



James "Jim" Foster

November 19, 1954 - March 30, 2022

James "Jim" Foster, 67, of Bloomington, passed away on Wednesday, March 30, 2022 at his home. He was born on November 19, 1954 in Rushville, Indiana; the son of James and Ruth Ann (Miller) Foster.

Jim graduated from Indiana University, where he met his wife Holly. With roots planted in Bloomington, Jim started a successful construction business; Jim Foster Construction. Over the course of decades, Jim built a beautiful network of friends and colleagues throughout town, connecting to and touching an endless amount of lives. He was a generous man who took pride in supporting local groups such as Cutters Soccer Club and Habitat for Humanity.

Jim loved most outdoor activities such as; recreation softball leagues, sailing, fishing, and bird watching. He was a welcoming person, who enjoyed sharing his home with those he loved. His most treasured times were spent surrounded by family, at their home in Bloomington or at their family cabin.

Jim is survived by his children, Michael (Katherine) Foster and Alicia (Kris) Gjemre; grandchildren, Eloise, Otto, and Morgan; siblings William Foster and Ann Hughes; nephews Matt Mooney, Mark Mooney, and Lane Hughes; and nieces Marni Meunier, Meghan Parys, and Elizabeth Carroll.

He was preceded in death by his best friend and wife of 41 years, Holly, and

his parents.

A memorial service will be 1:00pm Saturday, June 11, 2022 at Allen Funeral Home and Crematory, 4155 South Old State Road 37, Bloomington, IN 47401. Family will receive friends from 11:00am until time of service at the funeral home. Online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at www.allencares.com

In lieu of flowers, the family is kindly asking that memorial contributions be made to GiGi's Playhouse Indianapolis, Down Syndrome Achievement Center (<https://gigisplayhouse.org/indianapolis/>) in Jim's honor.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 11. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory
4155 S. Old State Road 37
Bloomington, IN 47401
(812) 824-5905
<http://www.allencares.com>

Memorial Service

JUN 11. 1:00 PM (ET)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory
4155 S. Old State Road 37
Bloomington, IN 47401
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<http://www.allencares.com>

Tribute Wall

JH

“ Jim was recommended to us as a contractor when we needed to do work on the house on Woodstock. He became a trusted friend for all our years in Bloomington. I looked forward always to seeing him, as I learned so much about our home from him. He was a carpenter intellectual. He loved his work immensely and that knowledge rubbed off. I think he was particularly fond of us because we had helped the child of a friend of his with some disability issues. Those kinds of bonds meant a great deal to him. He clearly had a deep attachment to children and their care. His children must be such lucky ones. My favorite Jim story: We had a huge huge leak in our basement which was caused by some kind of backup in the system. Jim called in the plumbers to send a camera into the pipes to find the blockage. It took two or three tries, but finally they found a small something in a curved pipe that was probably the culprit. The plumbers had to drill drill drill through solid concrete in our bathroom to get to the pipe. Jim was so excited. Eventually they found a small piece of wood that had been stuck somehow in the pipe. Man was he thrilled! I was too. Then he stuck around to help us get some money from our insurance company. He was such a gent. I miss him now in California whenever an issue comes up. Jim is irreplaceable. Miss him. Joan Hart

joan hart - March 17, 2025 at 02:50 AM

MS

“ Jim and his wife Holly were the most kindest, most giving, and nicest neighbors a person could ever have. We were neighbors for more than 30 years and I enjoyed every minute being next door to the Fosters. My sincerest sympathies go out to Jim and Hollie's children and their families.

