



James Edward Carpenter

October 12, 1929 - May 24, 2016

James Edward "Jim" Carpenter, 86, died Tuesday, May 24, 2016 in Elizabethton, TN, with a daughter by his side. One of thirteen children, he was born on October 12, 1929 in Three Rivers, MI to Leslie Loren and Lena Jeannette (Drake) Carpenter. They both preceded him in death.

He married Gloria Jean Farley on September 12, 1949 in Centreville, MI, who preceded him in death on April 17, 1997. He later married Helen Beatrice (Wilyard) Gerontinos on January 26, 2002, who preceded him in death on December 6, 2012.

At the age of 16, Jim enlisted in the US Army Air Forces, and proudly served in the U. S. Air Force for 20 years, spanning the World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War eras until retiring in 1966. In civilian life, he worked as a Union Plumber Pipefitter and enjoyed his Indiana farm. After retiring from the union he lived in Florida for a few years, then eventually settled in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains of Tennessee. He enjoyed researching genealogy, watching auto racing on TV, and caring for his small "farm". He had a quick wit and dry sense of humor and a real passion for life. He was proud of and devoted to his family.

Jim was a member of the Masonic Lodge, Order of Eastern Star, AmVets, DAV and DAV Honor Guard, Veterans of Underage Military (VUMS) and the Three Wars Veterans Association of America.

He is survived by his sister, Vada (Richard) Kline, Lake Havasu City, AZ ; his 5 daughters: Diana (Ernie) Martino, Palm Coast, FL; Dawn (Mark) Hendricks,

Pigeon Forge, TN; Darcy (Ramon) Morton, Auburn, IN; Daryn (Jeff) Vassau; Black Mountain, NC; and Darla (Rod) Shelburne, Warsaw, IN; 9 grandchildren: Matthew Myers, Amanda Bockart, Frances Boyes, Andrew (Mary) Morton, John (Karin) Morton, Laura Morton, Kyle Vassau, Lindsey Scott and Lauren Shelburne; 8 great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by 4 sisters: Thelma Granger, Virginia Kohls, Mildred Fitch, and Beatrice Crouch; and by 6 brothers: Wesley (Burl), Lester, Loren, Leslie (Chic), Rolland (Rex), and Ronald (Ray); a grandson, and nieces and nephews.

A memorial service to honor his life will be held on Saturday, June 11, 2016 at Warsaw Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Warsaw IN. A service of interment with full military honors will follow later this summer at Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, FL.

In lieu of flowers, please make memorial contributions to a charity of your choice.

Family and friends may sign the guest register on line at www.manesfuneralhome.com

Arrangements by Manes Funeral Home

Tribute Wall



“ *James Edward Carpenter*

November 17, 2022 at 06:00 PM



“ *The Carpenter Cousins Y-DNA Project would never have started if it was not for Jim. His help and support over the years were invaluable to many of us. God Bless him and his family. John R. Carpenter <http://carpentercousins.com>*

John R Carpenter - May 18, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss. May the words in Phil. 4:6,7 give you peace from God to guard your mind and heart.*

Lilly Spaeth - June 07, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *Glad we got to see Uncle Jim last month. Despite his condition, we joked and kidded around as usual. He pulled at my shirt with his grabber with the same twinkle in his eye. We had an incredible sense of sadness come over us as we left knowing that we*

Michael & Carolyn Crouch - May 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *My fondest memories of Uncle Jim is spending time at the chicken farm as a kid. I will miss him.*

Daniel Crouch - May 27, 2016 at 12:00 AM