



Wilford "Jim" James Celmer

August 16, 1942 - October 6, 2024

Wilford "Jim" Celmer, 82, of Grand Island passed away on October 6, 2024 at CHI Health St. Francis. Funeral mass will be held on Wednesday, October 16th at 10 a.m. at St. Mary's Cathedral. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, October 15th from 5-7 p.m. at All Faiths Funeral Home, with a Rosary Service at 7 p.m.

Jim was born on August 16, 1942 in Grand Island to Walter and Josephine (Polansky) Celmer. He was raised and received his education in the Grand Island area, first attending St. Mary's elementary and graduating from Grand Island Central Catholic in 1960. He then went on to attend Kearney State College for one year. He then enlisted into the National Guard.

Jim was first married to June Claussen, from this union his daughter Kristi was born, and he also gained two step-children. On May 29, 1982, Jim was united in marriage to Kathy Posey. They had been married 42 years.

In his early years, Jim traveled the country selling magazines before working for Diamond Engineering. He then went on to work for the post office for 26 years until his first retirement. His next career was working for the Street Department for the city of Grand Island for 22 years until his second retirement. After his second retirement he worked for Crane as a Bus Driver until January of 2020, which became his final retirement.

Jim was a member of St. Mary's Cathedral, the Knights of Columbus, Platt Deutsche, Saddle Club, and the American Legion. In high school Jim played football and basketball. He enjoyed duck hunting, fishing, and golf. He also

coached women's softball. Although he started as a Nebraska fan, he ended up an Oklahoma Sooners fan. He loved animals, especially Kitty Kat, the cat that adopted him. His greatest joy was meeting people and hearing their stories.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife, Kathy; daughter, Kristi Celmer; step-children, Bill (Kathy) Young, Vicki (Clay) Owings; sister, Patricia (Ron) Janulewicz; sister-in-laws Kristi (John) Coale, Carol Zieben; and close friends Rick and Linda Studley.

Jim was preceded in death by an infant brother, his parents and grandparents. Memorials are suggested to the Humane Society.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **15**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

All Faiths Funeral Home
2929 S Locust St
Grand Island, NE 68801
(308) 398-2929
allfaiths@giallfaiths.com
<https://www.giallfaiths.com/>

Rosary

OCT **15**. 7:00 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

All Faiths Funeral Home
2929 S Locust St
Grand Island, NE 68801
(308) 398-2929
allfaiths@giallfaiths.com
<https://www.giallfaiths.com/>

Mass of Christian Burial

OCT **16**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St Mary's Cathedral
112 S Cedar St
Grand Island, NE 68801

Tribute Wall

BD

“ *My thoughts & prayers go out to Kathy & family , Rip peace Jim! Go Sooners!*

Bob DesLaurier - October 16, 2024 at 08:36 AM

GS

“ *Kathy, I am so very sorry for the loss of your husband Jim.*

Prayers for you,

Gerald Spencer

Gerald Spencer - October 15, 2024 at 05:42 PM



“ *Kathy,*

I was so saddened to hear of Jim's passing. We spent a lot of time together working at the city, and he was always fun to work with, no complaining unless it was after work at "The Glass". I know at this time words cannot lessen your burden. I will miss his banter when it comes time for college football. He was a rabid fan, for the wrong team. I am unable to attend the visitation and funeral unfortunately as I am on a extended trip. I'll be thinking of you in the week ahead. If you just need someone to listen, please call. They have my number at the funeral home.

My deepest sympathies,

Mike Davis

Michael Davis - October 12, 2024 at 11:13 AM

RJ

“ Condolences to Kathy and the Celmer family on the loss of Jim. He was a good hard working man that I met in 1977. The Lord took a good one from us. Until we meet again. R.I.P. my friend!

Randy Johnson - October 12, 2024 at 01:01 AM

RJ

“ Condolences to Kathy and the Celmer family on the loss of Jim. It won't be the same without bumping into him here and there. R.I.P. my friend!!

Randy Johnson - October 11, 2024 at 03:21 PM

RJ

“ Condolences to Kathy and the Celmer family on your loss of Jim! Met Jim in 1977 and worked many years with him. He'll be missed. R.I.P. my friend.

Randall Johnson - October 10, 2024 at 05:54 PM

RJ

“ Randall Johnson lit a candle in memory of Wilford "Jim" Celmer



Randall Johnson - October 10, 2024 at 05:51 PM

TT

“ *The Girls at Live Well Physical Therapy purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Wilford "Jim" James Celmer.*



The Girls at Live Well Physical Therapy - October 09, 2024 at 02:40 PM

DM

“ *I had the fun of working with Jim at the bus. Jim was always a joy to visit with and work with. He will be missed. Hugs and prayers to the family.*

Diana Mckoski - October 08, 2024 at 12:11 AM

SP

“ *Kathy, my condolences to you and your family. Jim was one Bob and I always enjoyed being around. Cherish your memories and keep him in your heart. May God continue to bless you and yours. With my love, Sandra Price.*

Sandra Price - October 07, 2024 at 09:32 PM