



## James Joseph Waterman

October 29, 1944 - October 5, 2020

### JAMES JOSEPH WATERMAN

1944 – 2020

James “Jim” Joseph Waterman, age 75 of Lincoln, NE passed away on Monday, October 5, 2020 at Homestead Rehabilitation Center in Lincoln. He was born on October 29, 1944 to Vernon Lawrence and “Mary Kay” Katherine (Wiles) Waterman in Omaha, NE. James was raised and schooled in Plattsmouth, NE and he graduated from Plattsmouth High School with the class of 1962. He attended the University of Nebraska where he was a member of ROTC. Jim graduated UNL with a Bachelor’s degree in business. James enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and he proudly served his country during the Vietnam War. After being honorably discharged from the Air Force, Jim returned to Omaha and began a lengthy career in the field of banking. Jim began working at the Omaha National Bank and then moved to Kansas City and accepted a position with United Bank of Missouri. Jim started as the supervisor of the teller line, and filled many positions as his career advanced him to a Division Head in Bank Operations. He was made Senior Vice President and Head Cashier of the bank and its many branches where he continued until he retired after undergoing a quadruple bypass in 1996. James was a member of Covert Masonic Lodge #11 A.F. & A.M. and the Tangier Shriners both of Omaha. He was also a member of the Elks Lodge and would walk in numerous parades as “Elroy Elk”. He was a clown for the Shriners known as “Winkkee”. He volunteered at Midlands Hospital for ten

years.

Jim liked watching Husker Football and also liked the occasional whiskey sour. He was a gentle soul that cared about how people were treated. He had a big heart and loved his family

He is survived by his step-son: Dan McElroy and wife Michelle of Kansas City, MO; two step-granddaughters: Carrie and Caitlin McElroy; his ex-wife: Nita Waterman of Kansas City, MO; three sisters: Katie Crill of San Clemente, CA; Marge Keasling and husband Fred of Lincoln, NE; Betsy Gubbels and husband Darrell of Franktown, CO; three brothers: David Waterman and wife Debbie of Shell Knob, MO; Rob Waterman and wife Liz of Lexington, NE; John Waterman of Bellevue, NE; his sister/cousin: Kit Howe of Papillion, NE; numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and many friends.

James is preceded in death by his parents: Vernon and Mary Kay Waterman and his sister: Karyn Lee Waterman.

A Funeral Service will be held at 11:00 A.M., on Saturday, October 10, 2020 at Roby Funeral Home in Plattsmouth with Rev. Lee Wigert officiating.

The Pallbearers will be Jeffrey Keasling, Christopher Cooper, Joseph Waterman, David Waterman, Rachel Gubbels, and Dan McElroy. The Honorary Pallbearers will be Robert Waterman, Dave Waterman, Fred Keasling, Darrell Gubbels, Adam Gubbels, Mary Kay Gubbels and Brian Constantine.

Military Rites will be conducted by the Offutt Air Force Base Military Rites Team of Bellevue, NE.

James's Final Resting Place will be at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery in Plattsmouth.

Memorials to the Family (A suitable charity will be chosen at a later date).

Services entrusted to Roby Funeral Home, 346 Ave. A, Plattsmouth, NE 68048 (402) 296-3123 [robyfuneralhome.com](http://robyfuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Pleasant Ridge Cemetery

1808 Horning Rd.  
Plattsmouth, NE 68048

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

OCT **10**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Roby Funeral Home  
346 Ave. A  
Plattsmouth, NE 68048  
(402) 296-3123  
[robysfuneralhome@charter.net](mailto:robysfuneralhome@charter.net)  
<https://www.robysfuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *James Joseph Waterman*

October 09, 2023 at 12:23 PM



“ *Unlike Fred and Wayne I left Nebraska to return back east not long after after graduation so did not know Jim beyond our high school years but still have many good memories of times spent with him during those two short years. I can still picture his crooked little grin as he smoothed his flat top while saying something funny. I know you will be missed by the many others whose lives you touched along the way, Rest in Peace old friend!*

*Harry Roberts*

**Harry Roberts** - October 17, 2020 at 11:32 AM



“ *After graduation Jim, Wayne Molck and I went to Nebraska University in Lincoln. None of us had money, we barely paid the tuition. We rented a basement apartment for the three of us and the living conditions were "primitive". Jim's dad gave us a Mercury station wagon to drive, and we drove it back and forth every weekend. Each Sunday evening as we headed back to Lincoln Jim brought along a gallon jar of beef stew and we ate it for supper the next three nights cuz we could not cook, and we didn't have money for groceries anyway. Jim, Wayne and I had lots of stories we rehashed every time we saw each other. And I'm rehashing them myself with a tear in my eye right now.*

*Rest in peace my friend.*

*Fred Groce*

**Fred Groce** - October 11, 2020 at 09:20 PM



“ *Healing Tears - All White* was purchased for the family of James Joseph Waterman.



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October 09, 2020 at 10:33 PM



“ *Jim (Jimmy Joe, Jimmy, Jimmy the Bear) was a gentle caring friend. He could also redirect your behavior real sharply if necessary. The fact that he was a class ahead of us at PHS (and he was quite intelligent) put him in the position of being something of a tutor. On one occasion several of we Juniors were trying to define "parenthetical expression". After we had hashed it over a bit, Jim said something like, "You're making this too hard." He paused a moment and continued "Harry 'comma' the dumb f----r 'comma '. That is a parenthetical expression." He was a true friend and a great wit. (I hope this gets by the censors.)*

*Tom Brink*

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**Tom Brink** - October 08, 2020 at 09:21 PM

DB

“ I will always remember the good times we had, just being with Jim. He kept me laughing with his answering machine jokes, even had me laughing so hard I had to let him drive while the three of us were on vacation.

One time he drove his car to Don's shop to see why it smelled so bad when he turned on the windshield wipers. He had accidentally grabbed the gasoline instead of the wiper fluid.

Jim will always be on our special friends list. Missed but not forgotten.

*Don and Helen Bottom*

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**Don & Helen Bottom** - October 08, 2020 at 05:54 PM

RW

“ I have another story to share about Jimmy that is an illustration of Jimmy's not allowing what he considered trivial, to interrupt his thought processes. Jimmy was real hard on cars. My Dad used to keep him supplied with cars until Jim had gotten to the point at which he could afford his own. Jimmy could have kept a body shop busy with the property damage had his fingerprints on.

*It was a very hot day in Plattsmouth and I was walking home from playing a baseball game at the park West of where we lived at 4th Avenue & South 10th. It must have been around 1969 or so. About 3 blocks East on of the ball diamond was a very large buckle in the pavement that must have just ruptured that afternoon since the city had not put out any sort of cones or warning barricades. As I walked by I thought to myself how cars had better watch out for that buckle and should slow way down or they will high center. I walked the remaining 2 blocks down 4th Avenue to my house and I saw my father and Jim looking at a 1967 Gold Plymouth Fury that Dad had recently added to the fleet and was assigning to Jim. Dad had just finished painting it and had rubbed out the paint and the car looked like new. He gave Jim the keys and Jim took off and turned right on 4th Avenue heading West.*

*I went in the house and changed out of my ball uniform and spikes and then went back outside. I got down to the street in front of the house and I see Jim and Dad looking at the Plymouth. The front fenders on both sides are now buckled as is the bumper slightly. What happened I asked. My father says, "your brother can't drive two blocks without screwing something up". "Didn't you see the pavement buckle Jim?" my father asks. I look over at Jimmy and he has the skunk grin we all know so well.....Pavement buckles were not important to Jimmy. What was important was if the car had gas in it...*

*This was a priceless memory... Rob Waterman*

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**Rob Waterman** - October 08, 2020 at 12:12 PM



“ *Healing Tears - All Pink was purchased for the family of James Joseph Waterman.*



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October 08, 2020 at 10:37 AM



“ *It is about 1980 something. Darrell and I were visiting Jim and Nita in Kansas City for the weekend. I had the brainy idea that I wanted to go to the Truman Library in Independence. We were touring around and the staff said that the video would be starting soon. The four of us hurried over to the theater. We were the only ones there. The video began and then became boring, more boring, incredibly boring.... It got to a part where there was lots of boring information, and Jim announced out loud (remember, there were only 4 of us in the theater) "Well, who the hell cares?" [In short, he was ready to leave.]*

*Warren Zevon wrote a song called "My Ride is Here." It is about death and how some folks leave this party on earth, by train, by horse, by chariot, etc. But when it is time to leave the party, the comment is: "My ride is here." Well, Jim we will miss you but you told us, you had to leave because your ride was here. (And what a ride it must be!)*

*Submitted by Betsy Waterman Gubbels (Jim's sister)*

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**Betsy Waterman Gubbels** - October 08, 2020 at 04:13 AM

RW

“ Jimmy was a bit older than me so we had the young sibling older siblings rivalry for a long time but as I got to the age we could do things together, we had a lot of fun. We went to some Husker football games together.

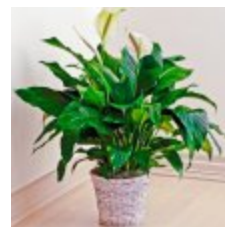
Jimmy had a quick wit and sometimes could dress people down with just a few words. I remember a time we were going to the grocery store to get a watermelon. We strode over to the produce section and they had this huge display of lemons but the watermelons for whatever reason, weren't as prominently displayed. There was this young kid like college age putting out some produce with a North Carolina ball cap on which is that light powder blue color. So Jimmy as he's standing right next to the huge mound of lemons, asks the kid where the watermelons were and the kid kind of blows him off and said like "oh they're around over there I think". The kid's attitude was not good. So Jimmy then asks him "where's the lemons?" The kid then comes back with "are you serious? Jimmy then says "yeah Brainy Smurf...now where are the God damn watermelons?" I almost wet my pants...Rob Waterman...

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**Rob Waterman** - October 07, 2020 at 09:16 PM



“ Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of James Joseph Waterman.



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October 07, 2020 at 08:57 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet* was purchased for the family of James Joseph Waterman.



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October 07, 2020 at 08:00 PM