



James Adair Gans

July 18, 1952 - January 29, 2023

James Adair Gans was one of the kindest men we will ever know. Born on July 18, 1952, Jamie grew up as the middle child of five children in the great state of New Jersey, a place he longed to escape for more exotic environs. Jamie inherited an artistic sensibility from his mother Adair, whose portraits and landscape paintings grace the homes of many family members and friends. He was drawn to traditional music and eventually found his way to MacAlester College in St Paul, Minnesota, where he played in the pipe band and graduated with a degree in fine arts. Also at this time, Jamie became interested in Irish fiddle music and spent many hours woodshedding with his instrument and playing in various bands, including the Northern Star Ceili Band. Jamie spent the next decade exploring Irish and Quebecois music, in Canada, Vermont, and Minnesota. In 1994, a mutual friend introduced him to his future wife, Tamara Loewenthal, with whom he collaborated on many music & dance projects and performances via the duo, Fiddle 'n' Feet. Jamie's move to Indiana also occasioned his greater interest in, and love for, Old Time Music, and he was beloved by all who had the opportunity to play with him. Jamie had a great sense of humor and a love for North American history. He deeply enjoyed programming his bi-weekly radio show, The Celtic Road, on WFHB Community Radio, where his expertise and knowledge of Celtic music shined.

He loved baseball, especially his Minnesota Twins, and excelled at pitching for

the Lotus Volunteers softball team. He literally kept the home fires burning, chopping wood with glee every season for a winter he hoped would be snowy. He was also the home chef and sour dough bread baker extraordinaire, long before it became everyone else's pastime.

Jamie is survived and will be immensely missed by his wife Tamara; stepdaughter Serena Loewenthal (John McKinney) and stepson Ewan Schmid (Lyndsey); three grandchildren and the apples of his eye – Everett, Eleanore, and Molly; siblings Robin Logan, Lucy Gans (Les Fletcher), John Gans (Irina), and Liz Gans; and numerous nephews and nieces. A Celebration of Life will be announced in the near future.

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory, 4155 South Old State Road 37, Bloomington, have been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at www.allencare.com

Tribute Wall

MH

“ I have so many fond memories of dancing to Jamie's music during workshops with Arts for Learning. His music touched so many children (and adults!) over the years. I am sending much love to Tamara and family.

Melli Hoppe - February 16, 2023 at 11:28 AM

AC

“ Very glad that there are so many happy memories of the dynamic duo, Jamie and Tamara, that live on. May Jamie rest in peace and may Tamara be comforted by the love and support of family and friends..

amber challifour - February 06, 2023 at 08:44 AM

SV

“ My deepest condolences to Jamie's family. He was a good and kind man. I'll miss his voice on WFHB.

Steve Volan - February 05, 2023 at 07:02 PM

CB

“ I knew Jim in 1968 at Pomfret School a boarding school in Northeast Connecticut. Though we had not become very close as I was a new student and he had come a year before, we found ourselves together walking back to our dormitory which, as they were arranged perpendicular to the main school building, ours were the furthest away. It was very cold and I must have complained to him of the long walk in the frigid air and he said, but you will be happy in the Spring to have such a beautiful long walk!
Unforgettable!
Carlie Berlin

Carswell Berlin - February 05, 2023 at 04:48 PM

AW

“ *My heart goes out to Jamie's family and friends. He's also a great loss for the WFHB and Celtic music communities.*

Alice Wolfson - February 03, 2023 at 03:58 PM

RS

“ *My deepest sympathies. So sorry for your loss Tamara and everyone.*

Ron Smith - February 02, 2023 at 10:05 AM

MS

“ *Jamie was a very kind, caring, and understanding gentleman. My deepest sympathies go out Tamara and all who were close to Jamie*

Mark Saunders - February 02, 2023 at 08:43 AM

KA

“ *1 file added to the album Friends' photos of Jamie*



Kevin Atkins - February 01, 2023 at 06:07 PM

EL

“ *Thoughts, prayers, and strength to you Aunt Tamara. Hope to meet you again one day. -Ed Loewenthal*

Ed Loewenthal - February 01, 2023 at 10:04 AM

PL

I was saddened to learn of Jamie's (always Jimmy to me) death from Teresa Metcalfe when I visited her in New York last Friday. Despite the fact that until 7th grade Jimmy was a year ahead of me at Rumson Country Day School("RCDS"), we were long childhood friends. I used to love to go out and play with him on his family' horse farm in Holmdel, catching insects and rollicking through the stables. He also participated in the mock Civil War battles my younger brother Marc and I would organize at our house in Fair Haven as we were captivated by the history of that period during the 100th anniversary. We even had a genuine howitzer and caisson lent to us by one of the Illers, who was also a Civil War buff, which we would move around our front yard. For a number of reasons, Jimmy and I went our separate ways after RCDS, though I would be kept up to date on his news via our parents' network of mutual friends. When I got married in St. Louis in 1982 there was talk of inviting Jimmy to my wedding to play the pipes as my now ex-wife was half Scottish. I do not recall how we reconnected about three to four years ago, but Jimmy informed me that he was coming to St. Louis, MO (where I have lived for the past 32 years) to play in a Celtic musical festival organized by an acquaintance of mine. Unfortunately, I could not attend as I was out of town that weekend. I then tried twice to arrange to stop by to see him in Indiana on one of my car trips back and forth to the East Coast following the death of my parents in 2020. I would have enjoyed hearing him play the fiddle and the pipes. I extend my deepest sympathies to all Jimmy's family.
Philippe de Lapérouse

Philippe de Laperouse - April 11, 2023 at 04:03 PM