



## James J. Votta

August 2, 1952 - August 14, 2018

James Joseph Votta

8/2/52 - 8/14/18

Husband of Rita (Cowdin) and father of Emily, Alex (Courtney), Amanda and Nicole. Son of Joseph and Sophie (Buliga). Brother of Mike and Christine.

Visitation Monday, August 20, from 5 - 8 p.m. at William Sullivan and Son Funeral Home, 705 W. Eleven Mile Rd., Royal Oak (4 blocks east of Woodward).

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Ferndale Cat Shelter or Guitars for Vets.

Jim was a lover of all things Who and Zappa related.

"They thought he was a man, but he was a muffin."

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG **20**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 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/>

# Tribute Wall

BA

“ I just went to Stonecrest Center yesterday asking about Jim because I had to see a patient because I'm now a Case Manager for MCCCMMH ACT Program and one of the social worker's informed me that he passed away. I couldn't believe it and I tried to contact him some years ago and he must have already passed away. I worked at Samaritan Behavioral Center as an MHT and Jim was the Director of Nursing. He would walk the floors and talk with the patients to brighten their day. He was a brilliant man and was so humble. I knew that Jim went to work at Stonecrest as the DON after leaving SBC. I'm still in shock and saddened.

Brian Aune - July 16, 2021 at 06:43 AM

CJ

I worked with Jim for 20 years at Beaumont Hospital! He was an Amazing man, a True friend, and my Heart ❤️💙💜 is broken 💔😭! Just finding out 4 years too late! My deepest Condolences to Rita, Emily, Alex , Amanda, And Nichole!! ❤️💙💜

Christine Jackson - August 29, 2022 at 08:29 AM

 Tamika Sims

“ Jim was kind, he cared about ppl. I will miss you. Always looked out for others.

Tamika Sims - August 21, 2018 at 09:24 PM

LH

“ Laura Hagen lit a candle in memory of James J. Votta



Laura Hagen - August 20, 2018 at 05:14 PM

LH

*Emily you and your family have my deepest sympathy and condolences.*

**Laura Hagen** - August 20, 2018 at 05:15 PM

DG

“*Jimmy, my brother from another mother. I love you Man! I met Jimmy in January 2014 and my life has not been the same since then. Jimmy enjoyed peace and serenity and he really, really loved his guitar playing time. When Jimmy played his guitar, he was jamming and he was definitely in the Jerry Garcia mode. Jimmy and I are rock ‘n’ roll junkies. Whenever we were together we talked about music, all the time. We were chitchatting especially about Frank Zappa and his son Dweezil, playing his fathers music. Jimmy and Frank I have an a super fantastic time now, jamming together. Thank you for your friendship, thank you for your brotherhood and thank you for your love. Finally you have reached peace and serenity. That is what you desired the most. Rest in peace brother!*”

**Dieter G.** - August 20, 2018 at 03:37 PM

MJ

*Dieter, do you have a video or recording of him playing or chatting with you? The family is lacking footage of Jim.*

**Mary J.** - December 06, 2018 at 12:38 AM

WA

“*What a pleasure to have worked with Jim at SBC. He sure knew how to brighten the atmosphere and surely knew how to interact with the most challenging of patients. Was very difficult to hear of his passing but at the same time it feels as tho he is right here and he would rather us celebrate is life. He will be greatly missed.*”

**wesley antkowiak** - August 20, 2018 at 11:47 AM

DB

“ First, I'd like to send my deepest sympathy and condolences to his family!!!  
I worked with Jim for a short while; but in that short time frame I felt as if I known Jim for a lifetime. He was always positive and had many great stories to tell. I loved hearing him talk about how much he loved to play his guitar at night after work. I adored his wacky sock collection. Jim will forever live in our hearts and memories.  
Fly high Jim (GEM) ❤️

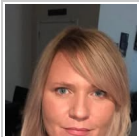


Della B. - August 19, 2018 at 04:35 PM

KJ

“ Jim was such an amazing man. So kind, thoughtful and funny! He always had such great stories! I learned so much from him. He was a treasure to be around. He always gave words of encouragement to those around him and made you feel special and appreciated. He believed in others. He believed in me. I will also never forget his funky/cool socks! He will be missed but never forgotten.

Kelly Jennings - August 18, 2018 at 09:22 PM



“ Jim was a a kind, intelligent, modest, wonderful man and I was honored to have him as my manager. He taught me a lot and was a pleasure to work for. My condolences to his family.

Kara Crockett - August 18, 2018 at 07:25 PM

LE

Jim was an awesome guy to work with- was always super positive and hilarious and always had a great story to share with me— such a great guy, he will be missed.. sending tons of love and positivity to Jim's family-  
I'm sure he is rocking out in heaven right now

lea - August 18, 2018 at 08:33 PM

LO

*I'll always remember how protective and compassionate Jim was with the children that we worked with in the hospital  
He had a very good heart*

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**Louie** - August 20, 2018 at 07:03 AM

DK

*I did not have the opportunity to meet Jim. He sounded like a wonderful, caring man. I am a colleague of his daughter Emily and want to express my sincere condolences to Emily and her family. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of great sadness.*

*Denise Koss*

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**Denise Koss** - August 20, 2018 at 11:07 AM

JV

*We will always be saddened by our loss...Mike and I will miss going to concerns with him. I remember seeing the "Who" at the Silverdome, Zappa's last concert at the Royal Oak Theatre, "Santana" at Pine Knob, and lastly "Dwezel Zappa" in concert at the Royal Oak Theatre just last year.*

*We will miss him and remember him..... during our holidays and traditions we shared together as a family at mom's and dad's house. The Christmas' spent at Jim and Rita's place too. Jim would always made fish outside on the grill for us. He would tell us of his funny stories.*

*I won't forget the love and compassion he had for his four children "Nicole," "Amanda," "Emily," and "Alex." He was a nurse who found his niche. He enjoyed what he did and who he worked with. He had a special love for his two dogs, "Bustoff" and "Caligula." I always admired the liberal way in which he and Rita had in raising their two children "Emily" and "Alex." I remember a conversation between Jim and I where he spoke of his love for his wife, Rita.*

*I will miss him!*

*June V.*

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**June Votta** - August 20, 2018 at 01:00 PM

TP

*Brilliant with a warm heart.*

*To quote Frank Zappa, "Two qualities not often liked together in humanity".*

*Jimmy and I got sober together almost ten years ago. We trusted each other with our pain, our fears, our faith, our self-evaluations, our amends, and the wreckage we caused in our past. We cried together, we jammed together, and we laughed together.*

*An absolute blessing and honor to have him call me a friend.*

*Tony P.*

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**Tony P.** - August 20, 2018 at 01:42 PM