



James W. Cofield

July 11, 1946 - November 7, 2016

James W. "Jimmy" Cofield, 70, of Aurora, died Monday, November 7, 2016 at Presence Mercy Center Hospital. He was born July 11, 1946 in Aurora, to parents John W. and Helen Cofield. He married Brenda Dively in 1990 and she passed away in 1991.

Despite his physical challenges, Jim never complained and had a full and happy life. He graduated from West Aurora High School in 1968, where he took great pride in being the manager of the basketball team. He was an avid sports fan, especially for West High and Aurora University, attending as many football, basketball and baseball games as he could. He also fervently supported the White Sox, St. Louis Cardinals, and the Green Bay Packers (unlike the rest of the family). For many years on summer nights, Jim could be found working the scoreboard at S-A Field for the fast-pitch softball games. One of the things he enjoyed later in his life was bowling with the Fox Valley Special Recreation League.

Jim was a fixture at the West Plaza Barber Shop for many years talking daily with customers about the news of the day, usually sports, of course. He was also a member of St. Mark's Lutheran Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife. Survivors include his brother, John P. (Francine) Cofield, of Aurora; his sister, Alice Cofield, of

California; his nephews, Robert Cofield and David (Susan) Cofield; his niece, Catherine (Nick) Howard; and his good friends, Penny and David Donaldson, and the West Plaza barbers, Ed, Red and Paul.

There will be no visitation. Funeral services will be private. Arrangements are being handled by THE DALEIDEN MORTUARY, 220 N. Lake Street, Aurora, IL 60506. (630) 631-5500.

Please visit our interactive website at www.daleidenmortuary.com where you may sign the guest book or leave condolences for James' family.

Tribute Wall

JG

“ Tough to come back to Aurora and make a special stop at Red's barbershop to say hi Jim....only to learn that he had passed. He was a person I grew to admire more and more as the years went on...He was blessed with gifts that others could not begin to develop with years of practice...

Many people will reflect on their interactions with Jim and recall them with great affection... I think of Jim as an icon of what is good about people...he earned and deserved the respect of his friends and will be missed...

I smile when I think he may be sitting on the bench with an armful of towels next to coach Mac cheering on the Blackhawks.

Jeff Gatesmith (Smith WAHS 70)

Jeff Gatesmith - December 04, 2016 at 12:00 PM

DF

“ I lived a few doors away from jimmy in the 50's - 70's and spent many , many hours in his room listening to his extensive collection of 45 rpm records.I have not seen him for 40 years, but can as clear as day see him holding his transistor radio to his ear as he listened to music, can see him with us as we played whiffle ball in the Putnams back yard, and just cruising around the neighborhood the cool dude as he was. In my 67 years of life, he is among a very few people whom I consider to be a truly beautiful human being. I just learned of his passing not 15 minutes ago and feel a tremendous sense of affection for him. His life was so much bigger than his many challenges and I am honored to have been his friend.

David Frye

David Frye - November 11, 2016 at 11:33 PM

PR

“ I graduated from West High in 1968 along with Jim. I remember last seeing him about 4 years ago at the barbershop where I took my Dad for haircuts. Jim was always there with a smile and a warm greeting, and that is the way he lived his life. He may not have remembered me, but he left an indelible impression on my life. He was truly a bright spot at WAHS and in the Aurora community and will be sorely missed...

~Peggy Laz (Recknagel)

Waukesha, WI

Peggy Laz Recknagel - November 11, 2016 at 08:05 PM

NH

“ To the whole Cofield family: I will be among the many who will truly miss seeing Jimmy on his way to the barbershop, saying hello, and listening to his comments about whoever was playing the night before. He was a true inspiration in how he spread happiness and good will his entire life, never letting any of his disabilities interfere with joy and friendship. I will always have fond memories of Jim from his childhood on, and I hope all of you will too. Nancy Hopp

Nancy S. Hopp - November 10, 2016 at 02:46 PM

PB

“ I remember Jim from West High and West Aurora Barber Shop, always smiling and always a WA BLACKHAWK! Our prayers to the family.

Pat and Jenny Berry - November 10, 2016 at 12:42 PM