



James P. Ruder

October 30, 1947 - December 7, 2012

James Patrick Ruder, 65, of Kankakee, passed away Friday (Dec. 7, 2012) at Riverside Medical Center where he was in hospice care.

James was born Oct. 30, 1947, in Kankakee, the son of Andrew Vernon and Leona Crevier Ruder. James attended Our Lady Academy of Manteno, St. Jude Seminary in Momence and graduated from St. Ambrose University. He was a local business owner, of Southside Furniture and, recently, Best Mattress.

He served in the Army Reserves during the Vietnam War.

Surviving are his wife, Suzy Brown Ruder, whom he married August. 29, 1970, at St. Martin of Tours in Kankakee; their three children, Matthew (Jenelle Nevins), of Chicago, Christofer (Shaw Stover), of Chicago, and Megan (Mike T. Roche) of Evanston. James was blessed with nine grandchildren: James Patrick "Jack" Roche, 9; Margaret, 4; Dennis, 21 months; Beckett, 4; Elliot, 3; Hattie, 1; Davis, 6; Lauren, 5; and Mike, 3.

Surviving siblings are Rod Ruder (Rita Kehr), of Normal, Bill Ruder (Mary Fowler), of Manteno, Mary Lee Ruder Greco (Joe Greco), of Algonquin, and Ted Ruder (Karen Murphy), of Middletown, Conn.; nieces and nephews: Romney, Ryan, Ross, Adam, Andrew, Joe, Gina, Jake, Todd and Molly; along

with many cousins and their families.

His surviving aunts are Cecelia Crevier (Gene Seamark) and Mary Giardina, both of Kankakee, and Marcella Egges, of Milwaukee, Wis. and Adelia Loiselle, of Bourbonnais.

From Suzy's family, he is survived by his mother-in-law, Mary "Bee" Brown, of Kankakee, Vikki (Sheldon) Proctor, of Evanston, Patricia (Phil Aldred), of Nipomo, Calif., Mary Brown (Tom Rogers), of Knoxville, Tenn., Sheila Brown, of Kankakee, Liz Brown, of Chicago, along with many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his father-in-law, Jack Brown; and one brother-in-law, Jim Brown.

James was the patriarch of both the Ruder and Brown families and took his role seriously. He was a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church, Kankakee, for 33 years. He was past school board president at Bishop McNamara Catholic High School, where he also had chaired the spring auction, past president of the Kankakee Neighborhood Association, past president at Retreat Club, member of Kankakee's Riverview Historic District, and member of Kankakee Country Club. Socially, Jim belonged to the "Campers" founded in 1970, was a proud member of the "Ambrose Bee's," and recently of St. Jude's alumni group. He loved to cook, to travel to southern France, to golf; but mostly he delighted in family gatherings at his Riverview home.

James will always be remembered as the chef, the party giver and storyteller. The family asks that you recall a special story about Jim and share that with his family.

Visitation will be from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday at the Clancy-Gernon Funeral

Home in Bourbonnais. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Monday at St. Patrick Catholic Church. His lifelong friend, Father Tony Nugent, will officiate. In lieu of flowers, the family requests remembrances be made to Bishop McNamara Catholic High School or Hospice of Kankakee Valley.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Kankakee Valley - www.hkvcares.org or to Bishop McNamara Catholic High School - www.bishopmac.com/

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 9. 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Bourbonnais - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.
295 Main St., NW
Bourbonnais, IL 60914
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of James P. Ruder*



Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes - December 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ *Susie,
So sorry to hear about your loss. My sympathies to you and your family.
Yours,
Laura Milas*

Laura Milas - January 02, 2013 at 01:22 PM

NJ

“ *Necy Jahoda lit a candle in memory of James P. Ruder*



Necy Jahoda - December 11, 2012 at 09:52 AM

TZ

We were so very sorry to hear of Jim' passing. Atruly great guy good parent and husbачn. Our prayers are with you all. Tom and Bev Zwetschke

Tom Zwetschke - December 12, 2012 at 01:36 PM

TC

“ To the Ruders,
Suzy, Matt, Megan, and Chris,

I wish you all the strength you need to get through this difficult time. I have very fond memories of Jim and his zest for life. A gentleman through and through.

