



James Lester Donatelli

November 25, 1943 - April 25, 2017

Jim Donatelli passed away Tuesday evening, April 25th, at the home he loved in Kingston, TN.

Originally from Pennsylvania, James Lester Donatelli was a graduate of Penn State and served in the US Navy for 6 years during the Vietnam era, and was a proud Master Mason of Tyrian Lodge #362.

In his professional life, Jim was an accomplished quality control engineer in areas from electronics to biomedical logistics. After retiring, he worked at the local Food City where he enjoyed tutoring, mentoring, and the company of the new generations. He helped a great deal of people and was a cornerstone of many communities. From volunteering his time as head of the Library Board in Kingston to leading Bible studies at Kingston United Methodist Church, his community works are too many to list.

Jim was a man of deep faith and deep commitment to humanity. He enjoyed using his great mind to help people, communities, charities, and worked to make everyone's world better.

An Avid fan of UT and Penn State sports, he loved "tailgating" with his wife at home as they enjoyed watching games year round. He also loved puzzles and playing chess.

Jim was a gifted gardener who grew his own Italian mix and lovingly maintained a wonderful garden of all sorts of vegetables, fruits, herbs, and flowers.

He will be missed for all these contributions.

But Jim will most be missed by those that called him husband, father, and Papaw Jim and by all the members of a family that loved him dearly.

We love and miss you, Jim

He is survived by his wife, Marilyn Donatelli; his children, Raylene Edwards and Byron Hatfield; his son- and daughter-in law, Mike Edwards and Sasha Hatfield; and his grandchildren, Jesse and Mason Edwards and Henry Hatfield.

He was the only child of Antonio (Tony) Donatelli and Elizabeth Courtright Donatelli from Erie, PA. He is also survived by family in Pennsylvania and across the world.

There will be a Celebration of Jim's life Sunday, April 30th, at Kingston United Methodist Church, with a Receiving of Friends 4:30-5:30 pm and a Memorial Service at 5:30 pm. A Potluck Meal will follow in the fellowship hall at 6 pm, as Jim loved Potluck dinners among friends and family.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 30. 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM (ET)

Kingston United Methodist Church
212 W Church St
Kingston, TN 37763

Memorial Service

APR 30. 5:30 PM (ET)

Kingston United Methodist Church
212 W Church St
Kingston, TN 37763

Tribute Wall



“ I was sorry to learn of Jim's passing. Ernie and I worked with him at Accuspec Electronics in McKean, PA. Jim was always a gentleman and always had a big smile on his face. Unfortunately I lost Ernie in April 2017 as well due to glioblastoma brain cancer. Amazing how priorities and life can change overnight. My thoughts and prayers go out to all of Jims family. Sincerely, Gloria Carlson

Gloria Carlson - May 01, 2018 at 03:12 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James Lester Donatelli.



May 02, 2017 at 08:41 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of James Lester Donatelli.



April 28, 2017 at 07:20 PM



“ Jim was a perfect addition to our family, fun and friendly. He was good, through and through, and knew how to bring joy to share.

Dot Childs - April 28, 2017 at 03:29 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of James Lester Donatelli.*



April 27, 2017 at 08:46 AM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. We are so sad to hear about Jim's passing.
Huck, Sally and Kyler*

Sally Huceby - April 27, 2017 at 08:23 AM



“ *I'm sorry to learn of Mr. Donatelli's passing. I always enjoyed chatting with him when I walked through the neighborhood when I lived on Bonnyview and when I went to the grocery store. His kind, friendly nature will always be remembered.*

Charles Elmore - April 27, 2017 at 07:43 AM



“ *So heartbreaking. Jim and I worked together and if anyone loved their job, it was him. He never had one negative thing to say and always had a smile on his face. Jim was brilliant. He would always help us students with our schoolwork when we were struggling to understand it. My love and prayers go out to this family. He will be missed deeply!*

Tyler Fleming - April 27, 2017 at 04:56 AM



“ *I worked with Jim and had so many laughs and overall great conversations with this man. I will miss him deeply! My heart is so broken over this news. He was such a cheerful, friendly soul who loved everyone. May God comfort you during this time, and know he was loved by his Food City family*

Sabrina Rutherford - April 26, 2017 at 09:47 PM