



James Robert Bowlen

January 10, 1930 - October 7, 2013

James Robert Bowlen

1-10-1930 - 10-7-2013

James "Jim" Robert Bowlen died on October 7, 2013. Jim was born in Sanders near Bloomington, Indiana on January 10, 1930, the fourth child of William and Elsie (Kinser) Bowlen.

Jim began working at age twelve, along with his identical twin Bill, helping their father in his timber business. The boys cut trees using a crosscut saw, then their father used the sawmill to make them into crossties, which were sold to the railroad. He graduated from Bloomington High School with the class of 1948. After graduation he worked at RCA, and later began a long career as a carpenter and homebuilder, having built many homes around the area with his father and brothers.

Jim was interested in old cars, and enjoyed many over the years. He had the ability to fix and repair almost anything. He also loved animals and has enjoyed the affection and companionship of many dogs, cats and horses in his life. His kind nature will be remembered by all who knew him.

He is survived by wife of 33 years, Barbara Sloan Bowlen and son, James "Jimmy" Sloan Bowlen; sisters Bonnie (Dean) Wever, Norma Baugh, and Brenda (Jim) White; brothers Dan (Jan) Bowlen, Don Bowlen, and Mike (Becky) Bowlen; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his identical twin brother, William Manson Bowlen, and sisters Ruth VanPelt and Betty McCullough, and by his parents.

Visitation will be at Allen Funeral Home in Bloomington from 2-6 PM Saturday, October 12. There will be no services. In lieu of flowers, his family asks those who wish to memorialize him to contribute to one of these two charities:

Smile

Train, PO Box 96231, Washington, DC 20090-6231; 1-800-932-9541; or online @ smiletrain.org

Monroe

County Humane Association, PO Box 1334, Bloomington, IN 47402; 812-333-6242; or online @ monroehumane.org

Allen Funeral Home is handling arrangements. Friends can send condolences to www.allenfuneralhome.org

Tribute Wall

RI

“ Rest in peace my friend. I have know Jim, better know to me as big foot all my life. There wasn't a kinder more sweeter guy around.

He was a wonderful uncle to my friends when we kids growing up in Bloomington, many years ago.

Even though I didn't make it home very often he was always the same guy anytime you saw him.

I will miss you my friend

Rita Burchfield - October 26, 2015 at 04:08 PM

RJ

“ Ron reads the Obituraries daily and calls attention to the special ones and the ones he thinks I might know. We both agree that Jim is the kind of person that would have been great to have as a neighbor.

Ron and Jim could have talked for days on end about old cars. Ron's dad was a hard worker like Jim. He was mostly self taught and there was nothing he couldn't do if he set his mind to it.

His devotion and love for his wife and children made it clear that he was an honorable man. We are sorry for your loss.

Ron & Janet Steele - October 26, 2015 at 04:08 PM

ML

“ *Barbara and Jimmy*

Saddened to read about Jim's passing. Jim was truly a loving and kind man. He and your family were such a comfort to us when we first bought our home. He and Jimmy were mowing our overgrown lawn the first time we met. Since that time Jim continued to be friend and my source of information about this house and not to mention great stories! A man to left a legacy of love and respect. If we can be of any assistance to you please call.

*Regards
Mike and Laura*

Mike & Laura Wanchic - October 26, 2015 at 04:08 PM

WA

“ *Our deepest sympathy to the family.*

Wayne Nethery - October 26, 2015 at 04:08 PM

KR

“ *I am so very sorry to hear of the passing of Jim Bowlen. My heart and prayers go out to you and your family. With love from your cousin, Kristin*

Kristin Ashley - October 26, 2015 at 04:08 PM

CH

“ *Warm memories of a very special man who brightened and enlightened anyone who came in his presence. He is gone from this life but hie will not be forgotten. Love to all of his family members.*

Cheryl Scutt - October 26, 2015 at 04:08 PM

PH

“ *Barbara,
I'm so sorry for your great loss. My thoughts and prayers are with
you and your family.*

Phoebe Sewell (friend of Dianne's from Morgantown).

Phoebe Sewell - October 26, 2015 at 04:08 PM

JA

“ *Jim was my cousin by marriage. Although I did not know him as well
as I might, he was my friend and his good cheer was infectious. A
good man through and through, he always made me feel at home
when I visited Bloomington. My thoughts and prayers go out to
Barbara and Jimmy; a loss such as they have endured passes mere
words of consolation. I just hope that they and everyone who loved
Jim Bowlen can accept my humble words of sorrow.*

James Ashley - October 26, 2015 at 04:08 PM

KE

“ *My condolences to the family...Jim was a wonderful ,kind , patient
man...And a wonderful story teller....Peace and Prayers to you all*

Kellie Trisler - October 26, 2015 at 04:08 PM