



J. Scott Swaim

November 3, 1946 - February 22, 2009

The Honorable J. Scott Swaim, 62, of Bourbonnais, died Sunday (Feb. 22, 2009). Visitation will be from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday at the Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais, and from 10 a.m. Thursday at the College Church of the Nazarene, until the 11 a.m. services, with military rites at the church. Cremation rites will be accorded. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Hospice of Kankakee Valley. Mr. Swaim was a Kankakee County Circuit Court judge and formerly a private practice attorney with his father. He was born Nov. 3, 1946, in Rensselaer, Ind., the son of George T. and Mary J. Sellers Swaim. He was a 1964 graduate of Kankakee High School, a graduate of the College of Wooster, Wooster, Ohio, and a graduate of Tulane University Law School in New Orleans. He was a retired lieutenant colonel with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves. He was a member of the College Church of the Nazarene, the YMCA, The Shriners, Masons, and the Kankakee Country Club. He had also taught at Kankakee Community College. Surviving are one son, J. Swaim of Kankakee; one grandson, Jack Swaim; his father and stepmother, George T. and Alice Swaim of Manteno; one sister, Sheryl Swaim and August Spivey of Newport Beach, Calif.; two brothers and one sister-in-law, G. Tupper and Yhvonne Swaim of Indiana, F. Michael Swaim of Kankakee; and special friend, Michelle Arseneau. His mother is deceased.

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Album*



Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes - December 07, 2010 at 03:14 PM



“ *The world is a lesser place today since Scott has been called home. He was my good friend for 57 years. When I was married in 1987, Scott served as my best man. He was certainly that, a best man.

His sense of fair play and equity made him an excellent judge. He loved this assignment, though it took a toll on him. Those of us who never feel the weight of decisions that change peoples lives, in such dramatic ways, may not appreciate how heavy this load can be.

I remember special times we had through the years. We shared many of life's milestones. The joys and sorrows that come along seemed to keep us in each others lives.

I will miss him and the wise counsel he provided. I will miss our light and heavy conversations. I will miss the man that represented so much of what I think is important.,

This Marine stood tall when it counted. I loved you my good friend.##imported-begin##Earl Miner##imported-end##*

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“
*

I truly believe, that when God closes our eyes to the sunshine we know, He opens them to a light to which the sun is but a shadow.

My thoughts and prayers are with Scott and each of you, his family.

With sympathy,

Judy (Miner) and Ivan Strand###imported-begin###Judy Miner Strand###imported-end###*

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“
During my three years with the Kankakee County State's Attorney's Office, I consider myself lucky to have had the chance to work with Scott. ĩ½He was not only a talented litigator, he was also a very kind-hearted and ethical attorney. ĩ½I will remember him standing in the rotunda at the courthouse, discussing the legal issue of the day. I learned a lot from Scott; he will be sorely missed. ĩ½###imported-begin###Ann Bloss Montgomery###imported-end###

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“
Scott was a remarkably kind person and did so much for so many. ĩ½I was so impressed by him and his ability and memory. ĩ½I will always be grateful to Scott for his caring, concern, and advice. ĩ½He was so kind to my parents and went out of his way to take care of their wills when they were both hospitalized. ĩ½He handled numerous situations for me (even after I moved to Arizona) and was a friend not only my attorney. ĩ½What can I say... ĩ½Scott was always there when someone needed him and he will always be remembered. ĩ½My deepest sympathy to the entire Swaim family.###imported-begin###Julie Johnson###imported-end###

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ We would like to pass along our acquaintances to J, our nephew Jack, and the entire Swaim family. Scott was a good man and a wonderful grandfather to Jack. Last season when I was coaching Jack in T-Ball, I could always see the pride in Scott's eyes when he stood behind the fence rooting Jack on. And, in return I could also see the sense of accomplishment that Jack got when he saw that same look in Scott's eyes. I know that Scott will be missed by many including ourselves, but will especially be missed by J and Jack. My deepest sympathies are with them and with the rest of the Swaim family.##imported-begin##Scott Elbert##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ What a tremendous loss for all of us. Judge Swaim, in my opinion, was one of the most-respected judges on the bench. I've admired the respect he demanded on the bench, such a demanding demeanor; yet he was so kind and helpful, always smiling when approached as a citizen. My prayers go out to all of the judge's family and friends.

