



James Reid Falsone

June 19, 1937 - March 26, 2007

James Reid Falsone 69, a native of Tampa, a long-term resident of Temple Terrace a long-time presence in community affairs, died Monday, March 26, 2007 in Cosby, Tennessee. He suffered a recurrence last summer of cancer in remission since the late 1970s.

He was one of the five founders who co-signed a loan for the money needed to start the ongoing Temple Terrace Youth Sports Association, was a creator and original sponsor of the annual Temple Terrace Road Race and served on the Hillsborough County School Board's Citizens Advisory Committee. He twice ran close races for a seat on the Hillsborough County School Board and earlier was a candidate for the Tampa City Council.

He owned and operated Falsone's Sporting Goods stores in Brandon and Temple Terrace in the 1970s and 1980s. He served a term as president of King High School Boosters Club in the 1970s and assisted in improving the athletic facility. He also was a volunteer coach of both youth football and baseball.

A 1955 Graduate of Hillsborough High School, he attended the University of Florida, serving in the U.S. Army as a cryptographer and was a offensive lineman for the first Tampa Buccaneers, a semi professional football team which won the state championship in the early 1960s.

Dividing his years between Temple Terrace and a summer home in Cosby from the mid 1990s forward, he worked part of each year at Dollywood, the amusement park named for the country music star Dolly Parton, and came to look on the staff as a beloved family. His sociability, affability and humorous personal style won wide recognition among staff, patrons and visiting entertainers. He filled a variety of jobs in the park and considered it a mission to make as many as possible laugh with a friendly quip or a joke. He left Dollywood only because his illness forced retirement.

He is survived by a widow, the former Joan Gorski, his grandson James Harrington and a large extended family of in-laws, nephews, nieces and cousins. He was pre-deceased by a infant son James, his daughter Judi, his brothers William and Frank Falsone Jr., and his parents, Frank and Isabel Falsone of Tampa.

Other surviving members of the family include his brother in law, Del Groski and his wife Joyce; his sister in law Judith Reed; a nephew William Falsone and his wife Wendy and their children Trey and Andrew; a nephew Frank Falsone; a nephew Mark Gorski and his wife Sonya and their children Katie and Liza; a nephew Jason Gorski, nephew Ernie Reed and his wife Lisa; nephew Steve Reed and his wife Linda niece Debi Masi, her husband Mark and their children Graham, Jordan and Eyrrn; niece Doty Casey, her husband Roger and their children Reid and Trevor; niece Rekki Falsone; niece Kimber Mead and her husband Jay; niece Kathy Reed and her children Kim and Robby; niece Julie Taylor and her husband Ricky; and his beloved cousins. The loving support of this family and the Dollywood family, joined with that of his life long friends, sustained his courage in weathering the trials of the past year.

In Tennessee there will be a funeral Mass Monday, April 2, 2007 at St. Mary's

Catholic Church in Gatlinburg where he was a member, followed by a memorial service at Dollywood. Burial will be in Tampa at the Garden of memories and ceremonial arrangements will be announced later.

Tribute Wall



“ *James Reid Falsone*

November 17, 2022 at 06:00 PM



“ *On behalf of the remaining Saladino Family members (cousins), I would like to express my sincerest condolences on Jim's passing. My mother, Josephine Saladino Alonso, and her brothers/sisters were first cousins with Frank Falsone Sr. and the other Falson*

Camila Alonso - April 08, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Joan, I thank you so much for the wonderful visit we had with you & Jim last year. It meant so much to Mom & me. He was already critically ill, but he seemed like he was glad we came. He will always be thought of with love and happiness. He was a gre*

Marie Alley - April 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ *Thank you Jim for being such a strong witness for us all! You where such a positive influence in my life and what a blessing it was to have you as my coach. I will look forward to seeing you in heaven.*

Jim Morrison - April 03, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ *Joan, Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*

Jack & Patty Davis - April 03, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ DEAR JOAN: I HAD NOT HEARD FROM YOU IN SOMETIME . I KNEW IT WAS NOT GOOD . MY DEEPEST SYMPATHIES GO OUT TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY . MAY GOD BE WITH YOU AND GIVE YOU STRENGTH IN YOUR TIME OF NEED .PLEASE CALL

