



James S. Coons

July 28, 1943 - September 1, 2025

The life of James S. Coons, has come full circle. He was born 7/28/1943 in Columbia Memorial Hospital and passed away after a short illness 9/1/2025 at 82 years of age in the same hospital. James (Jim) joined the United States Coast Guard after graduating from Germantown Central High School where he was recruited from boot camp to be part of the first ever Coast Guard Honor Guard. While serving Jim was posted in Baltimore Maryland and finally on the Mackinaw Icebreaker in the Great Lakes. After his service in the Coast Guard Jim settled in Cheboygan, Michigan where his children Donna Marie Coons and James Irving Coons II were born. Up North in Michigan Jim was well known as an avid small game hunter and for his legendary wood piles. Throughout the late 1970's and early 1980's he diligently worked towards his lifelong dream of being a Licensed Funeral Director by taking prerequisite courses at Northern Michigan Community College. Jim attended Simmons School of Mortuary Science in Syracuse, NY, graduating 1983, third in his class. After graduation he interned and then was employed by Bates and Anderson in Hudson, NY. Jim maintained a professional relationship with Bates and Anderson throughout his career as a funeral director. While working as a trade embalmer he engaged in various other work including Columbia County Solid Waste. Jim spent his retirement years living on the property in Germantown, previously owned by his parents and with his four cats. He was a member of the Order of the Masons and the American Legion. He is predeceased by his father James Irving Coons I from Germantown NY,

Engracia Maria Lugris Coons originally from New York City and his younger brother Joseph S. Coons. He is survived by his children Donna M. Coons (Philip Hamm), James Irving Coons II, grandchild Noah Hamm, and his beloved sister Jessie Coons Brassel (Doug Brassel). He is also survived by close friends Ralph DePazzo (Germantown, NY) and Joseph Hebert (Cheboygan, MI). In accordance to his wishes there will be no formal funeral services or calling hours, rather a family gathering at the Reformed Church Cemetery. All are welcome to join the family Saturday September 13, 2025 from 12:00-3:00 pm for food, drinks and of course 1950's music, at the Germantown American Legion Hall. In lieu of flowers you are welcome to donate to the Germantown American Legion or the Columbia-Greene Humane Society.

Cemetery Details

Reformed Church Cemetery

Germantown, NY

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

SEP 13. 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM.

Germantown American Legion Hall

Tribute Wall

RL

“ Was new to the neighborhood.(2001)northern blvd. He was always a friendly face at recycling when I started driving special needs children he was always a friendly face at Stewart shops always asking about myself and job..Robyn lutz.

robyn lutz - September 24, 2025 at 08:09 PM

DF

“ A regular at the Germantown Laundromat, always had a story to tell. He'll be missed.

Dave Fingar - September 13, 2025 at 09:30 AM

DS

“ Went to school with James. Really nice guy. Saw him often at bates & anderson as friends passed away. Great guy

dolores sharpe - September 05, 2025 at 01:14 PM

MR

“ Ever since a child, always wanted to be an undertaker and had his own wild-animal cemetery. He had a funeral director's license. When we played basketball, he always had to take a shot for the road!

Mike Riter - September 03, 2025 at 09:52 AM