



James J. Smiley

July 25, 1938 - December 9, 2011

OBITUARY OF JAMES J. SMILEY

On December 9, 2011, age 73 of Shelby Twp., MI formerly of Munhall, Pennsylvania passed away after a 6 1/2 year courageous battle with melanoma cancer. The son of the late Joseph and Sue Smiley and preceded in death by his brother, Robert Smiley. Survivors include his beloved companion Sharon Crawford, sister, Sally Smiley and children, Suzanne Haller, Christopher Smiley, former spouse, Helen Smiley and four grandchildren. Jim graduated from California University in Physics and attended graduate studies from John Hopkins University, Rochester University and Penn State. He spent his career in Research & Engineering, Aerospace, Teaching, Technical Representative, Sales Representative, Estate Planning Representative and Owner/President of a medical sales service and supply company. Jim was a resilient survivor participating in many melanoma cancer protocols and medical programs over 6 years to help further the medical knowledge and progress for future melanoma cancer patients. He possessed a tremendous mind with a quest for knowledge and would list and organize what he would challenge every day with his positive attitude toward life. As a problem solver and redesigning anything, his friends called him "professor". He enjoyed boating and was a member of Bayside Yacht Club. One of his on-going projects was writing a book about his long journey with melanoma cancer. Visitation Tuesday 2-9 p.m. at the Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 8459 Hall Rd. 3 blks E. of Van Dyke Utica. Services Wednesday 11:00 a.m. at

funeral home. Memorials suggested to Hospice of Michigan or Autism Society.
Share a memory at www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com

Tribute Wall

PR

“ Unfortunately, I didn't know Jim for very long. We both started our interferon treatments for melanoma at the Hillman Cancer Center on June 29, 2009. We talked several times during that first month of our treatments. I never saw Jim again, but we shared our melanoma experiences for the past 2 years via email and phone. He was one of the strongest people I have known. I could barely get home following my treatments with my wife driving due to the side effects, but Jim made it back to his sister's house without help. While I was struggling from day to day, Jim told me he was doing household maintenance for his sister. Although my cancer has not been as bad as Jim's so far, we shared many of the same treatments. Jim spent many hours explaining to me what to expect. He gave me great hope and solace. I will miss my communications with him. As we closed most of our emails, “God bless” Jim.

Peter Ream - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ We will always remember the good times we had with you and Sharon. You were very special to us and an important part of our family! We will miss you dearly Jim. Rest in peace. Love, Dick and Jan Haskins.

Dick and Jan Haskins - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ Jim was my big brother. I always knew I could count on him to lend a helping hand. We shared many good times and some bad times together. I am very relieved to know that he is at peace after his major battles, and that he is in heaven with mom, dad, and Bob. You are loved, and will be missed, Jim. The days will not be the same without your phone calls, bro Jim!

Sally Smiley - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JN

“ *Jim Smiley will always be remembered in our hearts and in our prayers. Jim was part of our family as a brother in-law and uncle to our children. He had a beautiful smile, rest in peace Jim.*

James & Jean Nutter - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LI

“ *I GREW UP WITH THE SMILEY'S AND HAVE SPECIAL MEMORIES OF THEM ALL... IT WAS ALWAYS A TREAT GOING TO VISIT AND GETTING A TOUR OF THE CITY AND GOING ON THE BOAT THAT JIMMY LOVED AND WAS SO PROUD OF..HE WAS ALWAYS SMILING AND WITH A NAME LIKE SMILEY HOW COULD HE NOT... WE WILL MISS YOU JIMMY! OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY SUE.. LOVE YOU, LISA , ERICA & NATE AND HILARY XOXOX*

Lisa - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

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Lisa - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

HS

“ I knew Jim for close to fifty50 years. He was my husband for 28 years. We shared many wonderful memories with our children and family. He will be dearly missed.

Helen Smiley - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ I recieved my things from Dad, a strong work ethic, business skills and the ability to see any project thru to its results. There are so many memories. One of my favorites, is every birthday he would call me early in the morning and tell me the story of the day I was born. It is a tradtion that I have passed down to his Grandchildren. Love you Daddy

Suzanne Haller - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM