



James "Jim" Watterson

March 9, 1933 - October 30, 2013

James "Jim" Watterson, 80 of Fort Collins, Colorado died October 30, 2013.

Born March 9, 1933 in White Plains, New York to Robert and Dorothy Watterson. Jim grew up in several Army base towns around the country, due to his father's military career. He attended Ohio University, in Athens, Ohio, studying Industrial Engineering. When the war in Korea broke out, Jim enlisted into the Army to serve his country. He served mostly at Fort Carson, in Colorado Springs, CO. It was during the war that he met Ann Navarro, a Colorado girl, and they were married in 1955 in Denver. After his stint in the Army, he took his new bride back to Ohio, and, settling in Salem, they began their family.

Jim founded Salem Republic Rubber Company in Sebring, OH and made industrial hoses for many years. He raised his family at the Salem Country Club and spent a lot of his free time at the Salem Golf Club. For over 30 years, he ran his company and retired in 1988. Jim and Ann then moved to Fort Collins and that's when he got busy.

Jim's entrepreneurial "spirit" guided him back into business in Fort Collins, beginning Roberto's Restaurant and the Roberto's Salsa business with Ann. They were soon joined by their son, Doug, who now owns and runs Roberto's Salsa with his wife, Beth. Most recently, Jim ran A Big A Self Storage ,which he founded and operated until his death. In his free time, Jim enjoyed work. He also liked to golf occasionally; design and build things; and spend time with his family.

Jim is survived by his wife, Ann; five sons, Mike (and Alison) Watterson of Lancaster, Mass., Vic of Marina Del Rey, CA, Mark of Pompano Beach, FL, Doug (and Beth) of Fort Collins and Jay Watterson (and Terha Tullius) of Loveland; two sisters, Dorothy (and James) Youniss of University Park, MD and Sue Palguta of Key Colony Beach, FL; sister-in-law, Judy Watterson; and eight grandchildren, James, Garrett, Kyle, Eric, Alexa, Douglas, Breann and Blake. He was preceded in death by his brother, Robert Smiley Watterson, III.

Visitation will begin at 10:15 AM Saturday at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, 5450 South Lemay Ave., Ft. Collins. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 AM Saturday at SEAS. The interment will be held privately, later.

In lieu of flowers, please make any donations to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Parish, 5450 S. Lemay Ave., Ft. Collins, CO 80525

Comments



“ My deepest sympathy, thoughts and prayers go out to the whole family.

Fred Walsh - November 08, 2013 at 04:05 PM



“ Doug, Beth, Ann and Family. We are so sorry to hear of Jim's passing. I will always remember your Dad helping me make a dough dispenser. We worked on that thing for hours. He was very patient and kind and will be missed. God Bless you all
Mike Urbom, Bammy and all our Family

Mike Urbom - November 03, 2013 at 11:06 PM



“ Dear Watterson Family
Our thoughts are with you during your time of sorrow.
John & Diane Green and Family

John Green - November 03, 2013 at 09:05 AM



“ Joe and I are so sorry to hear of Jim's passing. Joe always enjoyed working with him so much. He will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.
Sincerely,
Joe and Andrea Maga

Joe and Andrea Maga - November 02, 2013 at 09:12 AM



“ Many friendly memories of Jim from Salem High School, class of 1952. He was a person worth knowing. I send my sympathy to Ann, and their wonderful family.

Sincerely, Shirley (Hilliard) Roberts (now married to Fred Baker)

Shirley Baker - November 02, 2013 at 08:31 AM



“ I was priveledged to have been a good friend with Jim at Salem High School Salem, Ohio. We played football together and enjoyed many good times. We graduated together in the class of 1952. My condolences to your family in the loss of a really good guy.

Sincerely, Fred Baker

Fred Baker - November 02, 2013 at 08:28 AM



“ I met Jim and his family shortly after they started A Big A Self Storage. I will miss his genuine care and thoughtfulness towards family and friends. Over the years quite a relationship has developed with the Watterson family. I share my condolences with them all. I looked to him like a father I never had and he will be truly missed. I could always count on him for a chuckle. You really need to get to know the man to appreciate his sense of humor! May you rest in peace.

Ralph Shinn - November 01, 2013 at 11:37 PM



“ To Doug and the Watterson Family: I have a lot of memories of your parents being at our house as a kid. There was always lots of laughter, lots of stories. I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Laurie Callatone-Shahady

Laurie Kale-Shahady - November 01, 2013 at 07:34 PM



“ Don and I are very sorry for your family's loss. My dad, Ted, was a good friend of your dad and always spoke highly of him and and your mom. My mom, Marilyn also extends her condolences to your mom and all of you. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Sincerely, Don and Laura (Hart) Kubas

Laura A. Kubas - November 01, 2013 at 01:57 PM



“ Jim will be highly missed, what a wonderful, smart, generous, funny and kind soul he was. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends. Denise "Doc" Docter

Denise Docter - November 01, 2013 at 12:13 PM



“ I knew Jim when he 1st moved to Salem. I was a friend of his sister Sue. We were just 4 years younger and I am sure we were pains in his neck. We use to kind of spy on him to see what he was doing. Lots of fun for us but he was not pleased with us.....

Ann Holzbach Salentine



“ Doug I am so sorry for your loss. Prayers to you and your family!!



Johnna andrason parke - November 01, 2013 at 10:02 AM



“ Sorry to hear about Jim.. We remember all the good times in Salem and all the home parties. We just spent two weeks in Ohio as Jerrys brother passed away. We drove all around and saw all the old homesteads and laughed about the good old days---- and they were good old days with good old friends God Bless all of you and know we care. Love and Hugs to Ann and family

Jerry and Thelma Bal - November 01, 2013 at 09:26 AM



“ My thoughts are with the family and friends of James. Death is a very painful loss for the family and friends. Jesus said in John 5:28 "the hour is coming in which all those in the graves will hear my voice and come out." He also mentioned in Matthew 5:5 "Blessed are the meek since they shall inherit the earth." We read similar words in Psalms 37:29 "the meek will possess the earth and live forever on it." God tells us in Revelation 21:1-5 that I will make the earth like new and remove all sickness, sorrow, tears, pain and death. I hope this will give you comfort.

Barb Layton - November 01, 2013 at 08:00 AM