said “well there’s your answer”. He was a really good teacher.” As a parent, I really appreciate hearing our students had a man such as Mr. Mandley for a teacher. Thank you, sir and RIP.*

Lynn Dobson - May 22, 2023 at 09:09 AM

TR

“*Mr. Mandley was the best teacher I ever had to date! He was such a major inspiration to me in my chosen career path of Physical Therapy. My knowledge of Anatomy and Physiology was so strong entering into college and to this day because of him. He was a great man and teacher. I still hear his voice sometimes when I’m teaching students small way to remember Anatomy. RIP Mr. Mandley.*

Teri Richman - May 21, 2023 at 04:36 PM

CB

“ Mr. Mandley was one of the best teachers I've ever had. He inspired in us a deep sense of curiosity. He balanced the nitty gritty details with funny comments and anecdotes about whatever organ, cell, or process we were learning about that made Bio II and AP Bio both incredibly challenging, but also really fun. Although I ended up not pursuing a career in science, I feel like the tenacity and drive to dissect things (literally and figuratively) was fostered in Mr. Mandley's classes. My condolences to his family during this difficult time. I hope knowing how much he was loved as a teacher brings you comfort. Carli Beseau, WMHS c/o '99

Carli Beseau - May 21, 2023 at 07:14 AM

WE

“ Dear Mandley family. We are very sorry for your loss. We have wonderful memories of fun and laughter with Jim. "Way to go genius" and "Happy shit" were two of his phrases that made us chuckle. He will be dearly missed. Wendy and Brad.

Wendy - May 10, 2023 at 08:43 AM

TF

“ The Shannon and O'Neill Families purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of James Mandley.



The Shannon and O'Neill Families - May 09, 2023 at 12:48 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James Mandley.*



May 08, 2023 at 09:16 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Mandley.*



May 08, 2023 at 01:30 PM



“ *I believe Jim and I were 1966 Kimball classmates/graduates. While we were not close friends, he was always a class act, when many others in our class were disappointing!! He left a fine legacy I am certain.*

L.E. Powe

Larry Powe - May 07, 2023 at 10:24 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of James Mandley.*



May 07, 2023 at 10:06 PM



“ 13 files added to the album *Memories Album*



Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors - May 06, 2023 at 05:35 PM