COACH WAYNE GRANDA - April 01, 2007 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ Joan and Family, With deepest sympathy at this time of sorrow. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Thinking of you, Randy, Nancy and Family

Randy and Nancy Walker - April 01, 2007 at 12:00 AM

GD

“ Jim was a caring, giving man who made a difference. The lives he touched were better for having known him. He was a friend, always. My deepest sympathy for your loss. George Dill

George Dill - March 31, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BE

“ Joan & Family, From our family to yours, please know that you are in our prayers. Jim was a wonderful man that will always be remembered for giving to others and making the world better for all ! The Ennis Family Bob, Helen, Allison, Chris, & Erin

Bob & Helen Ennis - March 30, 2007 at 12:00 AM

WB

“ James Reid Falsone

William Busler - March 30, 2007 at 12:00 AM

LV

“ Dear Mrs. Falsone, I kinda feel funny calling you Mrs. Falsone but that is what I have always known you as. I think about you all often. I was sadden to hear about Mr. Falsone. Your family has always been so important to me. I know that I haven't see

Leigh Vickers - March 30, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CO

“ Joan, I am so sorry for your loss. I have very fond memories of Jimmy. He was always so full of life and fun. May you take comfort in your memories of him. Love, Carolyn

Carolyn Williams O'Brien - March 30, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Joan, you are in our thoughts and prayers. Jim was a wonderful, thoughtful person and he will be missed.

Beth Leedham Bero - March 30, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ Joan and Family, Please accept our sincere condolences. He was such a fine kind man. He is truly loved by so many. Jimmy will always have a special place in our hearts and specially Velna's heart... the many afternoons when he was small spent at her h

Cheryl Marshall & Velna Williams Reniak - March 30, 2007 at 12:00 AM

NW

“ Frank was a wonderful man and a role model for many. Although I haven't seen him since childhood, I will always remember my cousin Jimmy, as a fun and intelligent young man. Nadine (Williams) Vaughan

Nadine Vaughan Williams - March 29, 2007 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ Joan, There are so many memories of Jim. Going back to the City of Tampa Recreation Department where he was our baseball coach and our park director. Through the years we often crossed paths in Temple Terrace, sporting events, and of course local restaur

Reggie Sedita - March 29, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ My friend

Sandra and Roger Badia - March 29, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ To all the family and friends of Coach, Although I am greatly saddened to hear of the loss of a really good man, the knowledge that there is still hundreds and hundreds of people just like me that will remember and appreciate the impact Coach Falsone had

John Murphy - March 29, 2007 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ Dear Joan and Family. My deepest sympathies to you, Joan , and the family on the loss of Jim. Please know you are in our prayers. This may not mean anything right now but he is with God in Heaven free of any pain and cancer. I know he is looking down o

Tricia Dunsworth Hernandez - March 29, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BK

“ DEAR FAMILY, I AM SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS OF YOUR HUSBAND AND FAMILY MEMBER. I WAS IN EIGHT GRADE ENGLISH CLASS WITH JIMMY. WE WERE ALWAYS GETTING EACH OTHER IN TROUBLE, EITHER HE WAS STANDING OUT IN HE HALL OR I WAS. I WENT THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL WITH

BETTY CROXTON KAPLAN - March 29, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ *James Reid Falsone*

Cam & Emily Morrison - March 29, 2007 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ *Dear Joan, While you were reminding (teaching) us (King High School Girls Track team) that we needed to "remember we were first ladies", Jim was instrumental in teaching me what little flirting skills I have. Both concepts were somewhat foreign to tomb*

Lisa Hunerwadel Jackson - March 29, 2007 at 12:00 AM

RT

“ *Joan, Please accept my deepest sympathy. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Most sincerely, Rivers*

Rivers Tyler - March 29, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ *Our condolences to Joan and all of Jim's family. We know he will be missed. I have known Jim since the first grade and considered him my big brother. He sort of adopted my three sons when they were playing Little League ball. When I gave them "X" am*

Bob & Marlyn Meeks - March 29, 2007 at 12:00 AM

ME

“ *James Reid Falsone*

Maratha Ellison - March 29, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Jim, I miss you but I know your looking down at me. I'll always remember the advice you gave me! Joan, I hope to meet you soon and hope that we continue to e-mail! May God Bless you. Love, B. J.

