



James "Jim" Harold Kirby

JUN 26, 1950 - SEP 25, 2015



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DECATUR- James "Jim" Harold Kirby, 65, of Decatur passed away on Friday, Sept 25, 2015 at Decatur Memorial Hospital with his family by his side. Jim was born June 26, 1950 in Decatur to Jesse Edward and Eleanor (Leach) Kirby. He grew up in Decatur graduating from Macon High School in 1969. He was a member of the United States Navy and a Vietnam Veteran. He married Toni (Starwalt) Shelton in 1972 and together they had two children, Brandon (Jaime) Kirby and Kara Kirby. In 1986, he married Leslie (Lawson) Kirby and together they had Ryan Kirby. Jim was a devoted husband, father and grandpa. He worked his entire life in the foundry industry starting at Wagner Castings Company in Decatur after high school until closure. Later, he worked at Grede Foundry and retired in 2014 from Neenah Foundry in Wisconsin. In his free time he loved to play golf and was an avid drag racing enthusiast.

Jim leaves behind his children, sons Brandon (Jaime) Kirby and Ryan Kirby of Decatur, daughter Kara Kirby of the Netherlands; sisters Linda (Larry) Mayberry, Marilyn (Bob) McCoy and Marcia Kirby all of Decatur and sister-in-law Linda Kirby of Decatur; Brothers Bob (Laurie) Kirby of Florida, Gary (Kathy) Kirby of Decatur, Larry (Phyllis) Kirby of Kentucky and Bill (Shirley) Kirby of Decatur; 6 grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Jim is preceded in death by his parents and nephew Brad Kirby.

Services will be held at 10 am Thursday, October 1, 2015 at Moran and Goebel Funeral Home. Visitation will be held from 5 to 8 Wednesday at the Moran and Goebel Funeral Home. Burial will be in Camp Butler National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Team 35 Project Linus Program or to the American Heart Association. Condolences may be offered to the family at www.moranandgoebel.com

The family would like to give special thanks to the staff at DMH CCU and St. Mary's



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Hospital for the care given during his stay. The family also appreciates all of the special people along the way who assisted him, thought of Jim, prayed and surrounded us with heartfelt love during this difficult time.

Click here to view Jim's Video Tribute:

<https://www.tributeslides.com/tributes/show/94J73NYMF9YRWZ2J>



Tribute Wall

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TR

Terry Reeves posted:

Lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Harold Kirby

October 2 at 4:44 AM

ND

Nirmal Datta posted:

Very sorry to hear of Jim's passing away. I met Jim when I was at Intermet, Decatur Foundry where we worked for six years. During that time, we travelled together on many occasions to address customer quality issues, and at dinner time he always had funny stories to share with me. He was someone I could trust. Leslie, I am very sorry to hear of Jim's passing. The last time we all met at Decatur mall when you were with Jim. May Jim's soul rest in peace. Warm regards to you and your family. Nirmal Datta

September 30 at 5:33 AM

RJ

Robert Jackson posted:

Deeply saddened to learn of Jim's passing. We went through school together then both ended up at Wagner's. I could always count on a laugh when we ran into each other, even at the U.S. Nationals. The joke at Indy was who's following who? My deepest condolences to the Kirby family.

September 29 at 12:45 PM

BJ

Bob Jackson posted:

"Deeply saddened to learn of Jim's passing. We went to school together then both wound up at Wagner Castings. At work I could always count on a laugh when I saw him. My deepest condolences to the Kirby family." Bob Jackson

September 29 at 12:16 PM

DS

David Simms posted:

I have fond memories of Jim when we worked together at Wagner from 1996-1999. Although I know none of the family except for Leslie, I offer all of you my condolences. David Simms
SimmsDavidsimms1@gmail.com

September 29 at 11:50 AM



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AM

Anne Mckinney posted:

There was a Christmas Eve when I lived in Springfield and it snowed really badly. I knew my little car wasn't going to make the drive to Decatur to be with family, so I was stuck alone — for what I thought might be the whole holiday. The next morning, Jim drove my mom over to Springfield and picked me up to take me back to Decatur. He sacrificed his Christmas morning to do that for us. RIP

September 28 at 1:09 PM

AN

Annaliza posted:

I worked with Jim at Neenah Foundry and he made me laugh often. We both enjoyed one of the local lunch joints in Neenah. He will be missed.

September 28 at 7:42 AM

KE

Kim England posted:

Ryan our thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family. You know we are here if you need anything just let us know.LoveThe England Family

September 27 at 9:22 AM

DH

Dirk Hanson posted:

Sorry to hear of Jims passing.I worked for him the few years I was at Wagner Castings before it closed.He was a great boss and I'm sure he will be missed.My condolences to his entire family.

September 27 at 9:21 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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