--Carl Gerdovich, Watseka
i ½##imported-begin##Carl Gerdovich##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ I am so very sorry for your loss. My heart aches for you and your family. I wish there was something I could do to make all of the pain go away. Life is so unfair at times. But now you have someone very special watching over you all from above. Please know that we are always thinking of you and praying for you. Please don't ever hesitate to call if you guys ever need anything. You are a great friend, so please take care of yourself.

All of our love, prayers and deepest sympathy,
Natalie, Nate ,Tyler, Evan, Kylie and Luci.)

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ We are sorry for your loss

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ We are deeply saddened to hear of the loss of Mr. Swaim. J, may you always find comfort in the memories of your father. What an impact he had on the lives of many people; his legacy will live on for many years to come. Our thoughts are with you as you grieve.

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ My sincerest condolences to Scott's family and and those who held him close. ĩ½A real competitor in High School, but a guy who liked to have fun - and didn't forget his friends. ĩ½It was always a treat to run into Scott around town when I was a cop, trading jokes, stories, or reminiscing about about a fight or two we'de had in P.E. ĩ½I still remember the hectic runaround he had concerning activation for 'Desert Storm.' ĩ½Having left Kankakee over fifteen years ago, I didn't know him as a Judge, but I'm sure he approached that with the same diligence, integrity, and dedication with which he always appoached anything set before him. ĩ½Fair winds and following seas to you, Marine, and Semper Fi!!

Ron Riml - Kankakee HS '64; ĩ½Kankakee City PD '73-'93, and SCPO, USN and Reserve, '64-'73, '79-'93###imported-begin###Ron Riml###imported-end###

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ To Tupper, Shari, Mr. Swaim and family,

I just wanted to say I am praying for you all. ĩ½When someone goes home to be with the Lord it is always an emotional time... I have to remember that in Jesus we will see one another again.

I haven't seen Scott in years, but memories are vivid of many interactions over our childhood years.

I pray peace, comfort and reassurance of our Lord's promises to us..

In His loving care,
Jenny###imported-begin###Jenny Fienning###imported-end###

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ Im sorry to hear about the passing of Scott Swaim he was a great attorney. ĩ½God Bless his family ĩ½###imported-begin###sherry jordan###imported-end###

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to you & your family at this sorrowful time; may you find peace & comfort in each other.##imported-begin##Alicia Stone##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ Sorry for your loss##imported-begin##Bud and Phyllis Manau##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ peace be with you##imported-begin##jaqulyn mallaney##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ My thoughts and memories are with you in this, a difficult time.##imported-begin##Dan Cooper##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ Judge Swaim served his country and community as a true professional. I respected him for his guidance and leadership throughout the years.

He was a genuine guy that always had a kind word to share.

He will truly be missed.

Godspeed my friend.

##imported-begin##Ty Kanzaki##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ Scott has always been and always will be a wonderful person to our lives, from seeing him at the gym to waving at each other in the neighborhood.

He will be sadly missed - our prayers are with his family.

Rest in peace friend.##imported-begin##Janet & Robin Richey##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ To the Swaim family: I am sorry for your loss. I really enjoyed working with Judge Swaim. I'm only sorry that I knew him for such a short time. I appreciated his integrity and professionalism. Sincerely, GP Cuonzo##imported-begin##George P Cuonzo##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ J,

 My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family in this time of loss. Please, let me know if you need anything at all.##imported-begin##Shawndra Bear##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ Judge,

 ¶½¶½¶½You often admonished defendants in court that it would not be a pleasurable experience if they ever saw you in court again; however, I felt that it was a pleasurable experience having you as a traffic court judge for the past few years. ¶½I will definitely miss your humor, and seeing you at the jail first thing on Saturday mornings.##imported-begin##Jason Helland##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ I know Scott was an early riser because we would often wave at each other when he was on his way to the fitness center and I was out walking.

