



James Henry "Jim" Caruthers

March 28, 2018

James Henry Caruthers, 72 a life-long resident of Poca, passed away, Wednesday March 28, 2018 and into the gates of Heaven.

He was born on August 11, 1945 to James Henry and Josephine Della "Teeny" Legg Caruthers.

Jim is survived by his adoring wife, Kim Blair; son, Jonathan Caruthers, Warrant Officer with the USMC stationed in Beaufort, SC and his partner, Jillianne Sprague. He is also survived by his other sons, Jeffrey Blair, Esq and his wife, Dr. Amy Schultz of Scott Depot, and Brian Blair and partner Desi Andrews of Parkersburg. Jim is also survived by his mother-in-law, Lillian Nasca of Niagara Falls, NY as well as numerous cousins, in-laws, special friends and numerous pets, including his Pygmy goats, Basset Hounds, cats, and his beloved Mini-Pin, Penny.

Anyone that knew "Sweat", knew he was the life of the party. His personality was bigger than life itself. Many a child learned how to fish at Caruthers' Pond. He will be sorely missed by many.

After graduating from Poca High School in 1963, Jim attended Concord College. In 1966 he was drafted into the US Army and proudly and honorably served his country in Vietnam.

Upon Discharge, he returned to his company, Putnam Fabrication. He was also employed by Terradon Corp. and WV Steel. However, it wasn't long before Jim found his true calling, Politics!

Ever the Public Servant, he was elected to three terms as Putnam County Commissioner. During those eighteen years, he took great pride in serving his community. He was also elected Mayor of Poca & Councilman. In 2001, Jim was appointed by Gov. Bob Wise to serve on the WV Statewide Addressing & Mapping Board. In addition to serving on numerous other committees and boards, he was most proud to have initiated the Putnam Co. Transportation Committee, which is still in function to this date. Jim was a current member of the Central WV Regional Airport and the Putnam County Republican Executive Committee. He was also a member of the Nitro Moose, and a life member of the VFW, Post 9097, Hurricane.

While recognized and winning numerous awards for his public service, in 2008, Jim was selected for the PF Tucker Award by the Regional Intergovernmental Council. He was also most proud in 2011 to receive the Mayo Lester Community Service Award bestowed upon him by the Putnam County Chamber of Commerce and in 2015, he was presented with the Distinguished West Virginian Award by Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin.

The family would like to give a special thank you to Kanawha HospiceCare, especially Kim and Agnes.

A visitation and celebration of his life will be held from 6-9pm on Thursday March 29, 2018, at Chapman Funeral Home, Hurricane.

A memorial service will be held at 11am Friday March 30, 2018 at Poca United Methodist Church with the Rev. John Mason officiating. Burial with military

honors will immediately follow at the Donel C. Kinnard Memorial State Veterans Cemetery, Institute.

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations to the Two Fish, Five Loaves Food Pantry in Poca, or to the American Cancer Society.

You may share memories of Jim on his tribute page by visiting ChapmanFuneralHomes.com

Chapman Funeral Home, family-owned and located at 3941 Teays Valley Road, Hurricane is honored to serve the family of James Henry Caruthers.

Cemetery Details

Donel C. Kinnard Memorial State Veterans Cemetery

130 Academy Drive
Dunbar, WV 25064

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **29**. 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Chapman Funeral Home Hurricane
3941 Teays Valley Road
Hurricane, WV 25526
(304) 757-7531
info@chapmanfuneralhomes.com
<https://www.chapmanfuneralhomes.com>

Funeral Service

MAR **30**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Poca United Methodist Church
112 Silver Street
Poca, WV 25159

Tribute Wall



“ James Henry "Jim" Caruthers

October 06, 2023 at 08:41 AM



“ Friend of mine. Carolyn Brown Shearer



Carolyn Brown Shearer - March 31, 2019 at 12:28 AM



“ Oh, Jim, we miss you so much already. You have the heart and strength of a Highland Bear. I know that you are walking the hills of Heaven, animals at your side. We know that we will see you again, sweet bear. “Gus am bi sinn a coinneachadh a-rithist.” (Until we meet again). Kelly and Marty

Kelly and Marty Chapman - April 05, 2018 at 09:42 PM



“ Lionel & Jill Kozee lit a candle in memory of James Henry "Jim" Caruthers



Lionel & Jill Kozee - April 01, 2018 at 10:47 AM

LK

“ Even though we were on opposite sides of the political fence, I really liked Jim. I especially enjoyed his many stories of growing up in Poca and Poca High School. He will be missed on an extreme level. Comfort and strength to Kim and family. Lynne Kibler

Lynne Kibler - March 31, 2018 at 12:53 PM



“ 116 files added to the album LifeTributes



Chapman Funeral Homes - March 31, 2018 at 09:14 AM

TL

“ What a great guy, he never met a stranger and always made you feel like you were friends forever. Had some great times with Sweat, hunting trips, fishing, rafting some great memories. So proud to have called him a friend. Rest In Peace buddy, will miss you!

Troy Lightner - March 31, 2018 at 08:10 AM

CN

“ Hi my name is Cody B. Nelson an I got to know Jim about 10 yrs ago when he ran in his last commission race. I got to know him briefly but he always put Putnam County 1st an the people

what I got to know of him he seem to be a caring person. I'll miss Jim what I got to know of him. And I know Putnam County is going to miss him the most. Putnam County has lost not only a leader but a legend my thoughts an prayers go out to the Caruthers family.




