



James R. Staley

August 17, 2020

James R. Staley

Born to Eternal Life August 17, 2020 at the age of 73 years. Survived by his brothers Robert Jr. (Susan), William (Janet) and Edward (Cheryl). Also survived by his nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Jim worked for the Milwaukee Road/Soo Line. He lived by treating others the way he would have liked to be treated. Jim was a loving man and will be greatly missed by everyone who knew him.

Visitation Wednesday, August 26 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM at the FUNERAL HOME. Private interment Lincoln Memorial Park, Aurora, IL.

Rozga Funeral & Cremation Services

Rozga-Walloch Chapel

4309 South 20th Street

Milwaukee, WI 53221

Cemetery Details

Lincoln Memorial Park

675 Business Route 30
Aurora, IL 60504

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **26**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Rozga Funeral & Cremation Services - Rozga-Walloch Chapel
4309 South 20th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53221
(414) 281-7145
<https://www.rozgafuneral.com/>

Tribute Wall

LW

“ JIM, I WILL TRULY MISS HEARING YOUR VOICE CALLING ME TOO SEE HOW I WAS DOING, IT WAS A BLESSING FOR ME TO TAKE CARE OF YOU FOR 5 YEARS AT WEST PARK PLACE NOW LAMP LITE INN YOU WERE ONE SPECIAL GUY TO ME. REST PEACEFULLY

LAKESHA WILKINS - August 27, 2020 at 07:47 PM

PA

“ Jimmy,
You have been a good friend to me and to everyone you knew. I have known you for the last 39 years and you have always made me laugh. Many fun times over the years working nights at the railroad, going to Brewers games, Summer Fest, playing baseball, parties at Jacks and so much more. Your work here is done now Jimmy so go home and rest in peace. I love you and miss you!
Pam

Pam - August 27, 2020 at 01:00 PM

“James R. Staley” . . . one of several names I knew him by growing up on the south side of Milwaukee. I am not sure exactly how our family met him, although it most likely had something to do with Southeast Baptist Church in South Milwaukee but it was definitely a "God thing."



My memories of "Crazy Jim" were flying around in his red, two door Buick Century! He loved blaring the 8-Track player and going what seemed to be double the speed limit at various times. There were the electric trains that he collected over the years. I never could figure out why it was best not to take them out and run them around a track. That is until I realized that they were "collectible" and were his prize possessions.

There were the many Brewer games where we'd sit in the upper deck behind home plate only to listen to Jim's voice bellow throughout Milwaukee County Stadium. Chances are he would get thrown out of such sporting events today. Not that he ever yelled any profanity or evil things but his voice could be heard constant throughout the game. A few Packer games, Bucks games and Milwaukee Admiral games thrown in for good measure.

What comes to mind as I write this tribute is that way that he could argue with my Mom (Geraldine) Jerry Braatz and then turn around and laugh knowing that he loved her as his own mother and us as little baby brothers or nephews like his own family. I can't picture him without a 2 liter bottle of Diet Coke along with some type of snack. He could always light up the room with his funny looks and words that only Jim could string together.

I can't remember when I saw him last but I do remember riding up the elevator to his little apartment and spending a couple of hours with him just talking about the good ole days; and he had a lot of "good ole" days!

Jim, may you rest in peace with your parents and other loved ones gone before you along with my parents Ralph and Jerry Braatz and sister Jackie. However, with great confidence I know that most importantly you rest in the arms of your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Through all the fun and craziness of your living we always knew that your faith in Christ was what sustained you and made you who you were. I will do my best to reach out to those in need and bring joy to those that may need to make some crazy memories in the crazy world in which we live today. God loves you Jim and so do I!

See you soon and keep a 2 liter of Diet Coke cold for me!

KB

“ Dear Jim, You will be missed and were loved by the entire Ralph and Jerry Braatz family. You've been an amazing friend through the years way back to the early 70s when I met you at SE Baptist Church and you eventually lived with our family for a period of time. My memories are many....hearing you sing very loud and off key at church, buying Coke for "Ma Braatz" and never letting her forget about it , all the Bucks, Brewers, and Packer games we went to, trips to the State Fair, going to work with you at the Milwaukee Riad, shoveling out Angelo and helping others after a big snowstorm, sharing memories of your family, the American Flyer (75 Red Buick Century), racing some kid at a stoplight with it, cranking the Blackwood Brothers 8 track, all the phone calls through the years, and this past Christmas sharing a chicken dinner from KFC and small Christmas tree at your apartment!!! These are just but a few of fantastic memories of you, your kindness, and friendship through a lifetime!!! I'm certain you're safe at home in heaven with Mom , Dad, and Jackie as you always professed Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior!!! Jim I love you and all sympathy extended to your brothers, family, and friends. Love , Kevin and Eileen Braatz family

Kevin Braatz - August 26, 2020 at 06:42 AM