



James Dale "Jim" Bland

JUL 6, 1943 - MAY 21, 2018



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Decatur – James Dale “Jim” Bland, 74, of Decatur, passed away Monday, May 21, 2018.

Jim was born July 6, 1943, in Mt. Vernon, IN, the son of Dale K. and Violet (Russell) Bland. A U.S. Marine veteran, Jim worked as a route salesman for Butternut Bread for many years. He was a member of Ss. James and Patrick Parish, Knights of Columbus Darrell W. Beck Council #577 and American Legion Castle Williams Post #105. Jim was inducted into the Illinois Pony of Americas Hall of Fame, coached American Legion and St. Teresa baseball as well as the Special Olympics Dream Catchers. Jim married Roberta “Bobbie” Neff August 19, 1967 in Decatur.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by his wife, Bobbie of Decatur; daughter, Kelly (Clayton) Cannon of Decatur; grandchildren: Cody, Austin and Sydney; sisters: Sondra (David) Kelm of Decatur and Karen Williams of CO; nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Visitation will be Friday, May 25, 2018, from 5 to 7 pm in the Moran & Goebel Funeral Home; vigil prayer service will be at 4:30 pm. Mass of Christian Burial to celebrate his life will be 10 am Saturday, May 26, 2018, at St. Patrick Catholic Church. Burial with military rites will take place in Calvary Cemetery, Decatur. Memorials may be made to St. Teresa High School or Special Olympics Dream Catchers. A special thank you to the E.R. and I.C.U. staff at St. Mary’s Hospital for their wonderful care.

The family of James Bland is being served by the Moran & Goebel Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 2801 N. Monroe St., Decatur, IL 62526. Memories and condolences may be shared at www.moranandgoebel.com.

Video Tribute for James D. “Jim” Bland:

<https://www.tributeslides.com/tributes/show/ST3PHRCML2NTWWWM>



Tribute Wall

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CC

Connie Crandall posted:

Jim was a faithful servant to so many during his life and he will be greatly missed by those whose lives he touched. May he rest in peace. Our prayers and love to Bobbie and family. Les and Connie Crandall

May 26 at 6:35 AM

CW

Colleen Webb posted:

If a life well-lived is measured by the lives that a person touches, Coach Bland lived very well. He was so proud of his family. He was proud of his players on the St. Teresa baseball team. He made the game fun. He could cut the tension with a funny remark. Coach gave kids confidence. Bobbie came, and they treated those players like family. Jim and Bobbie were like family to us. He will be greatly missed, and I hope the Saints up there are enjoying his company. Greg, Colleen, Kyle, and Michael Webb

May 23 at 5:00 PM

SC

Suzette Cannon posted:

There were so many funny moments/ memories that I had with Jim. I remember Bobbie rolling her eyes & shaking her head a lot of those times. He had in a t-shirt one time, told me to stand still, while he turned around in a circle. The t-shirt said "I'm surrounded by a\$/%-#s" and I wasn't the only one standing near him. I am praying for you all. Bobbie, especially for you, as I know what it's like to lose the love of your life. Jim was a wonderful man whose love for his family always showed, especially his grandchildren. Rest In Peace now Jim until we meet again! Behave yourself up there. God does have a sense of humor though.

May 23 at 9:18 AM

DW

Dan Walker posted:

I can see the "old Man" now with a great big smile and a little chuckle! What a joy to know. He is a living legend with St Teresa baseball and truly loved by his players and parents. His kindness and love will never be forgotten. Continued blessings to Jim, Bobbie, and his family. Prayers and thoughts with you always. Dan Walker Sr.

May 23 at 6:45 AM



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Kay White posted:

So very sorry for your loss. He was an amazing Grandpa so full of love and attention for his grandsons. He was a pleasure to talk to and be around at all the POA shows in years past

May 22 at 5:41 PM



Bolen posted:

Lit a candle in memory of James Dale "Jim" Bland

May 22 at 5:20 AM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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