



James G. Nielsen

April 1, 1938 - February 28, 2022

With his life journey on this Earth complete, James Gerald Nielsen of Claverack, NY departed this world on February 28, 2022, after suffering a long, heartbreaking decline from Alzheimer's disease.

James, affectionately known as Jim, was born April 1st, 1938 in Yonkers, NY to the late

Theodore Julius Nielsen and Lillian (Brunges) Nielsen. He is predeceased by his older brother

Theodore (Skip) Nielsen.

Jim attended elementary school at Hartsdale Public school #7 and later Pocantico Hills

central school. He was a graduate of the class of 1956 at Washington Irving high school in

Tarrytown, NY. From his classroom window he said he observed the construction of the Tappan

Zee bridge.

Soon after high school, Jim enlisted in the New York Air National Guard located then at

the Westchester county airport. He served from 1957 - 1962 as a jet engine mechanic with the

rank of A1C and received an honorable discharge.

James married his high school sweetheart and love of his life, Karen Louise Hartson on

March 16th, 1960. He would affectionately refer to her as his "Sweet Swede".

The happy couple

raised their four children in their hometown of Elmsford, NY until moving to Claverack in 1981.

Jim began his career as a professional truck driver, starting with tractor trailer driving and

then driving heavy construction vehicles including cement trucks, dump trucks, and boom trucks.

He was a proud member of the Teamsters Union at local 456 in Elmsford, NY driving for a

variety of construction companies throughout Westchester and later in Columbia county. He

retired from truck driving in 1996.

Never one to keep idle, Jim was an active volunteer fireman with the Churchtown Fire

Department for over 20 years. He also had many hobbies and interests including his lifelong love

of model trains and cars. As a young man he enjoyed restoring antique cars, attending antique car

meets, and even belonged to the Antique Car Club. Jim was also an accomplished gardener who

found joy in sharing his produce with everyone. His specialty was growing a variety of garlic. He

liked deer hunting in the fall and making woodworking gifts for friends and family. Jim enjoyed

relaxing evenings with Karen, having their favorite drink, playing card games, and doing

puzzles.

Jim was always an outgoing and personable man with a good sense of humor.

His

friendly smile and hearty laugh were an integral part of his good natured personality.

James is survived by his loving wife of 62 years, Karen L. Nielsen, their four children

Robert T. Nielsen and his sweetheart Susan Ardit, Donna L. Nielsen Brooks, Gail L. (Richard)

Puff, Eric J. (Maria) Nielsen, eight grandchildren; Judith Mae Nielsen, AJ & Kevin Brooks,

Richard Jr (Alyssa), Christopher (Kasey), Brandon (Samantha), Justin Puff, Isabella Nielsen, and

seven great grandchildren. Jim is also survived by his sisters Patricia (Randy) Hultberg of

Newport News, VA and Wendy (Mike) Regan of Springfield, MA in addition to many nieces,

nephews, and dear friends John & Kathy Hoefer, Sal & Marie D'Amico among others.

Visitation hours are Wednesday, March 2nd, 2022 from 3-7pm. Funeral services will be Thursday March 3, 2022 at 11:00am. Visitation and funeral will be held at Bates & Anderson Redmond & Keeler Funeral Home 110 Green St. Hudson, NY 12534.

Donations to be made to the Churchtown Fire Department.

Previous Events

Visitation Hours

MAR 2. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Bates & Anderson - Redmond & Keeler
110 Green Street
Hudson, NY 12534
(518) 828-3371
<http://batesandersonredmondkeeler.com>

Funeral Service

MAR 3. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bates & Anderson - Redmond & Keeler
110 Green Street
Hudson, NY 12534
(518) 828-3371
<http://batesandersonredmondkeeler.com>

Tribute Wall

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“ I am one of those privileged to know Jim in his younger years right on through a very successful, exemplary life marked with integrity, kindness and many accomplishments from classic vehicle restoration, creating an outstanding grandfather clock and model train collection ... so much in the way of creative abilities that will be passed on to all future family members to be blessed forever with his inherited qualities.

Very saddened by his loss but proud to have known him.

Richard Don Carlisle

Richard Carlisle - March 07, 2022 at 02:30 AM