



James Rose

April 22, 1950 - February 11, 2026

James Carl Rose passed suddenly at the age of 75 on February 11, 2026, in the loving arms of his wife and best friend, Donna. He is survived by his sister Suzanne Starrs (William, deceased) and brother Carl Rose (Jackie). Jim was predeceased by his parents, Bernard and Betty Rose, his in-laws George and Theresa Waitkus, and his brothers-in-law Christopher Waitkus and Randy Waitkus. He is also survived by Donna's siblings Mark Waitkus (Kimberly), Martin Waitkus (Jeanne), Bradly Waitkus, Mary Therese Harrison (Mike), Janet Sarnacke, Rene Thomas (Pete) and Jim Sarnacke (Sue). He leaves behind many caring nephews and nieces along with great nephews and great nieces, who loved Uncle Jim's big heart. He loved dogs and had 10 over his lifetime, with Maggie missing him now. His eyes always shined when he talked about his dogs.

Jim was born in Detroit in 1950. He met Donna Marie Waitkus, the love of his life, on her 21st birthday. After dating for three years Jim enlisted his dad's help to purchase an engagement ring. While eating dinner at the Big Boy's at 8 Mile and Mack he proposed, and they were married October 2, 1976, at St. John Berchman in Detroit.

Jim graduated from Bishop Gallagher High School in 1968 and then started

his career as a Quality Control Manager. He was fortunate enough to retire early so that he could enjoy his favorite past-time, golf. Shooting pool, going to the casino, and playing the lottery were also favorites of his. An amazing euchre and pinochle player, Jim was just about unbeatable. He was a loyal friend and kept in touch with various groups of buddies from high school, work, golf, and billiards. His best friend, John, shared many memories with him.

He will be remembered for his beaming smile, sense of humor, wonderful laugh, and his rendition of Some Kind of Wonderful. Jim will be greatly missed and always loved.

A memorial visitation will be held on Friday, February 27th from 3 - 7pm at Mandziuk & Son Funeral Home, 3801 18 Mile Road, Sterling Heights. A mass of the Resurrection will be held on Saturday, February 28 at 10am at St. Anne Catholic Parish, 32000 Mound Road, Warren, with memorial visitation beginning at 9:30am.

Donations may be made to the family in Jim's memory.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

FEB 27. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Mandziuk & Son Funeral Directors, Inc. - Sterling Heights
3801 18 Mile Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48314
(586) 997-3838

Memorial Visitation

FEB 28. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Anne Catholic Church
32000 Mound Rd
Warren, MI 48092

Mass of the Resurrection

FEB 28. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Anne Catholic Church
32000 Mound Rd
Warren, MI 48092

Tribute Wall

DF

“ I just learned of Jim’s passing today from my brother Rick. Deepest condolences. Jimmy and I were born on the same year and Jim’s parents were best friends with my parents, Carl and Louise Fromm. I think that’s how Jimmy got his middle name and Jim’s brother his first name. Jim’s older sister Susie was our favorite baby sitter. The “apple does not fall far from the tree” as Jim’s dad was also the “life of the party.” We saw a lot of each other in our younger days but then lost touch especially after I moved away from Detroit. We once shared a double bed up north. At one point, Jimmy had me pinned against the wall. I woke him up and asked him to move over. He asked “which way?” Jimmy’s dad heard the exchange. It became one of his favorite stories.

David Fromm - June 12 at 03:58 PM

DH

“ Jimmy was my favorite childhood friend and I loved him dearly. We grew up together on University in Detroit and he lived two houses away. We played together as very small children. I am very sad to read this and that I did not get to say goodbye to Jimmy. He was always so nice and kind and a lot of fun too. Betty was my Mother Minnie’s best friend too. Much love and prayers to all of the family. Debbie Hutchings Hoehl 651 210 8579

Deborah J Hoehl - April 25 at 04:49 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Rose.



February 27 at 11:12 AM

MC

“ Jim was such a funny guy. So many memories with Jim & Donna during our years of bowling and baseball. Donna I'm so sorry for your loss of your best friend. Marianne Cherghezan(Darlak)

Marianne Cherghezan - February 20 at 12:34 PM

JM

“ Jim is and was "Some Kind of Wonderful" and always will be to me.

Jan Michael - February 19 at 11:35 PM

MH

“ Sorry for your loss and thinking of you during this difficult time. I met Jim at Mike's Mini Market. We became friends over our passion for the lotto. Jim will be deeply missed. Mike Harrington



Mike Harrington - February 19 at 01:22 PM

BJ

“ My heart is sad for the Rose family. Jim was a wonderful man who loved his family. Bill and I have great memories of him, even an up north gathering with his mom & dad and Sue & Bill & kids. He was always there for fun and good times. RIP Jim💔

Bill & Cathy Jasper - February 14 at 08:55 PM

CD

I had such a big crush on Jim in 8th grade @OLQP. Along with most of the girls! Such a fun, guy. May God comfort his wife & family at such a sad time time. Jim was a treasured friend 💖

Cindy Conover Daniell - February 16 at 04:35 PM

JM

Jim was a special friend who always kept me laughing. I miss him terribly. My heart goes out to you, Donna. 💔

Janice Michael - February 16 at 08:31 PM

MO

Donna, We are so sorry to hear about Jim passing. He was a wonderful man! I so enjoyed the times I would run into him at Myers in Chesterfield and him and I would just chat it up for the longest time. We feel like we were blessed that we both were able to see him again at CVS at the end of December 2025. We chatted it up and Michael and him had the best conversation. We have so many great memories of the two of you. One of our favorite was when you two brought us to the weekend murder mystery's up north at Marsh Ridge.

Also I enjoyed singing along with Jim on many occasions. He would always get the ball rolling for a sing-along. And he was really good at knowing what songs I could sing.

Michael said they work together at Induction services for 30 or 35 years. So many memories.

You have our deepest sympathies, Donna. Rest in peace, Jim.

Mike and Debby Oberg - February 24 at 05:24 PM

CC

Donna, I feel so blessed to have known Jim. He was truly a great friend. It was such a pleasure going to work knowing that my day wasn't going to be bore. I have to admit, he was my entertainment at Induction Services. His personality was larger than life itself. He had the special gift of making people laugh and the way he would just break out in song; whether if it were Grand Funk Railroad, Al Green, The Beatles and even Kenny Rogers, he knew how to carry a note and be the life of a party. Jim even helped me with my golf game. He witnessed my first birdie!! So many great memories have been made and those memories will be cherished. My deepest sympathies to you, the four legged fur babies, Carl, Sue and the rest of the family.

Carolyn Czech - February 25 at 07:50 AM