Scott will be remembered by his friends and classmates as an outstanding person, always a good friend and a fellow veteran and fine example of the USMC. He will be missed and we will miss his service as a judge and citizen of this area.

Our condolences and sympathy to his family and special friend.

###imported-begin###Andrew Brorsen###imported-end###

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ J - You have our heartfelt sympathy. ĩ½We feel bad that we're not in town to personally convey our sympathy. ĩ½Our prayers are with you and your family. ĩ½We know how hard it is to lose your dad. ĩ½We were both about your age when we lost our fathers. ĩ½Our fathers missed so much of our lives, and we missed that we couldn't share so many things with them. ĩ½But stay strong and keep him in your heart. ĩ½He'll then be with you forever. ĩ½ĩ½Kevin & Janis###imported-begin###Kevin & Janis Nugent###imported-end###

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ Mike,

I wanted to tell you how sorry I was to read about your brother. ĩ½You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.

Lillijean###imported-begin###Lillijean McLeod###imported-end###

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ Jay and Family,

Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. Scott was a wonderful man and will truly be missed in our community. Keep all the wonderful memories close to your heart.

##imported-begin##Patricia Goggins Dahn##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ NULL##imported-begin##Val Gunderson##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ A honorable and fair judge. It was a pleasure to be in his courtroom.##imported-begin##M/Sgt James Kofshur##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ My prayers are with you....It is so very difficult when we lose someone so suddenly. Usually without any explanation.

May you find much support in your Kankakee Family and Members.

Hopefully soon your tears of sorrow will turn to tears of the joy, I pray that you soon remember all the wonderful moments i½you shared with such a wonderful, son, father, brother and grandpa...

I know he was well liked and a great assett to Kankakee...he will be missed and he will be remembered...God's love##imported-begin##Marla K Skeen-Wasson##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ I apologize for the tardiness of my condolences to Scott's family.

I was shocked & saddened at hearing the news of Scott's passing. I met Scott in the 1970's at the Greater Kankakee Airport while Scott was taking flying lessons. I was an instructor there & came to know him as a friend both on the airport and off. Everyone in the Kankakee aviation community liked Scott. He was always friendly & outgoing whether he knew you personally or not. He had one of those great sense of humors that would do the world good if it could be copied.

I've always been proud to tell people, "yes, I know Scott & he's a great guy....".

May Scott Swaim rest in peace.##imported-begin##Ron Lukow##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers to all of Uncle Scott's loved ones during this difficult time.

Lori Swaim Wodnik##imported-begin##Loraine Wodnik##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ NULL##imported-begin##John & Monique Perry##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ To the family of Scott....my deepest sympathy and thoughts and prayers are sent your way. ï¿½There are no words that can help to ease your pain. May the love and support of family and friends and God's blessing help you endure in the days ahead. ï¿½

Ann Offermann ï¿½##imported-begin##Ann Offermann##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to Jay and the rest of the Swaim family and to the Judges LARGE SET OF FRIENDS in our loss of this great person.

He was a tremendous person with the "heart" of gold. ĩ½My deepest regret is that I could not be there with you to mourn your loss as i am in Arizona.

Keep your faith and remember "they need Judges up there too"###imported-begin###Mike Vanhorn###imported-end###

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ Judge Swaim was an important part of the paralegal program at KCC. ĩ½As an alum of the paralegal program and president of the KCC Chapter of LEX, I want to express my sympathy to the family and to let them know that he will be missed as a great supporter of the program, students and alums and a good friend.###imported-begin###Jamie Greenley###imported-end###

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ I enjoyed serving with Scott during our weekend drills and our 2 weeks of Active Duty each year. ĩ½He served his Country and Corps faithfully and enthusiastically. ĩ½Semper Fi###imported-begin###Jim Bailey###imported-end###

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ I had the great pleasure of working with Judge Swaim for many months; he was quite a man. I had a tremendous amount of respect for him, his position and his views. He brought a great deal to Iroquois County and everyone in the courthouse really liked him. You have my deepest sympathy.##imported-begin##Julie Schippert##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ We are saddened at the loss of a very good friend. There was much joy attached to Scott through volunteer work at the YMCA and golf at the club. He will be sorely missed and we offer our deepest sympathy to all of his family. God Bless.##imported-begin##Tom & Bev Zwetschke##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ We are extremely saddened with the passing of our good friend and neighbor. After moving to South Carolina 1 1/2 years ago, Scott and I conversed in one fashion or another on a weekly basis to further enhance our friendship for the past forty years. He was a gentleman in every sense of the word through good and bad times and was always willing to lend a helping hand to anyone in need. We will always remember Scott as a caring person, a wonderful neighbor and a most of all a true friend. We extend our deepest sympathy to Jay, Jack and the entire Swaim family.##imported-begin##Jack and Brenda Graveline##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ My thoughts are with the family.##imported-begin##Necy Jahoda##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ J.,

I was so sorry to hear about your Dad. Let your memories of him guide you through this time of sadness. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Chris Vaughn##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ To the Swaim family...I was saddened to learn of Scott's death this morning. I last saw him at the Y playing racquetball and he was the picture of health. I am living in Prishtina, Kosovo working with the government here to re-establish their electricity power system, and I rarely am back in Kankakee. But the sadness of Scott's death has reached across the sea to me way over here. Scott & I were classmates, fellow athletes, and fellow lawyers....We will miss him. ##imported-begin##William "Bill" James##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ Scott: *Our prayers are lifted for you and your loved ones. We fi you became a friend, and later a neighbor. I'll not forget your profes a courtroom, as a "green hat", or on Berkshire. Thank you for maki Jaclyn, Joe, Maria, my parents (Joe & Lorraine).*

light, dims the sight, And a star gems gleaming br

Lord commend.##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ *Dear Swaim Family, My thoughts and prayer are with you. I knew Scott as my lawyer and I also served for a short time with him on the Board of Directors for Common Wealth Credit Union. He was a good man and cared for the people he served. He set a good example in his community and will be missed.##imported-begin##John Brack##imported-end##*

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with J and the family.##imported-begin##Gene & Kathy Franzen##imported-end##*

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ *Our deepest sympathies to George and Jay and the rest of your family. He was a great asset to our community and a dear friend. All of our Love,##imported-begin##Barbara Azzarelli & Jayne Korstick##imported-end##*

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ Dear Mr. Swaim,

I am on assignment in Vermont thus am unable to attend Scott's services. I just want to extend my sincere sympathy for your loss.

During my 2nd divorce & my endless stressful hours at the courthouse I always found comfort when Scott would pass by and nod his head & give me one of his warm smiles. It was a quiet exchange that was deeply appreciated.

You are in my thoughts & prayers.

Deepest Sympathy,

Valarie

##imported-begin##Valarie A. Arseneau##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ NULL##imported-begin##Linda Patchett##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ My deepest condolences go out to Jay and rest of the Swaim family. Scott was a great friend with a heart of gold and will be deeply missed in the Kankakee community. My deepest sympathy.

##imported-begin##Sabrina Gordon##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ Please accept my deepest sympathy. While Scott and I have not seen one another for several years, he was one of my earliest friends (age 3).

My prayers and the prayers of my family are with Jay and the entire Swaim family.##imported-begin##Judi Ryan Taylor##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ Please accept our condolences. Although we have lived away from Kankakee for nearly 10 years, we remember Judge Swaim with fondness.

Dr. and Mrs. Paul Vakselis##imported-begin##Dr. and Mrs. Paul Vakselis##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ Though Scott and I were not actually related, I consider him family as we share a remarkable grandson, Jack. Scott adored him and was an amazing grandfather. He was so good about attending Jack's T-ball games, Christmas programs and "just being there" for him. Jack is going to miss his Papa Swaim so much. My love, thoughts and prayers go out to J, Jack and the entire Swaim family. May God bless you and help you through your pain. ##imported-begin##Marla Kane##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM



“ Dear Swaim Family,

My deep sympathy to you on the sudden
death of Scott. I
remember the many family meals at the Swaim house where Scott would tease and play with Nicole.

My prayers and thoughts with you all. ##imported-begin##Linda Walcher##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 02:06 PM