Mark Saunders - June 10, 2022 at 05:23 PM

DC

“ Our sincerest condolences to you, Michael and Alicia, on the loss of both your mother and father so early in their lives. Your father, Jim, was a wonderful man whom we first met in 1991 when he and his talented crew did an addition on our house. The two of you sometimes came along and played with our kids, Anna and Mark. Afterward, we continued our friendship as Jim coached a baseball team for the boys and we attended soccer games. In 2003, Jim remodeled our kitchen. The work that Jim did made our house a home, and the great guy that he was made him a friend to many. He will be greatly missed. Dan and Debbi Conkle



Debbi Conkle - June 10, 2022 at 09:01 AM

VM

“ My husband Michael and I first met Jim over 35 years ago when he remodeled our kitchen. He was such a perfectionist and such a wonderful genuine man. The last remodel he did for us was after Michael was diagnosed with a degenerative neurological disease and Jim helped me figure out how to remodel our 1929 home to enable Michael to remain at home. Jim did an incredible job, it was both functional and beautiful. Jim’s remodel bought Michael 3 more years at home. Even after the remodel was done Jim would periodically stop by to see how we were doing. He will be sorely missed
Virginia Metzger

Virginia Metzger - June 05, 2022 at 08:19 AM

MP

“ Jim was my uncle. He did so much for me and my siblings over the years. Starting with letting all five of us move in with them in 1984. My favorite memories include him playing catch with Michael and me when he would get off of work. He called me "heat" because he thought I had a strong arm. That nickname gave me a lot of confidence.

He took us to many Indianapolis Indians games and then to my first Reds game. His relationship with Holly was a great example for a happy marriage and I learned a lot from them. It meant a lot when Jim gave my husband the seal of approval and would let us come hang out with them at the cabin on many weekends. I liked how much Holly and Jim could be open and honest with one another. When I got married, Jim surprised me by saying he wanted to buy my wedding dress for me. He also stood in for me and did the father/daughter dance at my wedding. I had them play What A Wonderful World for our dance because he was always telling me to be more positive.

meghan parys - June 03, 2022 at 11:42 AM

MP

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



meghan parys - June 03, 2022 at 11:33 AM

FB

“ I am so sorry to hear James has passed. My late husband, Larry and I were friends with Jim and Holly for years and I also taught with Holly at Oolitic. My condolences to their children and families. Losing both wonderful parents in such a short time is heartbreaking. May they find comfort and peace in the days to come. Sincerely,
Fran Bond

Fran Bond - June 01, 2022 at 09:29 PM

JG

“ Michael and Alicia, Our hearts go out to you on the loss of your Dad. We knew Jim and through his chatter, Holly for over 25 years as he did many many remodeling projects for us over the years and in multiple homes. We even met both of you as you tagged along to his jobs, but you would have been too young to remember. We considered him one of the family. Jim was an expert at his craft, a true perfectionist who took pride in his work. He was fair and honest, and established relationships with the very best subs. We especially loved just shooting the bull with him, especially when it came to politics. He had such a great sense of humor. He was very proud of you both and your choices to pursue health care careers, and he let us know that over and over again. He was also delighted with your choices of spouses and felt you both were safe with soulmates. But most of all, he was “smitten” (his words) with his grandchildren. As you walk the days ahead, remember these thoughts that he shared of you to everyone who would listen. Our very best to you and your families. Judy Gierut and Dan Dinnsen

judith gierut - June 01, 2022 at 06:56 PM

NM

“ Jim, both you and Holly will always be missed. You were both amazing and your lives were cut so short. I always regarded you as part of our extended family.

Bless you and your family.

Nick McCammon

Nick McCammon - May 13, 2022 at 09:13 AM

ML

“ Michael, Alicia and Family,

In remembering Jim, He was always a great friend of me and the entire Libke/Watson Family. I was introduced to Jim by my Father, John Libke, in the early 80's and we have been able nurture our friendship with our mutual interest in the outdoors and our annual Ramcat Taylor Hunting Trip. Its was always a highlight hanging out around camp with Jim, as he was always in the moment discussing anything from current events to Baseball. He will be missed !!!

Let us know if there is anything we can do to help

Mark Libke and Family

Mark Libke - May 10, 2022 at 11:27 AM



“ To Jim's family: My wife, Sandy and I, deeply, deeply mourn the loss of your father. When we lived in Bloomington, from 2006-2015, he did a great deal of carpentry work for us. He was a jewel of a man: exceptionally talent, thoughtful, caring, generous, selfless, and so honest. We regarded him, in fact, as a friend. May he, with your late-Mother be together, now, in total peace. Too, in time might your family be consoled. As you, we are in immense grief.

Robert J. Harrison, A.Mus.D
Emeritus Professor of Music, Indiana University
Castle Pines, CO
supxor@gmail.com

Robert Harrison - May 05, 2022 at 01:29 PM

LH

“ Happiness, honesty, and humor. I feel blessed to have known Jim and Holly over the last 8 or ten years. The love they shared for Michael and Alicia and the grands was beautiful to see and hear. I am so sorry kids that you lost them both so soon! But I know they raised you both right, look at the amazing people you have become
💙💛 RIP Jim, Holly has been waiting for you

Laura Hayden - May 02, 2022 at 10:37 PM

BF

“ Jimmy was my friend from the time I was 18 years old., he was 17. I met him and his many friends in Rushville. We always had so much fun. As his family said he was always welcoming.
I miss you Jimmy.

Becky Fischer - May 02, 2022 at 06:47 PM

JK

“ Our family shared a cottage next door with the Fosters every summer. We have wonderful memories of Jim. He was too young to endure such pain. Sending our love.
Judy Kurkjian

Julia Kurkjian - May 02, 2022 at 10:57 AM

HS

“ Jim built a kitchen addition for my house a few years ago. He was helpful in every way and assured quality at every step. He often mentioned Holly and she was clearly an important part of his life. I had the crew over for lunch when the project was complete as shown in the photo (he asked for the chili recipe!). He had planned to do an addition to my house as his last project before retiring before his illness intervened. I considered Jim a good friend.



Hannah Schertz - April 30, 2022 at 11:22 PM

BH

“ The most handsome man in Bloomington. This is what I said to Jim, every time our paths crossed, most often at the Uptown. Typically, with modesty, he always deflected the compliment. He and Holly were among the kindest, warmest, most welcoming people I have ever had the pleasure of knowing. I always felt embraced in their company. Now , God bless them, they are together again; Jim has truly gone home. The living legacy of these qualities are to be found in their children, Alicia and Michael, both students of mine, a lady and a gentleman, even as high schoolers. This is an extraordinary family. I love them.

Bill Hays - April 30, 2022 at 01:06 PM

MG

“ *A square shooter, nice guy, and a perfect cynic!*

Mike Gavin - April 30, 2022 at 12:05 PM

BG

“ *I first knew Jim from cheering him and the baseball team on at Bear's Place around 1977. Many years later, he became my go-to contractor through my design business. His occasional temper on the job site took me aback, but as the years went on, I recognized this was a manifestation of his deep care and commitment to excellent workmanship and driving his guys to do their very best. I could always count on Jim for consistently high-quality work that reflected well on me and my business. I was so happy to help him and Holly with their kitchen renovation a few years back and currently have the after pictures posted on my websites. I miss being able to text Jim with construction questions, given his broad knowledge of construction issues. My heart goes out to you, Michael and Alicia, and your families for the loss of both of your parents at such a young age and in such proximity with each other. My deepest condolences. Both Holly and Jim are dearly missed.*

Becky Gavin

Becky Gavin - April 30, 2022 at 11:37 AM

TL

“ *Laughter is what I remember most about Jimmy. He had a slow way of talking, always laced with humor. We were high school lunch buds at Rushville Consolidated High School, members of St. Paul's Methodist Church, and both of were proud graduates of Indiana University. I moved to California when I graduated but returned to Bloomington after 18 years. By then, life took us in different directions but my fondness for Jimmy never waned, our roots being forever entwined in our hometown. I loved him dearly.*

Teleia Lower

Teleia Lower - April 29, 2022 at 11:41 AM