



## James "Jim" M. Breclaw Sr.

November 27, 1944 - March 15, 2014

James "Jim" Breclaw Sr., of Manteno, formerly of Calumet City, passed away Saturday (March 15, 2014) at Presence Our Lady of Victory in Bourbonnais.

He was born Nov. 27, 1944, to Aloysius and Evelyn (nee Gaddo) Breclaw. He married Sandra Abraham in Calumet City on July 1, 1967.

Jim received a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from the University of Illinois in 1967, he then received a master's of science degree in business administration at Indiana University in 1977. He was a civil engineer for many projects in the state and in Chicago in the 1970s and 1980s, including the deep tunnel project in Chicago. He later owned and operated his own engineering consulting firm before retirement.

Jim was a lifetime member of the University of Illinois Alumni Association, and a member of the Toastmasters, American Society of Civil Engineers, Illinois Society of Professional Engineers in Chicago, where he held several offices and received a distinguished service award. His hobbies included playing handball and following all sports including the Chicago Cubs, Chicago Bears and especially the Fighting Illini.

Jim was "a kind and caring man, who was most proud of his family, his education and his professional accomplishments."

Surviving are his wife, Sandra, of Manteno; one son, James Breclaw Jr., of Merrillville, Ind.; one daughter, Jaime (Michael) Ellsworth, of Downs; one brother, John Breclaw; and one grandchild, Tyler Ellsworth.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his maternal grandmother, Sophie Gaddo.

At his request, cremation rites have been accorded.

A celebration of life will be from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday at Oak Ridge Community Clubhouse in Manteno. Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home, Manteno, is in charge of arrangements.

Oak Ridge Community Clubhouse  
1099 Oak Ridge Drive  
Manteno, IL 60950

# Tribute Wall

JB

“ *Jan BurnoMills lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" M. Breclaw Sr.*



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**Jan BurnoMills** - August 09, 2018 at 06:14 PM

NJ

“ *The Jonlija family would like to send there condolences to the breclaw family our thoughts and prayers are with you.*



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**ned jonlija** - March 22, 2014 at 03:55 PM

 Cathy Stevens

“ *Jim was our neighbor and friend. I remember him waking the streets of Oak Ridge..a smile on his face. He and my dad sometimes walked together. He will be missed. May he rest in peace.*

*Cathy and Richard Stevens*

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**Cathy Stevens** - March 18, 2014 at 11:05 PM

JJ

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



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**james breclaw jr** - March 17, 2014 at 05:12 PM

JJ

*This picture is my personal favorite of my dads big wide smile. memories of throwing around the baseball in the front yard and family vacations were a great time in my childhood. The way my dad helped our family and treated us is the value I hold highest and hope to do a fraction as well as he did expressing to others. My memories of my dad will constantly be a reminder of how precious life is. I love you Dad.- James Jr*

**james m breclaw jr** - March 19, 2014 at 08:41 AM

PW

*He must of been quite a man because you are. PW*

**Pamela wadkins** - May 23, 2023 at 03:10 PM

 Jaime Ellsworth

“ *All throughout my life, I remember how much my dad loved the Fighting Illini! He watched every sporting event possible and he was enthusiastic about it whether they were good or bad, winning or losing. During every game, he led the family in chanting...."I-L-L" and we would all say (sometimes with much less enthusiasm) "I-N-I". He was so proud of his education and he made it very clear to me, even at an early age how important it was that I receive a college education. He was so proud of me when I walked down the aisle to receive both of my degrees and when he got to walk me down the aisle in marriage. That's the best way to describe my dad...Proud. He loves his family more than anything else. He took good care of us in his own little ways. I will always remember our father-daughter moments...the bowling league and square dancing. He used to say I held him on a pedestal. Well I still do! Even in heaven, I want him to know that I'm still "Daddy's Little Girl"!! He will be missed but it was time to let him go. He is at peace now. I love you so much Daddy!*

**Jaime Ellsworth** - March 17, 2014 at 11:43 AM

BG

*I never met your dad but children are a reflection of their parents and knowing you as a neighbor has been wonderful. You and your family have added so much to the neighborhood. Take care and we will see you soon.*

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**Barb gilhaus** - March 17, 2014 at 12:09 PM

GC

*Jim and I worked for Harza Engineering on the Deep Tunnel Project in Chicago. Jim was a very mellow guy. My condolences to his family.*  
*Grant Cherrington*  
*Foster City, California*

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**G.Grant Cherrington** - January 20, 2015 at 10:24 AM