B. J. Burke - March 29, 2007 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ you are in are prayers

ken and sandie dumaas - March 29, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ My prayers are with you

John and Anita Krismanits - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ Joan, Our thoughts and deepest sympathies are with you and the rest of your family. Let your memories get you through this tough time. Take care of yourself. Love, Leah & Ruth Williamson

Leah & Ruth Williamson - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ OUR SINCERE CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY.....JIM WAS A LIFE LONG FRIEND TO ME, SAL

SAL & SANDRA LODATO - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ James Reid Falsone

Barbara Lunsford Rushing - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ Joan, We are saddened so very much to hear the news about Jim. We remember those wonderful times at Temple Terrace Little League and King High School. Jim was always there, and how he liked to spoil our kids, Mike & Laura. We haven't seen you all for some

Ken & Charlotte Mulholland - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Dear Joan, We were saddened to hear about your loss and sorry that we never had the opportunity to meet your husband. According to his obituary, he sounded like a wonder man and we are sure that you will greatly miss him! Our thoughts and prayers are with

Dr. David Suton & staff - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

PO

“ Dear Joan and Jimmy, My heart goes out to you. Jim was a wonderful person and I know he is up there watching over you. Keeping you in my prayers. love, Pat Oakes

pat oakes - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Dear Joan, So sorry to read about the loss of Jim. He had a very full and giving life. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Katherine & Martin Favata

Martin Favata - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

OH

“ James Reid Falsone

Otto and Margie Hunerwadel - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ To Joan and family: My prayers and best wishes are with you. Much love, Amy

Amy Purvis - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

WD

“ I'll always remember Mr. Falsone as "Coach". He was my little league coach for several years in Temple Terrace. I was a pitcher and he made me run a lot (which I didn't like to do) but he was just trying to make me stronger. I also have to say that thoug

Wesley Driggers - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Dear Joan, Ann & I express our sympathy to you and the family. Jim was and always will be a dear friend. My the peace of God be with you. Love Bill & Ann

Bill & Ann Best - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ 1969-1970 P.A.L. Football Packers, Temple Terrace Fl. Miss you coach. Your still talked about in TT.. Blow your whistle for us.

Steve Stodghill - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

PD

“ James Reid Falsone

Patty and Bill Dillon - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

ND

“ With deepest sympathy. We will all miss him. Love, Ronald, Norma Jean and Family Carroll, Emily and Family

Norma Drawdy - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Joan, and the family during this difficult time. We extend to you our deepest sympathy.

Rudy and Carol Cabina - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

FU

“ My condolences to the Family. Jim was my friend for many years.
Fred Urbuteit

Fred Urbuteit - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ I AM VERY SAD AND SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT JIM. WE HAD SOME VERY SPECIAL TIMES TOGETHER AND OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY! LOVE, YOUR FRIEND, BILL POST

Bill Post - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

ZH

“ I also graduated from HHS in 1955. I didn't know Jimmy well, but remember his being a really friendly and nice person. My husband, Wayne, and I are very sorry for your loss.

Zoe (Minor) Hibbitts - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ JOAN HE WAS A GOOD FRIEND AND WILL BE MISSED BY MANY. I'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER HIM AS MY # 1 COLLECTOR AT GENERAL FINANCE IN THE 60'S. WITH HEART FELT CONDOLENCES ROY SCHIRO

ROY & PATTI SCHIRO - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ Joan, We were so sorry to hear about Jim. He was a wonderful person and we were so lucky to know him. He helped me so much in the TT Little League program and many other things. You have our sympathy. Your friends, George & Eilene Mykita

GEORGE & EILENE MYKITA - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MN

“ James Reid Falsone

Mickey Newberger - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ Who now is going to tell "The Story" you always loved to tell about me.... It's just Joan, Mom and Me that know now.:-) I truly can't remember a time in my life that you weren't part of it~going all the way back to Temple Park days. I will love you alw

Sally Oakes Ballas - March 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM