



James Joseph Graham

March 4, 1941 - April 5, 2024

James Joseph Graham

March 4, 1941 - April 5, 2024

James Joseph Graham died peacefully on April 5, 2024. Jim was born in Toledo, Ohio on March 4, 1941 to William and Martha Graham. He attended OLPH grade school and Libbey High School (1959). Jim graduated with a bachelor's degree in education (1964) and a master's degree in education (1983) from The University of Toledo. Jim was a member of Alpha Sigma Phi and Phi Beta Kappa.

Jim was a lifelong educator. After teaching overseas in Thailand and Iran, he returned home and taught special education and was an advisor for the National Honors Society at Woodward High School until he retired in 2001. Upon retiring, Jim became a docent at the Toledo Museum of Art in 2002. His favorite people to educate were his four children. He exposed them to the world through the Encyclopædia Britannica and trips to art museums and symphonies were a regular part of their childhood. Jim helped his children materialize their (and sometimes his) ideas for school projects. He was an endless source of knowledge to everyone around him and loved every opportunity to discuss or debate the topic of the day.

Jim was a devoted catholic. He married the love of his life Marycarroll in 1967.

Together they traveled the world. She was his favorite dance partner and his constant source of love and support. His fantastic cooking was on the dinner table nightly. He was an amazing father and instilled the importance of God, the necessity of giving back and the values of education and hard work.

Jim's sense of humor and wit were unmatched. He remained lifelong friends with members of Alpha Sigma Phi. In the last few years, he enjoyed sitting on a bench outside of his house welcoming his neighbors to sit down for a chat.

Jim is preceded in death by his parents, his sister whom he adored, Patricia Sweeney, his brother John and his beloved son Peter. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Marycarroll (Dane), his children Dane, Sarah, Patrick (Barbara), his grandchildren James, Marco and Francesco, sisters and brothers in law and nieces and nephews.

The family will greet guests on Tuesday at Our Lady Of Lourdes Catholic Church, 6149 Hill Ave., Toledo, Ohio, 43615 on Tuesday April 9, 2024 from 9:30 to 11:30 am. The Mass begin at 11:30 am. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Clyde Dane- Dr. William Gleespen Scholarship Fund at St. John's Jesuit High School in memory of his son, Peter Graham.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 9. 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Our Lady Of Lourdes
6149 Hill Ave.
Toledo, OH 43615

Funeral Mass

APR 9. 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Our Lady Of Lourdes
6149 Hill Ave.
Toledo, OH 43615

Tribute Wall

KA

“ My siblings and I just found out about Mr. Graham's passing and we are so very sorry. He was loved by the entire Szyperski/Abu-Absi/Tavtigian family and I would like to think he is kibitzing with my mom and dad about their many wonderful memories. Sending you all our love.

Kate Abu-Absi - April 16, 2024 at 09:32 AM

JB

“ My memories of Jim stretch back 65 years, and they're all of a kind, generous and wildly funny friend. I remember especially when he convinced me to hoist him on my shoulders so that he could get an advance look into the second floor apartment where he got his first peek at Marycarroll, the love of his life. My thoughts are with her as we all celebrate his life.

Jim Benzinger - April 09, 2024 at 12:01 PM



“ I am terribly sorry for your loss. Mr. Graham was an incredible friend to my Dad and to our family. He always knew how to make people laugh and smile. I have many fond memories of him throughout my life. One of my favorite memories was when he was dancing with the napkin on his head at my brothers wedding! He always knew how to make people smile! My heart goes out to your family. I know he will be missed.

With sincere condolences, Erin Kolinski Connell and family

Erin Connell - April 09, 2024 at 08:02 AM

TF

“ The Spinnato Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Joseph Graham.

The Spinnato Family - April 08, 2024 at 05:49 PM

TF

“ The Spinnato Family purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of James Joseph Graham.



The Spinnato Family - April 08, 2024 at 05:49 PM

CV

“ 2 files added to the album VIDEO TRIBUTE



COYLE FUNERAL HOME VIDEOS - April 08, 2024 at 04:33 PM

TB

“ The Cohn Family (Jon, Erin, Riley & B) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Joseph Graham.

The Cohn Family (Jon, Erin, Riley & B) - April 08, 2024 at 02:56 PM

TB

“ *The Cohn Family (Jon, Erin, Riley & B) purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of James Joseph Graham.*



The Cohn Family (Jon, Erin, Riley & B) - April 08, 2024 at 02:56 PM

GM

“ *It was an honor and privilege to have known this fine gentleman. Equiescat in pace! Gordon Mather*

Gordon Mather - April 08, 2024 at 01:53 PM

TG

“ *The Stumm Family (friend of Grahams) purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of James Joseph Graham.*



The Stumm Family (friend of Grahams) - April 08, 2024 at 12:35 PM

TF

“ *Taaca and Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of James Joseph Graham.*



Taaca and Family - April 08, 2024 at 10:51 AM

MI

“ My deepest sympathies to Marycarroll on the passing of Jim a/k/a “Otto”. My late husband and his brothers were classmates at Libby H.S. May Jim rest in peace.

Marie Irons - April 07, 2024 at 11:58 PM

JB

“ Jim Benzinger planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Joseph Graham.

Jim Benzinger - April 07, 2024 at 05:27 PM



“ Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of James Joseph Graham.



April 07, 2024 at 05:27 PM

SG

“ 1 file added to the album JAMES GRAHAM



SG - April 07, 2024 at 01:29 PM

HD

So sorry for your loss, we had fun times back in the day, prayers for your family,,what a great family.....

hollie dreier - April 07, 2024 at 05:59 PM

AD

We were Docents together and how Jim lit up the Docent room! Ann Desmond

Ann Desmond - April 08, 2024 at 09:20 PM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Joseph Graham.*



April 07, 2024 at 01:15 PM

MD

“ *I am so saddened to hear of Jim's passing. I helped him with his computer and enjoyed learning about his "family history" stories. Please know that his family is in my thoughts and prays. I know he is with our Lord in paradise today.*

MaryJo Dey - April 07, 2024 at 08:57 AM

MD

Marycarroll, please know I am thinking of you especially at this difficult time.

MaryJo Dey - April 07, 2024 at 08:59 AM

HD

Sending hugs to you Mary, and your family

hollie dreier - April 07, 2024 at 06:01 PM

JB

My memories of Jim stretch back 65 years, and they're all of a kind, generous and wildly funny friend. I remember especially when he convinced me to hoist him on my shoulders so that he could get an advance peek into the second floor apartment where he got his first peek at Marycarroll, the love of his life. My thoughts are with her as we all celebrate his life.

Jim Benzinger - April 09, 2024 at 11:45 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of James Joseph Graham.*



April 06, 2024 at 09:40 PM

MM

“ *Matthew and Jennifer Moses purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of James Joseph Graham.*



Matthew and Jennifer Moses - April 06, 2024 at 08:57 PM