



James Edward Nay

September 17, 1946 - December 26, 2021

James Edward Nay, 75, of Shoreline Dr., Columbus, IN, died unexpectedly Sunday December 26th, 2021, while making his yard look like a park (something he was famous for).

He was born in Columbus, Indiana, September 21, 1946, the son of John H. and Dorothy E. (King) Nay. He attended grade school at McKinley School, graduated in 1964 from Columbus Senior High School, and received a Bachelor of Science degree from Indiana State University in 1971.

He retired in June of 2011 from Household Essentials, LLC of Hazelwood, MO as Vice President of Sales with 12 years of service. He held various sales and marketing positions with Camp Industries, Cosco, Arvin Industries, Seymour Housewares, and Fiskars/Royal Floor Mats in his 36 year sales career.

He was known neighborhood wide for his love of landscaping and lawn care. So much so, he mowed many neighbors' yards and cared for their properties following his retirement. He also was a caretaker of family and friends that were like family. He found enjoyment in running errands for those who could not. He took pride in bargain shopping and finding the best deal. When he found a good deal, he bought in bulk, which could have attributed to the toilet paper shortage of 2020.

To his friends and family he was known as Jim, Dad, Grandpa Jim or the other Grandpa Nay. His children, grandchildren and great grandchildren kept him busy and always made him beam with pride. He had amazing organizational skills, a wonderful sense of humor and nonstop energy.

Jim attended and was a founding member of Westside Community Church where he served as Treasurer for several years.

He was married to Linda K. Williams on January 5, 1974. Those left to wonder who will organize everything and take care of everyone include his wife Linda, son Chad (Ann) Nay of Carmel, IN and his daughter Alison (Jeramie) Vandergriff of Columbus, grandchildren, Andrew Barker of Taylorsville, Louie Vandergriff and Leigh Vandergriff of Columbus, and brothers William H. Nay (Nancy) and David R. Nay of Columbus. As well as many nieces, nephews and great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his grandson, Charlie David Vandergriff and his

brother John R. Nay.

Memorial contributions can be made to Westside Community Church, Riley Hospital for Children in memory of his grandson Charlie David Vandergriff, or the charity of the donor's choice.

A celebration of life is planned for a later date, when the lawn can be mowed and made to look like a park again, the lake is sparkling and the fish are biting.

You are invited to send a message of condolence and share a memory of James with his family via this funeral home website.

Comments



“ Just appreciate the love and kindness shown to my son Karson whenever he got to fish with Louie on their beautiful property. Jim and Linda were always running here and there for Louie and Leigh and whenever Karson was along they assured me that he fit right in and was no trouble at all. I remember one year they included a purchase of a crafty birdhouse for Karson too! Jim was so kind and friendly and had one of the prettiest front and back yards ever. Our condolences and prayers for the family, Jim was a great man and will be remembered always.

Joan Millet - January 15 at 05:29 PM



“ Jim and I worked together at Fiskars/Royal Mats and then at Whitney Design. One of the very best I have ever worked with and a great mentor. Jim had the ability to be your boss and a great friend at the same time. Every conversation started with Jim asking how the family was doing and if things were good. His caring and compassion for those around him was unmatched.

Back in 2006 my wife and I were in the process of adopting a 2 year old child from Russia. Jim kept reminding my wife and I that if we needed anything during our process, to let him know. His support was awesome and appreciated.

Side note to Alison - the hand made Thomas the Train quilt you made our son Jacob was his go to comfort blanket for years. It is still in his closet today, almost 15 years later, with the Thomas the Train lantern. I'm sure those will be with him forever. Thank you again.

Jim has had a positive influence on so many people, and his children have and will follow in his charitable ways. We lost one of the "good guys" and Jim, you will be missed.

Tim Condon - January 04 at 11:22 AM



“ I have known Jim for over 50 years. We roomed together at Indiana State. We kept in touch thru all those years, me living in Pennsylvania and visiting Jim and Linda sporatily and calling every month or so. We had a mutual love of the 500 race and attended the event together often. I am not so good at writing this so I will end by saying I will truly miss Jim and hope to be BACK HOME AGAIN INDIANA again to visit Linda and the kids.

Jim Wiehe - January 03 at 09:51 AM



“ I worked with Jim at Seymour Housewares. He was always so helpful and kind to me as I was fresh out of high school and learning. Such a wonderful example in both professional and personal life.

Jan Engel - January 02 at 02:12 PM



“ Heaven has welcomed one of the 'good guys'.

Lin Stadler-Perry - December 31, 2021 at 10:59 AM



“ I have been Jim and Linda's house keeper for almost 3 years. Jim was always so kind to me. As a single mom, I always appreciated his kindness! He made sure my kids had Christmas presents, he made sure I could pay my bills during Covid when everything was closed. He had a heart of gold and I am so sad that I won't see him mowing the lawn or organizing the garage anymore. The last time I was there to clean (just 2 weeks ago) when I was leaving, Jim was happily putting down winter fertilizer on the front yard, and that's how I'll always remember him! In his yard, one of his favorite places to be!

Sending you all love, hugs and prayers
Tracy Brooks

Tracy Brooks - December 30, 2021 at 10:28 PM