



Joseph "Jim" Sedmak

September 25, 2022

Joseph James "Jim" Sedmak, 77, passed away in Fort Collins, CO, on September 25, 2022. Jim was born in Canonsburg, PA, on September 30, 1944, to Joseph and Victoria Tomsic Sedmak, and raised in Strabane, PA. He graduated from Wabash College with his undergraduate degree, and then received his PhD in Microbiology from Indiana University. Jim taught at the Medical College of Wisconsin as the Associate Professor of Microbiology for 17 years and lived in the Milwaukee area for 28 years. Jim also worked at Universal Foods, now Sensient Technologies as a research scientist for 23 years. In 1998, the Flavors Division moved to Indianapolis and Jim relocated to Brownsburg, In. After his retirement, Jim moved to Fort Collins, CO in 2010.

Jim was an avid runner and used a cross-country scholarship to attend Wabash College. He also enjoyed bowling, baseball, fishing, reading, and puzzles. Jim was a member of the American Society for Microbiology, Sigma Chi, and AMA.

Jim is survived by his wife of 52 years, Barbara Beth Carroll Sedmak, of Fort Collins, CO, his son Michael Christopher Sedmak and his wife Jennifer of Fort Collins, CO, and their two sons Christopher Andrew and Nathan Thomas Sedmak, son Stephen Andrew Sedmak and longtime partner Jill Hollander of Waukesha, WI, twin brother Jerry Sedmak and his wife Denise of Milwaukee, WI, his brother Jacob "Duke" Sedmak of Strabane, PA, his sister Patty Murray

and her son Jim Murray of Rancho Santa Margarita, CA, and his sister Shirley Ulaky of Strabane, PA, and her son Alex Ulaky and his wife, Katie, of Canonsburg, PA.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Victoria Sedmak, and his brother-in-law, Rick Ulaky.

Per Jim's request, a service will not be held. Memorial contributions may be made in Jim's name to Wabash College in Indiana and The Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins, CO. Friends and family can share condolences at Goesfuneralcare.com.

Tribute Wall

SH

“ I just learned of Jim's passing as I read the latest Wabash newsletter. Jim and Jerry and I were fraternity brothers at Wabash and roommates in graduate school at Indiana University. I was so fortunate to live with two such good and hard-working people as the two "Seds." I wish Jerry all the best in dealing with his loss.
Steve Heiny

Steve Heiny - December 08, 2022 at 07:06 AM



“ Joseph "Jim" Sedmak

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM

KB

“ So sorry to hear of Jim's passing. My husband and I volunteered with Jim & Barbara at the Fort Collins Senior Center with the Volunteers of America meals program. Jim was always so helpful and kind. It was great working with Jim and Barbara; we miss the comradery we shared with all the volunteers. Our sincere condolences to Barbara and family.

Kathy & Jim Bowers



kathy bowers - October 08, 2022 at 12:01 PM

HK

“ 2 files added to the album Jim at The Gardens



Hannah Krikorian - October 05, 2022 at 07:01 PM

GS

“ Being Jim's twin brother made life interesting and easier, As kids we helped each other study for school exams and Jim was always more demanding, but it paid off as we both did well academically. We also shared a newspaper route in Strabane, the route covered the whole town--- we divided the route into two shorter routes and alternated weeks delivering Newspapers to each of them (team work) -- we always pooled weekly "tips" and shared them equally. The money earned was the source of our "first regular income" --- we usually spent some of the "route income" but we also got in the habit of putting some money away for the future. Jim and I were also competitive in athletic endeavors which included little league baseball and running. Some days Jim would win and some days I would win but we always "rooted" for each other. We both received scholarships to Wabash College and then Fellowships to Indiana University (microbiology) that kept us in touch through these formative years and allowed us to still discuss "the world of microbes and molecular biology". Ironically, with PhDs in hand we both ended up in Milwaukee Wisconsin working in similar fields " Jerry- Diagnostic Virology and Jim- Interferon or how to prevent virus infections" The laboratories we worked at were only a mile and a-half" apart -- thus we could continue to discuss our fields of work and attend some of the same seminars. We also continued to run for exercise and Jim beat me in the only complete Marathon Race that I ever ran. I will always miss our camaraderie and understanding of each other --- LOVE YOU FOREVER __Jerry

Gerald Sedmak - October 04, 2022 at 01:02 PM

SH

“ Remembering Jim as a wonderful brother, husband, father, grandfather. Remember him as one of the "twins" and redheads of Strabane. Running track and cross country. Meeting with friends after school at the corner by Carey's store. Making healthy and unusual breakfasts of pasta, beans, broccoli. Doing volunteer work at the gardens.



Shirley - October 03, 2022 at 12:45 PM

SC

Jim was a cousin I have good memories of when I was growing up in Strabane. He was always fun playing cards and board games and kickball in the yard. I remember him being such a nice young man. One of my first trips traveling out of state was to attend his wedding to Barbara. God speed, Jim. Condolences to Jim's family, prayers for all.

Susan Tomsic, cousin - October 04, 2022 at 12:47 PM