Deepest Condolences and love to a wonderful family

Thomas Costanza

thomas costanza - December 10, 2012 at 05:27 PM

DP

“ Suzie and family,
Working with your husband/Dad several years provided so many fond and FUNNY memories. I will never forget the day we were standing at the front desk of Southside furniture talking and a fellow with purple hair drove off in Jim's green SUV. Jim went running up Schuyler Avenue, yelling at the top of his lungs "Hey, come back here, that's my car!" I believe it all turned out OK as his vehicle was found on I-57 eventually. Both of my children were born during my career at Southside Furniture, so Jim spent a good deal of time walking on eggshells making sure I wasn't going to cry. I believe one day he did have to coax me out of the bathroom as I was 9 months pregnant and sobbing because a mean lady yelled at me. Many fond memories and so sorry for your loss. He will be greatly missed.

Debbie Fredrickson Pfingsten, Watseka, IL

Debbie Pfingsten - December 10, 2012 at 02:24 PM

KW

“ Suzy,

We were so sorry to hear of your loss. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.

*Karen and Dan Wilken
Oak Ridge, TN.*

Karen and Dan Wilken - December 10, 2012 at 01:30 PM

LW

“ Suzie, My thoughts and prayers are with you today. You and "James" ---such a beautiful couple, you will be in my heart always. That "special girl" of Jim's from back home that I had to meet. The memories I have of Jim during Marycrest/St. Ambrose days are exceptional and make me "smile" and the memories I have of you and Jim as a young married couple having babies--another "smile" I will always remember the "goal" you had to make sure of your trip to Chicago to eat good French food. I see that one of Jim's great loves was your trips to France, so you won over his heart in every way. I know that so many people have lost a good friend--I know you have lost your best friend. I will think of you often.

*Love
Lynn Walsh
A Marycrest Girl*

Lynn Walsh - December 10, 2012 at 11:41 AM

DK

I just received my St. Ambrose magazine, I was saddened to read about Jim's death. He was a good friend at Ambrose and in the Iowa National Guard. Although I didn't fully appreciate it at the time, Jim turned out to be an important influence on how I lived my life.

Dennis Kripp, Sr. Ambrose Class of 1969

Dennis Kripp - April 01, 2013 at 01:11 PM

MC

“ I went to St. Jude Seminary with Jim many, many moons ago. He was a kind and gentle soul. My condolences to his family. You and your family will be in my thoughts during this time. kindest regards,
Marcel Van Camp

Marcel Van Camp - December 10, 2012 at 08:56 AM

AT

“ We are so sorry to hear about your loss. We are keeping you in our thoughts and prayers. Please know we are here if you need anything. May God give you strength and courage through this time.

*Sincerely -
Ann and John Turner*

Ann Turner - December 10, 2012 at 06:48 AM

AM

“ *Suzie and family:*
I am so sorry to hear of your loss. Jim was a very kind and caring man and will be sadly missed. I will not be able to attend his services cause I am in Colorado but I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers. God be with all of you.

Ann McClain - December 09, 2012 at 09:37 PM

KC

“ *Suzy and Family, we are so sorry for your loss. We have so many Great memories! Jim was such a caring and happy person We will treasure the time we spent in Florida together. Always know that you are in our thoughts and prayers and never doubt our love!*
Sincerely Chuck and Karen Cassidy

Karen Cassidy - December 09, 2012 at 06:52 PM

DT

“ Dear Suzy and family,

We are so sorry for your loss. Don and I feel so fortunate to have known such and warm and caring person,who had a smile for everyone he met.

Don and Pat Trudeau

Donald Trudeau - December 09, 2012 at 04:16 PM

DM

“ Dear Suzy,

Sorry for your loss. Know that Jim was admired as a business man and respected by myself and i'm sure many more. His care and concern were genuine in all who he met. His passing is a loss to all you new him. Know that you are in our thought and prayers during this difficult time.



Dave & Gina Marcotte

Dave Marcotte - December 09, 2012 at 03:47 PM

TK

“ Dear Suzy,

Don and I are so sorry to hear that your darling Jim has passed on to his reward.

You and your all "grown up" children have been in our thoughts and prayers. I know that they will "keep you going". Go easy on yourself during your time of mourning.

Don and I want you to know that even though we have been in Virginia for 26 years...we still consider the twelve years we lived in Kankakee as a cherished time that we deeply appreciate...and knowing you and Jim and your darling children made it sweet!! Don regrets that he wasn't able to have more time with Jim....and he remembers having fun taking Jim to a Purdue basketball game and playing some golf together.

Blake e-mailed us to say that your home was his "second home"! Kendra e-mailed to say that she and Megan were buddies..which we knew.

Praying that God will richly bless you with the many memories of your life together.

Don & Teri Kleppe

Teri Kleppe - December 09, 2012 at 03:29 PM

KW

“ *Suzy, I will always remember Jim's generous spirit and ready smile. I have so many special memories of summertime at the lake with both of you. I am sending my love and prayers to you, Matt, Chris, Megan and the whole family. He will be so missed. Lots of Love, Kelli Wallace*

Kelli Wallace - December 09, 2012 at 03:08 PM

DK

“ Don & Teri Kleppe lit a candle in memory of James P. Ruder



Don & Teri Kleppe - December 09, 2012 at 02:39 PM

JM

“ Matt, Chris, Megan ~

It's been ages that I've seen all of you. It's truly a shame that it's times like these that bring up the memories of times past, such innocent times back then! I'm so very sorry to hear about your Dad, 65 is too young. The picture posted of your Thanksgiving a few weeks back is precious - a lasting memory indeed. Please hold your Mom up during this difficult time - she is a rock, but we all have our breaking points.

I have experienced the pain of your loss, nothing can soothe the pain and emptiness that comes with losing your Dad. Hang on to each other and know that you had a great Dad and he's watching over you all now - may that bring you some comfort.

Jenny Costanza McNamara

Jenny Costanza McNamara - December 09, 2012 at 02:21 PM

TH

“ We are so sorry to hear about your loss. Our thoughts, prayers and love are with your family. Love, Tory and Joby Harold

tory harold - December 09, 2012 at 02:17 PM

TM

“ *The Dailey Method purchased the Care & Support 5-day Meal Plan for the family of James P. Ruder.*



The Dailey Method - December 09, 2012 at 02:13 PM

ST

“ *Suzy, Matt, Megan and Chris- We are so very sorry and our prayers are with you all. We are forever lucky to know such a wonderful man...We will always remember his caring smile and kind spirit...God bless. Stacie and Jeff*

Stacie - December 09, 2012 at 08:30 AM

TS

“ *Suzy and family,
We are so sorry to hear about James. When we were visiting in September, (from Florida) Tom saw him at the stop light by Jaenicke's and they were able to exchange "hellos" .
Little did Tom know that was also his "goodbye" to his cousin. Tom has such great memories of the family at Grandma and Grandpa Crevier at Christmas. He will truly be missed. You have our deepest sympathy.
Love,
Tom & Sally Sippel
Cape Coral, Florida*



Tom & Sally Sippel - December 09, 2012 at 07:54 AM

AP

“ As husband of Patricia, Suzy's sister, I have twenty six years of fond memories surrounding family get togethers, mostly centering around the Ruder's household in Kankakee. James was always the mainstay of the festivities, and whether he was cooking up a gourmet meal, playing with the grandkids, taking us for a boat ride on the river, or finishing up the evening with the inevitable euchre game, it was a fun filled day! Thanks for all the good times! I will always remember you fondly and with admiration for your accomplishments. You have a great family and nine grandchildren to be extremely proud of!

Aldred, John Phillip - December 08, 2012 at 09:46 PM

JD

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Janey Dvorak - December 08, 2012 at 06:54 PM

GW

“ Chris, I met your dad when you moved into Park Hall way back in 1993. He was a nice man and I am sure a great father. We will be praying for you and your family!

Greg Weber and family.

Greg Weber - December 08, 2012 at 05:59 PM

BF

“ We so dearly love Uncle Jim and the entire Ruder family. His wonderful, kind, and compassionate soul touched all of those he met so very deeply.

I know he was such an important father-figure for Kendra, and when I had the opportunity to meet him and hear his words of wisdom, and share much laughter, I was comforted by his warm spirit. The love he generated here on Earth is now amplified in Heaven, and his spirit lives in us all.

May God bless all of you during this difficult time.

