



James E. Draves

December 1, 1932 - November 12, 2011

James E. Draves, 78, of Montgomery, passed away Saturday, November 12, 2011 at his home. He was born December 1, 1932 in Racine, Wisconsin. During his nearly 79 years he has seen and done a lot.

After the death of both his parents at a young age, Jim was sent along with four of his siblings to live at Moosehart. At 17, Jim entered military service in the Air Force. He served four years both stateside and overseas during the Korean War.

After the war, Jim returned to Aurora and worked at Lyon Metal. It was around this time that Jim met his soon-to-be bride Marialyce Mills. They were married on May 5, 1956. Jim later worked at Richards Wilcox for 35 years until his retirement in 1995. After retiring, Jim pursued part-time work at a variety of jobs, as well as volunteer work as a member of the Knights of Columbus and for the FBI, for which he was recognized for his tireless efforts and hard work. Jim also loved to pass his time cooking and baking, and has treated many over the years to his delectable creations. His culinary talents and tasty dishes will be sorely missed.

Jim was active in the Boy Scouts for over 50 years. He served as an assistant scoutmaster for Our Lady of Good Counsel Troop 27 in Aurora. He was a Virgil member of the BSA Order of the Arrow and was honored for his tireless

efforts in scouting with the Silver Beaver award. He was presented the St. George Religious Award by the Rockford Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting, honoring his outstanding contributions to the spiritual development of Catholic youth programs in the Boy Scouts. In addition, Jim was honored with the Charles Pierce Burton Award for his services to Kedeka District, Two Rivers Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Jim enjoyed sports and participated in such team sports as bowling, softball and basketball. He was also President of the Aurora Area Girls Softball League and coached the Aurora National Bank's girls' softball team in the 1960's and into the early 1970's.

Survivors include his loving wife of 55 years, Marialyce; his son, Kevin of Seattle, WA; his daughter, Kim (Kevin) Frieders of Aurora; two grandchildren, Lauren and Grant Frieders; his sister, Joan (James Brice of Los Angeles, CA; his brother, Chuck (Nicky) Draves of North Aurora; brothers-in-law, James (Eileen) Mills of Rock Falls, IL and Richard Mills of Seattle, WA; several nieces and nephews and many friends. A special thanks is extended to close friends Lee and Elmer Weber of Montgomery, IL and their family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Bert and Lydia Draves; his brothers, Bud, Tim, Arthur and Lyle; and sisters, Louise and Elaine.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, November 17, 2011 from THE DALEIDEN MORTUARY at 9:30 AM to St. Peter Church at 10:00 AM. Fr. Antoni Kretowicz will officiate with entombment in Mt. Olivet Cemetery. Visitation will be held Wednesday, November 16, 2011 from 2:00 PM – 8:00 PM, with a Liturgical Wake Service at 6:00 PM, at THE DALEIDEN MORTUARY, 220 N. Lake St., Aurora, IL 60506. 630-631-5500. Please visit our new interactive website at www.daleidenmortuary.com.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Olivet Cemetery

278 Ashland Avenue
Aurora, IL 60505

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 16. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Daleiden Mortuary
220 N. Lake Street
Aurora, IL 60506
(630) 631-5500
daleidenmortuary@gmail.com
<https://www.daleidenmortuary.com>

Funeral Mass

NOV 17. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Peter Church
925 Sard Avenue
Aurora, IL 60506
1-630-896-6816

Tribute Wall



“ Daleiden Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of James E. Draves



Daleiden Mortuary - November 12, 2011 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ My condolences to the Draves family. I enjoyed meeting James when he came to Seattle to visit his son, Kevin. He was so friendly and interested in the people who worked with Kevin, and he had some great stories to tell.

Edward A Clark - November 16, 2011 at 02:42 PM

PS

“ I am remembering Jim for his kind and generous ways. He and Marialyce mean so much to our family, and especially to our son, Nathan, whom they took into their home and into their hearts and looked after during the days while I worked. Our relationship grew and the impact Jim had on Nathan's development was significant. I thank God for bringing us all together and he will be missed and remembered forever.

Paige Scott - November 15, 2011 at 09:42 PM

EM

“ *On Angel's Wings, Mr. Draves, straight to heaven's gate. You have always been a wonderful, kind, gentleman throughout my life. From when I was young and you would come into Randall Drug and makes us smile to seeing you at my children's confirmations and more. I thank you and Mrs. Draves for all the support and love you have shown my family over the years. My children still treasure their baby blankets.*

Much Love, respect and peace to the Draves Family. Hugs to you Mrs Draves

Eileen Sullivan Miller

Eileen Sullivan Miller - November 14, 2011 at 09:28 AM

EC

“ *We are saddened at the passing of Jim. He has been many things to our family: friend, mentor, hired us to paint his house on Evans Ave (twice), Godfather to our son Steve, Confirmation sponsor to another son, Chris. He crafted many items from scarf sliders for Boy Scout kerchiefs, to a Wedding cake for Chris's wedding. He and Marialyce were always there to help and support our family. He is a true "man of God", a brother in the Lord, and a good friend. Pat and I will be praying for the repose of Jim's soul and the comforting of Marialyce.*

Ed and Pat Carroll

Edmund J. Carroll - November 13, 2011 at 01:57 PM

MA

I knew Jim as a very generous man. One of my most cherished memories was during a trip back to Illinois a few years back. I was talking with Jim about wanting to go shopping for a pocket watch. He was curious as to the reason why and the kind of watch I was looking for. He left the room for a moment and came back with the most beautiful gold pocket watch I had ever seen. He said it was from his days in the military, had gotten it overseas, and wanted me to have it. I've used it now for several years and every time I wind it I think of Jim. I'm glad I have something tangible to remember him by. Jim, I'm so happy to have know you!

Mark Adrian - November 14, 2011 at 09:32 AM

GF

My grandfather was the best grandfather that a grandson could ever wish to have in their life. He was always their for me through thick and thin and he was one person that I could always count on to be their for me. He will always be in my heart each and everyday, Love You Poppy.

Grant Frieders - November 14, 2011 at 04:58 PM