



James Krukemeyer

MAR 6, 1954 - MAR 10, 2024



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James Krukemeyer

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James William Krukemeyer, born on March 6, 1954, passed away peacefully on Sunday, March 10, 2024, at the age of 70, in the loving arms of his family.

After a 2 year and 7 month battle with small cell lung cancer, fought with grace and dignity every step of the way, we had to let him go and share our tearful goodbyes.

A life well-lived. 49 years with his wife, Heidi Marie Krukemeyer, the loves of each other's lives. His family that he loved and was so very proud of: his two loving daughters, Katy Rose Zander and Amy Marie Dustoor, his loving sons in law, Levi Wayne Zander and Nauzad Manek Dustoor, and his most adored and loving grandchildren, Trent Levi and Lily Joanna Zander, Zara Marie and Zoe James Dustoor. He was also loved by siblings, nieces, nephews, extended family and many friends, along with his best buddies Joni and Sebby.

Jim was a nurse, calm and comforting to so many patients over the years, and a beloved coworker who kept the mood light, made people laugh and enjoy being at work. He made life better for everyone in the hospital, patients and staff alike. His civility lives on in each coworker lucky enough to have worked beside him. Through his example, his professionalism, ethics, respect for colleagues and courteous interactions with patients and their families live on. His patients were always cared for with dignity and comfort.

Jim loved his family so very much. When his treatment options allowed him to continue on, he said "I get to stay with you guys a little longer", and that was one of the only times we saw tears come to his eyes. When scans showed yet another issue to deal with, he said to Heidi that he had waited to share this devastating news because he just wasn't ready to break her heart again. The family that he and Heidi created together meant everything to him. To them, he was the one with quiet strength, an endless love of learning and nature, the best sense of humor and always calm under pressure. As a father, he radiated with pride in his two girls and the women and mothers they have become. All of this made it so very hard for him to have to say goodbye, and so hard for



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us, too. His grandchildren all fascinated him, made him laugh, and just made him so very happy. Being Grampa and Popsy to these 4 wonderful humans was one of his favorite roles in life.

One of Jim's mottos was "live simply and take great vacations". Jim was a road warrior and loved doing lots of vacation drives, including two solo cross country drives (Heidi was in the car with him, but he did ALL the driving!). He would visit his children, his grandchildren, relatives, national parks and so many amazing places. Those travel adventures made his life worth living and brought him great joy. Instilling that love of travel into his daughters was also important to him, and he definitely accomplished that!

He is missed dearly, and will live on in each of us. Rest now in peace our most beloved husband, father, father-in-law, Grampa/Popsy, brother, uncle, cousin and friend.

A celebration of Jim's 70 years of life will be held on Sunday, March 24, 2024, at the Ledgewood Clubhouse, 17761 Falling Water Road, Strongsville, OH, in an open house format from 3:00-6:00 pm.

An informal memorial service will begin at 3:30 p.m.

His family requests donations be made to: The Gathering Place

(<https://touchedbycancer.org/donate>)


and the American Institute of Cancer Research (<https://www.aicr.org/>)




Events

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Celebration of Life

 **Sunday**, March 24, 2024

 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM ET

 **Ledgewood Clubhouse**
17761 Falling Water Road, Strongsville OH 44136





Tribute Wall

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Betty Smith lit a candle in honor of James.

Jim was the epitome of PACU nursing! He taught me so much and wa a role model to all. Jim took me flying one day in a very small plane and I was terrified. His calm demeanor made me relax instantly. He loved Heidi and his girls so much! RIP dear friend.



March 23 at 12:41 PM



Joan Eastwick shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

I will always remember Jim as a cheerful and calming presence. When I met him and Heidi in 1977, I remember thinking what an incredible nurse he must have made, and from all reports he was! He was so much fun...always had a joke and a smile. He adored his girls...Heidi, then Katy, then Amy...and later the sons-in-law and grandchildren that followed. I will never forget his "quiet" laugh and his great smile. It was a blessing to have known him.



March 23 at 8:08 AM



Anonymous sent a Strength & Solace Spray to the Krukemeyer family.



March 22 at 11:45 AM



Harry McCormick posted:

Jim's Sr year at Brooklyn High he was voted to be our captain of the football team. I was a Sophmore, I voted for him. I doubt it was close. Jim was strong with big arms and I can honestly say no one ever out worked him. He lead by example and was always kind and spent time with the younger guys. I looked up to him, you wanted to be like him. You set a fine example for us to follow Jim, but what I'll always remember most about you is the kindness. Rest well Jim, I'll always remember you. Harry McCormick Brooklyn class of 1974

March 19 at 12:08 AM



Anonymous sent an Emerald Garden Basket to the Krukemeyer family.



March 18 at 8:35 PM



Tribute Wall

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The Strongsville Girls planted a Memorial Tree in honor of James.



March 18 at 8:35 PM



Edita Iquina lit a candle in honor of James.

Jim & I worked together @ the VAMC ,Pacu.He is a soft spoken man,caring to all the staff & patients.I just returned from the Philippines and was shocked to know he's gone.I will surely miss him.May he rest in peace.Our sincere condolences to the family.We are now staying in Cincinnati .



March 15 at 5:23 AM



Sue Tegtmeier posted:

May Jim Rest in Peace. My sympathy to the Krukemeyer family. Sorry to hear of Jim's passing. I remember him as a gentlemen in high school. Class of 1972.

March 14 at 3:33 PM



Heidi M. Krukemeyer shared 8 photos to the **Jimbo** album.



March 13 at 11:52 AM



Rajasree R. planted a Memorial Tree in honor of James.



March 13 at 11:52 AM



Media

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Joan Eastwick shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

March 23 at 8:08 AM



Fun time in Las Vegas 2011



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Heidi M. Krukemeyer shared 8 photos to the **Jimbo** album.

March 13 at 6:13 PM





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Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring James by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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