



James E. Powers, Sr.

April 2, 1931 - January 28, 2011

James (Jim) Edward Powers, Sr, Founder and CEO of P&J Industries of Toledo, passed away on Friday, January 28, 2011 at St. Luke's Hospital at the age of 79. Jim was born in Warren, Ohio on April 2, 1931 to Caroline (McCue) Powers and William Arthur Powers. He grew up in Niles, Ohio and graduated from Niles McKinley High School in 1949. Afterward, he attended The University of Miami in Oxford, Ohio.

On September 22, 1950, Jim married his high school sweetheart, Marguerite (Peg) Dunn. This past year, they celebrated 60 years of marriage.

Jim began his career at Reactive Metals in Niles, where he was promoted to titanium salesman. As he traveled the country, the family relocated to Wilmington, Delaware in 1965, returned to Niles in 1970, and moved to Hatboro, PA, in 1974. There, Jim began an electroplating venture with his long-time friend and associate, Charlie Tirrell.

In 1977, Jim and his son, Jim Powers, Jr., formed a corporation that would last close to 35 years. They opened P&J Industries, an electroplating enterprise, in Toledo, Ohio. In the early days, "Senior" and "Junior" slept in "the shop," working 18-hour days. By the 1990's, P&J was one of the major plating companies in the United States, with operations in El Paso, Texas, and Ligonier, Indiana, as well as several locations in Toledo, Ohio.

Jim has been called a CEO, a true Irishman, a prince of a man, a loyal friend, a wonderful boss. However, Jim was, first and foremost, the devoted and loving husband of Peg Dunn Powers. She was his heart. He often said that

the greatest gift a father can give his children is to love their mother. His children were blessed with evidence of this gift every day. As a father, Jim was the stuff of folk lore ??“ tall, dashing, charming, generous, raising his children with kindness and mutual respect. Jim’s pride and joy were his ten grandchildren. They returned this love by idolizing him and setting him as their role model. A true patriarch, his fatherly attention extended to his four sons-in-law, one daughter-in-law, anyone who knew him as “Uncle Jim,” as well as his devoted employees who thought of him fondly as “Senior.”

He is survived by his loving wife, Peg, his daughters and sons-in-law Patricia and Frank Slanina, Susan and DJ Kerscher, Caroline and Dennis Powers-Miller, Constance and Doug Schnitkey, daughter-in-law Wendy Powers; grandchildren Matthew, Maureen, and Meghan Slanina, Jaclynn and Danielle Powers, William Kerscher, Lauren and Jeffrey MacAllister, James and Patrick Powers-Miller; great-grandchildren Brayden and Kaylee Spinale. He was preceded in death exactly ten weeks before his own by his beloved son, James Powers, Jr. He was also preceded in death by his parents, Caroline and Arthur, and brother, William.

A celebration of Jim’s life will take place on what would have been his 80th birthday, Saturday, April 2, 2011 at St. Joan of Arc Church, 5856 Heatherdowns Blvd. Family will receive guests in the church narthex at 10 a.m. with a memorial mass to follow at 11 a.m. Details of a luncheon to follow the service will be announced after the mass. “I’ve lived a life that’s full, I’ve traveled each and every highway. And more, much more than this, I did it my way.” Frank Sinatra.

Tribute Wall



“ *My deepest sympathy on the loss of this special and beloved man. May you find comfort in the arms of all those who loved him.##imported-begin##Linda Swenski##imported-end##*

January 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Connie, Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family!##imported-begin##Lori##imported-end##*

January 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Carrie He must have been a wonderful man and it sounds like you will have some special memories, cherish those memories and I think you will have your father looking over your shoulder every day to make sure you are O.K.##imported-begin##Ken Donnelly kdon56@bex.net##imported-end##*

January 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *All our love and sympathy goes out to Aunt Peg and the entire Powers family. Our hearts hurt for all of you and the loss you must feel losing two of the most wonderful and loving men one would ever know. Until you all are joined together again, may God's peace and strength sustain you.##imported-begin##Jim & Karen Donadio##imported-end##*

January 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear ones,

Our hearts and sympathies go out to you once again for such a loss. May you know God's peace and His love for each one of you. Though we do not know you well, our thoughts are with you as an extension of Keith and Marie's family. May the Lord of comfort be with each of you, each and every day.##imported-begin##Miriam and Daniel Hernandez##imported-end##

January 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Mrs. Slanina

Sincere condolences to you and your family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

The Blakeman family##imported-begin##The Blakeman Family simonapetre@yahoo.com##imported-end##

January 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Mrs P & Family,

My heart goes out to all of you in this time of need. Mr P. was such an extraordinary wonderful caring person.He had so much compassion for others.

May all of you find comfort in his strength of the man and the love that he gave to all of you an others.God bless you all in this time of need.##imported-begin##Joyce Lake - Monroe freckles_43515@yahoo.com##imported-end##

January 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *My condolences to family and friends...I knew of him through his grandchildren whom I went to school with..##imported-begin##Cheryl J Boule lbcumpuswum@aol.com##imported-end##*

January 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Pat,*

I am so sorry to hear this news. From reading the obituary I can tell that your father was a great Dad and wonderful person. I know you will miss him and your brother very much.

We are thinking of you.

Take care, love, Dennis & Linda##imported-begin##Dennis & Linda Rothacker##imported-end##

January 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Very sorry for the loss of your father. My family's prayers and thoughts are with you and your family.##imported-begin##kerry szewczykowski##imported-end##*

January 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Pat & family,*

My heart goes out to all of you at this difficult time. Keep your dad in a special place in your heart and he will live on within you and generations to come will know what a great man he was.

Cindy Vogel##imported-begin##Cindy Vogel##imported-end##

January 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ We love and miss you. We will always treasure the memories and fun times together. Our love and prayers go to your family and friends.##imported-begin##Ruth##imported-end##

January 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ What a great man,What a great boss,Thanks Sr. for everything you did for me and my family.You will missed but never forgotten!##imported-begin##joe upchurch sparky1040@bex.net##imported-end##

January 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Power's families,
May God's peace and grace be with all of you on April 2nd, and forward, as you continue to morn the loss of Jim Powers (and all your loved ones who have passed on into the next life before him). Please remember that you are being lifted up in prayer, always.
With love and sympathy,
Judi##imported-begin##Judi Saulino
judi.saulino@gmail.com##imported-end##

January 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM