



James D. Walden

October 11, 1925 - November 16, 2019

James Douglas Walden, 94, passed away on Saturday, November 16, 2019 at IU Health Bloomington Hospital. Jim was born on October 11, 1925 in Mauston, Wisconsin. He was the son of Heath B. and Margaret V. Walden. Jim was the oldest of 4 children.

He was preceded in death by an infant sister, Pricilla Jane in 1931, his mother in 1967, his father in 1969, his wife of almost 54 years, Leola Evelyn V. Young in 2004, and brother Ryan Bruce in 2010. He is survived by his two sisters, Marilyn Mae Walden and Helen Heath Wheeler, and several nieces. Jim and Leola had 2 children, Laurene (Laurie) Pellerite (Mark) of Woodbury, MN. and Jay (Sharon) Walden of Grayville, Illinois. Laurie and Mark have two children, Caitlin Elizabeth Lucci (Craig) and Trevor James.

He served in the Navy from 1943 until 1946, ultimately stationed on a WWII LST which shipped out of New Orleans. The vessel was on its way to Japan, when the bomb was dropped and the transport's mission ended. After his discharge from the Navy, he pursued his B.S. through the GI Bill at Wisconsin State University, LaCrosse. His career as an educator began in Melrose, WI, where he both taught and served as principal. While there, he met Leola, and they married on June 3, 1950. His education career spanned a full range, from teacher in a one-room schoolhouse, to principal, superintendent, and ultimately, teaching at the college level. He left Wisconsin in 1961 after 14

years there as an educator, to pursue his doctoral degree at University of Illinois, Champaign (Ed.D.'63).

Jim joined the faculty of Indiana University School of Education in September of 1963, specializing in Language Arts. He retired after an active and involved career, on January 1, 1989. Since December of 2003, Jim has been a resident of Meadowood Retirement Community.

A funeral service will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, November 25, 2019 at Allen Funeral Home and Crematory, 4155 S. Old State Road 37, Bloomington. Burial will follow at Clear Creek Cemetery. Family will receive friends from 11:00 a.m. until the time of service. Memorials to the Employee Appreciation Fund, for the terrific staff of Meadowood, suggested in lieu of flowers.

Online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at www.allencares.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **25**. 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>

Service

NOV **25**. 1:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall

EM

“ I did not know that "Dr. Jim" had passed away. Jim was an inspiration to both my wife and I when we were students at IU in the late sixties and seventies and for many years thereafter. His words of wisdom and teachings helped us through nine degrees and over thirty years each in education each. We still have a book consisting of helpful hits for new teachers and quick lesson plans for subs that can be utilized when a sub shows up and there are no plans. This has been shared with subs and new teachers from Indiana to Alaska. He told us once that when we finished our doctoral program and were feeling full of ourselves to reflect on what all of the degrees mean. "We all know what BS is. Well MS means more of the same and PHD just means piled higher and deeper." God bless you Jim. We love you.

Bud and Linda Martin.

Elbert Wallace Martin - January 29, 2024 at 10:46 AM

DK

“ I just came upon this web site informing of the passing of Dr. James Walden. Dr. Walden was chair of my doctoral committee at IU. He was an enlightening and inspirational person who helped me immensely finish my doctorate in education degree in the summer of 1971. I am so happy that my professional life had the pathway to Dr. Walden's. Words will not be adequate enough for me to express the respect and honor I feel for him. May his soul rest in peace. - Donald Kachur

Donald Kachur - January 12, 2020 at 10:55 PM

DH

“ My deepest sympathies to the family. I did not know Dr. Walden, but I've known Jay and Sharon for years, and I think so very highly of them. Please accept my condolences.
-Dustin Hawkins

Dustin Hawkins - December 04, 2019 at 10:12 AM

CJ

“ I'm so very sorry to hear of Mr. Walden's passing. I met him four years ago when he graciously came to Binford Elementary school as part of the WW2 celebration. He shared information with the children and I was honored to meet him. He returned two years ago for the last WW2 celebration at Binford and we had a chance to catch up. To my surprise, we crossed paths again at the School of Education holiday party last year-I didn't realize he used to work there as a faculty member for years until that party. He was a kind man and my children were honored to meet a WW2 veteran to thank him for his service. He will be missed by our family. Prayers go out to your family from ours.

Caree Jent - December 02, 2019 at 11:27 AM

JB

“ Doctor Walden was one of my professors in the 70's. I came to Bloomington to finish my degree and student teaching. My professors were all great ! He was a big part of my best year in college. RIP Dr. Walden.

James Berbeco - November 23, 2019 at 08:14 AM

AS

“ So sorry to hear about Jim's passing! He was my eighth grade teacher in Melrose. It was a big old two story, four room building. The school was heated by a big old wood fired boiler and one day the roof caught on fire. Jim was the leader of a Explorer Scout troop and took several of us on a fishing trip to Canada. I always wondered where he was!

All Spaulding

Allan Spaulding - November 22, 2019 at 11:02 AM



Thank you for sharing such great memories; what a treat to hear stories from someone who was right there! -- My son (the little guy in the truck with Dad in the photo) will be thrilled to learn that his grandpa took a crew of guys on a Canada fishing trip! Again, thanks for taking the time to reach out; it is much appreciated. ❤️

Laurie Pellerite - November 30, 2019 at 08:09 PM

VY

“ verlin I young purchased the Lavender & White Standing Spray for the family of James D. Walden.



verlin I young - November 21, 2019 at 09:37 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Allen Funeral Home and Crematory - November 19, 2019 at 05:02 PM



“ *Healing Tears - Blue and White was purchased for the family of James D. Walden.*



November 19, 2019 at 02:57 PM



“ *I was Jim's colleague in the IU School of Education for many years. During those years he was a kind, supportive, and engaging friend and colleague who was always willing to engage actively in spirited discussions about education issues. As one of his younger colleagues, he was eager to assist me in figuring out how to deal with the morass of details and complications of university life. I am forever grateful to him for that. He was a wonderful colleague. Rest in peace, dear friend!*
Frank Lester

Frank Lester - November 19, 2019 at 10:57 AM