Much love, Bobby Farber

Bob Farber - December 08, 2012 at 04:19 PM

PA

My Dear Ruders (Suzy, Matt, Chris & Megan)

If it hurts to much to look back, but your to scared to look ahead, just look beside you and and know that I will be there in spirit holding all of you in my heart.

Much love, yours sis Pat & Aunt Weezy

Patricia Aldred - December 08, 2012 at 06:30 PM

CR

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Chris Ruder - December 08, 2012 at 12:12 PM

CR

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



Chris Ruder - December 08, 2012 at 12:11 PM

DH

“ *Dear Suzy, family and friends of James Patrick,
We have lost our 3rd James in the Ruder family. I am struggling with this and wish so much to be there with the you all. We have many memories to be thankful for, like good times in Florida, the Loiselle wedding, gatherings in K3, being there for us when our dad died, and many more. His laugh (Chuckle) was infectious. Prayers for all who knew and loved him to keep the wonderful memories alive and celebrate his Everlasting Life. He leaves behind his legacy in raising a beautiful, successful family. God Bless you all.
Love, Lou and Dee Hartlieb*

Delores Hartlieb - December 08, 2012 at 11:57 AM



“ *Suzy and Family: We offer our prayers and deepest sympathy on the loss of your husband James, Both James and you will be in our thoughts and prayers in this time of mourning. Again, our prayers go out to you and your family.*

Jim and Ellie Murphy - Chelmsford, MA

Jim Ellie Murphy - December 08, 2012 at 11:38 AM

FS

“ Thanks for the laughs & friendship.
Wop

Frank Sbertoli - December 08, 2012 at 10:45 AM

DR

“ *Suzie and family:*
We are so sorry to hear of your loss. Jim was a very kind and caring man and will be sadly missed. We will not be able to attend his services since we are in Florida but will keep you in our thoughts and prayers. God be with all of you.
Duane and Kathy Roy

Duane and Kathy Roy - December 08, 2012 at 09:33 AM

CS

“ *Dear Suzie and family,*
We are saddened to hear of Jim's passing but know that your family has so many wonderful memories to see you through. Thinking of you today and in the days to come.
Our deepest sympathies,
Wayne and Cheryl Segneri

Cheryl Segneri - December 08, 2012 at 08:49 AM

ES

“ *Dear Suzie,
We were so saddened to learn of Jim's passing, and we extend to you, Matt and Jenelle, Chris and Shaw, Megan and Mike, and all the family, our very deepest and genuine sympathies, condolences, and prayers. We have the fondest memories of Jim, his ready laugh, natural good-naturedness, amicable smile, and easy charm. Jim's generous nature endures among the very fondest of memories. He will be sorely missed, and we sympathize with your grief.
With condolences and prayers, your friends,
Ed and Jean Smith*

Ed and Jean Smith - December 07, 2012 at 06:10 PM

MM

“ *Marilyn & Len Mulcahy lit a candle in memory of James P. Ruder*



Marilyn & Len Mulcahy - December 07, 2012 at 05:39 PM

MM

Our prayers are with you!

Marilyn and Len Mulcahy - December 07, 2012 at 05:40 PM

PW

Love and prayers to all of you. Jim has a place in everyone's heart who had the privilege and honor of being in his presence. Passion, compassion, integrity, and a zest for life were hallmark's of Jim's personality. " Greatness is not found in possessions, power, position, or prestige. It is discovered in goodness. humility, service, and character." {William Arthur Ward} This quote embodies the essence of Jim's life on earth. This will continue in heaven. Love always, Gary and Pat Wilson

Patricia Jane Wilson - December 08, 2012 at 06:29 AM

DM

Suzie,

We have been surrounding you and yours in love & light ever since Pat told us what happened. Both Glenn & I couldn't help remembering with humor & fondness Jim's 'take charge' attitude at our outdoor wedding reception when the Heavens opened up and 5" of rain turned the long road up to the pig roast into a cascading 'mud fall'. Jim teamed up with Gary & Jim F., scurried over to Walmart & purchased rain gear & galoshes & eventually transported every guest safely up the mud hill. This act SO exemplified his compassion, zest, & amazing sense of humor (not to mention his infectious smile) that he will always be remembered in our hearts! With love & respect, Deb & Glenn Moulton

Debra Vance Moulton - December 08, 2012 at 08:26 AM