



James R Raymer

January 6, 1955 - November 18, 2020

James Richard Raymer, 65, of Elk Grove Village, IL, passed away suddenly from complications of COVID-19 on Wednesday, November 18, 2020.

Jim was born on January 6, 1955, in Benton Harbor, MI, to Richard and Marilyn Raymer who preceded him in death. He graduated from Benton Harbor High School in 1973 and Central Michigan University in 1977 with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration; he was also President of Sigma Pi fraternity.

Following graduation, he moved to the Chicago area where he met his wife, Anna, who preceded him in death in 1998. They were blessed with one daughter, Michele, who they both adored with all their hearts. He was a very proud, devoted father who coached multiple athletic teams, and served as a troop leader in the YMCA Indian Princess program, where he was known as "Chief Night Owl". Jim and Michele were avid movie go-ers and regularly went on "movie dates" up until recently. Jim was proudly crowned "King Dad" at the Naperville Central 2009 Daddy Daughter Dance.

Jim was a caring big brother to siblings Ron and Kathy, who cherish the many fond childhood memories and years together, including summers at their cottage in Sister Lakes, MI, and many exciting football Saturday's in Ann Arbor, as they were all avid Michigan fans.

He and his loving fiancé Cindy shared a home, along with their beloved dog and three cats, and spent many years together enjoying outdoor summer concerts, going to flea markets, and trips to Sarasota, FL, and South Haven, MI, where they had planned to retire.

He enjoyed a long career in sales, most recently as the Director of Strategic Alliances at AccuWeather. Jim was very active in the community and volunteered for the American Red Cross Emergency Response Team and other organizations.

Jim is survived by his daughter, Michele (Anthony Lacina & Anthony Lacina Jr.) Raymer, of Naperville, IL; his fiancé, Cindy Weinberg, of Elk Grove Village, IL; his brother, Ron (Stacie) Raymer, of Virginia Beach, VA; his sister, Kathy Travis, of Woodridge, IL; his step-sister, Karen (Bob) Raines of Centreville, MI; his sisters-in-law Mary (Peter) Stanga and Eva (John) Foran; nieces and nephews, Andrea and Jared Raymer: Lauren Travis; Eric Stanga; Larisa (Andrew) Faulk; Amy (Brian) Spiewak; Joe (Elizabeth), Bill (Mary), and Matt (Meagan Karuhn) Foran; Jason (Michelle), Brayton (Liz), and Nate (Jenny) Grinnell.

A Service celebrating his life will be held at the Crystal Springs Cemetery in Benton Township, MI, at 1 PM on Wednesday, November 25. The family will proceed from the Florin Funeral Services at 12:30 pm to the gravesite. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to a local animal shelter of your choice in Jim's memory. Arrangements are being made by the Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service in Benton Township, MI. Please share memories, messages or photos at www.florin.net.

Cemetery Details

Crystal Springs Cemetery

1655 E Napier Ave
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Previous Events

Service Celebrating His Life

NOV 25. 1:00 PM (ET)

Crystal Springs Cemetery
1655 E Napier Ave
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Burial

NOV 25. 2:30 PM (ET)

Crystal Springs Cemetery
1655 E Napier Ave
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Tribute Wall

LH

“ There are certain parents you remember at High School games and your Dad was definitely one of them. He always gave me good advise Michele. My prayers are with you and the NCHS community will always be there for you. Coach Hopkins

Len Hopkins - December 12, 2020 at 07:35 PM

RS

“ Jim, you are a true friend and will be missed. Enjoyed your wisdom about the weather and sports. Most of all, it won't be the same eating pizza at Moretti's without you. Rest in peace my friend.



Ron Sgarlata

RONALD J. SGARLATA - December 01, 2020 at 03:45 PM

SJ

“ Dear Michele and the entire Raymer family,

I want to express our love for you all. Haley and I continue to send our prayers for Jim, for you Michele, for Cindy, and to the entire Raymer family, especially Uncle Ron, Aunt Stacie, Kathy, Andrea, Jared, Lauren and everyone who Jim loved and was loved by. Our skiing vacations in Winter Park remain some of my favorite childhood memories! Jim was a tremendous father who raised a fantastic daughter! May God bless Jim, you, and all grieving today.

*Love,
Steve, Haley, and the Jensens*

Steve Jensen - November 25, 2020 at 12:24 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of James R Raymer.



November 24, 2020 at 05:09 PM



“ *The Chicago Cubs purchased the Beautiful in Blue* for the family of James R Raymer.



The Chicago Cubs - November 24, 2020 at 12:21 PM



“ *Love, Dave, Angie, Christopher & Nico Andersen purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray* for the family of James R Raymer.



Love, Dave, Angie, Christopher & Nico Andersen - November 23, 2020 at 09:19 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage* was purchased for the family of James R Raymer.



November 23, 2020 at 05:45 PM

MC

“ Mountain City Alumni Club purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of James R Raymer.



Mountain City Alumni Club - November 23, 2020 at 05:34 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of James R Raymer.



November 23, 2020 at 05:20 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of James R Raymer.



November 23, 2020 at 12:59 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of James R Raymer.



November 23, 2020 at 11:37 AM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of James R Raymer.*



November 23, 2020 at 09:51 AM



“ *Dear Kathy, Lauren and family,*

Just want to share my heartfelt condolences on the loss of your brother. I will never forget how kind he was ! He taught me how to water ski at your cottage! I will never forget that . Sure have great memories at your cottage . God Bless you all and give you strength 🙏

Cathy Mavis - November 23, 2020 at 07:58 AM



“ *Ron, Cathy, Cindy
With great shock and unbelieve did we receive the sad news of Jim's sudden death. So sorry. We have many memories of the Raymer family as our neighbors .here in St Joseph. Jim looked so forward to his retirement in South Haven. It was not meant to be.*



*Our heartfelt sympathy to all of you and may you find comfort in the good memories.
May he rest in peace as he joins his parents in heaven.
Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time..
With loving thoughts, Bruno and Edith Nickel*

Edith Nickel - November 22, 2020 at 10:31 PM

CL

“ *Donation has been made in Jim's name to Young At Heart - an adoption organization in Woodstock, IL -
"In memory of Jim, his love for his fiancé, his daughter, his family, and his pets"
- Catherine & Steven*

Catherine Long - November 22, 2020 at 06:04 PM

JS

“ *With heartfelt sympathy to the Raymer family.
You have our love and prayers during this difficult time. God bless you.*



Josephine Smith - November 22, 2020 at 02:15 PM



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



November 22, 2020 at 01:51 PM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of James R Raymer.*



November 22, 2020 at 01:15 PM