Cody nelson - March 30, 2018 at 11:07 PM

TH

“ The service today was a powerful tribute to Jim's life annd how he made life better for family, friends, and the people of Poca and Putnam County. Thank you, Jim!

Tom Hankins - March 30, 2018 at 08:27 PM

 Brian Blair

“ Brian Blair lit a candle in memory of James Henry "Jim" Caruthers



Brian Blair - March 29, 2018 at 10:07 PM

AB

“ Alicia Bailey Baldassara lit a candle in memory of James Henry "Jim" Caruthers



Alicia Bailey Baldassara - March 29, 2018 at 09:56 PM

KH

“ Thank you for letting my grandson fish with his friends. We'll miss you and your pets Heriage Day God be with the family



Karen Haikal - March 29, 2018 at 05:58 PM

SS

“ Scott And Janice Snyder lit a candle in memory of James Henry "Jim" Caruthers



Scott and Janice Snyder - March 29, 2018 at 05:55 PM

CB

“ I believe it was in 2004 when Joe had "Old Glory" in dry dock in New York, Mike, Jim, Jim Kelly, Myself and one other person went up in a motor home Mike borrowed. Jim had a pair of deck shoes that the sole was coming off of. He took some Liquid Nail and glued the sole and put carpenter clamps on it to hold it tight while the glue dried, Joe may have the picture. Then he went up on the deck and was down on one knee working and Joe stood over him pointing down like he was giving orders to a slave. I I know Joe has that picture), when at that time we all were, but he fed us good.

Jim was one of the most pleasant, quick witted persons I have ever known, and had one of the best sense of humors too. Didn't know a stranger , honest as the day is long, a great guy and friend, he will be greatly missed. Rest in Peace my friend.

Charlie Buck

Charlie Buck - March 29, 2018 at 02:41 PM

MH

“ *Mendy Hedrick lit a candle in memory of James Henry "Jim" Caruthers*



Mendy Hedrick - March 29, 2018 at 02:35 PM

DW

“ *Dennis And Kelly Westfall lit a candle in memory of James Henry "Jim" Caruthers*



Dennis and Kelly Westfall - March 29, 2018 at 02:20 PM

JS

“ *Sincere condolences to Kim and the family Jim was a wonderful friend and he will be missed by everyone who had the Privilege of knowing him*



Joe Shelton - March 29, 2018 at 12:56 PM

RN

“ *worked many days with you at putnam fab , now you earned your wings richard neal and family prayers for your family*

richard neal - March 29, 2018 at 10:41 AM

EB

“ Jim was not only upbeat and outgoing, but so very patient with all the questions I asked as a reporter covering Putnam County for the Daily Mail. So much has changed since then, including our move out of state, but I have many good memories of Jim as a mayor, commissioner and more. My condolences.

EVADNA K BARTLETT - March 29, 2018 at 06:55 AM

 Debbie Bagby

“ So many old times with you. Will never forget you pitching me in the pond at a Ski club picnic and the trip to Vail to ski. Always had a blast. RIP until we meet again.

Debbie Bagby - March 29, 2018 at 06:44 AM



“ May the love of God surround you and your family during this difficult time,
May you come to know that the love of God is with you always,

May your memories of James Henry Caruthers, give you peace, comfort and strength...

Rest now in the arms of our Lord your mission on earth is complete. I thank you for your service to our Country and my Freedom. You will not be forgotten..
My thoughts
and prayers to the family of

US Army Vietnam Veteran, James Henry Caruthers, is “A True American Hero” God Bless†

† Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13 †

Cheryl Skinner, Tri-state Military Museum - March 29, 2018 at 06:20 AM

BJ

“ I remember Jim in the school year '64-'65 at Concord College. We were in the same dorm, and if one was hungry, you could go to Jim's room where there were always lots of snacks that he and his roommate, John Zorio, would gladly pass on to you! Just good friendly guys.

Bob Judge

Bob Judge - March 29, 2018 at 12:27 AM

FW

“ Fred Whaples lit a candle in memory of James Henry "Jim" Caruthers



fred whaples - March 29, 2018 at 12:18 AM

JD

“ Janet Dillon lit a candle in memory of James Henry "Jim" Caruthers



Janet Dillon - March 28, 2018 at 07:50 PM

LI

“ Jim will be missed by many!



Linda - March 28, 2018 at 06:58 PM

AG

“ *Many prayers being sent..* 🙏



AngelInJacob Gonzales - March 28, 2018 at 03:37 PM

AF

“ *My condolences to the family* 🙏



Amber (Cummings) Ferrell - March 28, 2018 at 03:36 PM

MI

“ *My dad, took me to his pond to fish. It was the 1st time that I can recollect that I ever went fishing as I was still very young. As I grew older, I can remember knocking on the door to the Home place to let Jim know who I was and to request permission to fish once again, he would bring me in for coffee or tea, and we would talk for a bit and he would tell me to go catch them all. I grew up knowing Jim, and he always greeted me with a smile and a handshake. A very genuine man. Thank you for the good memories of fishing and talks Jim.*

Mark Coleman, II.

mark coleman II - March 28, 2018 at 03:26 PM

AS

“ Anna Sowards lit a candle in memory of
James Henry "Jim" Caruthers



Anna Sowards - March 28, 2018 at 03:23 PM

BM

*TO THE CARUTHERS FAMILY YOU HAVE MY DEEPEST
SYMPATHY. I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER MY COUSIN JIM AS A
KIND MAN. I ALWAYS TALKED WITH HIM AT MY POCA HIGH
REUNIONS WHEN HE WAS THERE.*

BETTY SMITH MICHELOTTI - March 29, 2018 at 10:30 PM