



James "Jim" Colburn Tuffts

February 10, 1934 - January 9, 2020

James Colburn Tuffts (85) of Kalkaska, MI died peacefully at home on January 9, 2020. He was born on February 10, 1934 at 1lb 9oz to Clarence and Eva Belle Baird of South Boardman, MI. Jim's mother passed away when he was two years old and his mother's cousin Edith and her husband R.G. Tuffts then adopted him. Jim grew up with his older sister Verna and his younger sister Belva, working on the family farm and helping his dad to build his family home on Crofton Rd. Later in his childhood Jim met his six siblings whom he treasured; Jack, June, Elva, Millie, Dorothy and Margaret who also had been adopted by other families. Jim met Doris Root in school where they both graduated from Kalkaska High School. They were married on May 15th, 1954 before he enlisted in the Army and went to Germany to serve during occupation. Jim and Doris first had a daughter Victoria, and then came Susie and they finished their family with their son Joe. Jim worked many jobs, providing for his family including working in the meat department at Glen's Market, working in Cone Drive and eventually finishing out his working days at the Kalkaska County Road Commission where he retired. Jim never met a stranger and one of his favorite pastimes was to make a new friend. Jim loved his family the most, enjoying backyard bbq's, Trout Festival and Memorial Day get togethers, family time out at Lake Leelanau, hunting with the guys, bowling with friends, dinner at the Moose, and good ol' fashioned back porch dancing to the radio. Jim loved to sing the old hymns in church to his Savior as loud as he could from the heart, with it never getting old. The "Old Rugged

Cross” was his favorite and you could see a tear in his eye when he sang. Jim loved to put on a magic show to entranced little ones and he always said there was no better sound than a child’s laughter. He was always ready with a treat on hand, a magic quarter behind the ear, or mysteriously blessing strangers with food and money. He knew how to work hard and how to love sacrificially. He loved his wife and was very proud of his kids, grandkids and great grandkids. Jim is preceded in death by his wife Doris, his parents, his siblings Verna, Jack, June, Elva, Millie, Dorothy, Margaret and his granddaughter Korena England. Jim leaves behind his daughters Victoria (Mark) Harden and Susan (Tim) Dorman, his son Joseph (Elaine) Tuffts and his sister Belva (Gale) Parker, as well as his grandchildren Jennifer (Bill) Algier, Tom (Oana) Miller, Timberlie (Trent) Yanz, Josh England, Hollie (Scott) Bittenbender, Brenda (Chris) Henriet, Jimmy Tuffts, Monique Bonomo, Lannie Mateo, Irene (Brent) Rogers and Christopher Fast, and many great grandchildren. Visitation will be Sunday, January 12, 2020 at Kalkaska Funeral Home from 3-6 PM. A funeral will be held at 11 AM on Monday, January 13, 2020 at the Kalkaska Church of Christ. The family will receive friends beginning at 10 AM until the time of service. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 12. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Kalkaska Funeral Home
152 S Cedar St
P.O. Box 1457
Kalkaska, MI 49646

Final Visitation

JAN 13. 10:00 AM - 11:00 PM (ET)

Kalkaska Church of Christ
1725 W Kalkaska Rd NW
Kalkaska, MI 49646
<http://www.kccwired.com>

Service

JAN 13. 11:00 AM (ET)

Kalkaska Church of Christ
1725 W Kalkaska Rd NW
Kalkaska, MI 49646
<http://www.kccwired.com>

Tribute Wall

DO

“ *Such a very sweet man. I'm glad to have known him.*



donna - January 28, 2020 at 05:15 PM

RN

“ *There isnt a childhood memory that i have that Jim isnt in ... Jimmy and Doris were very close friends with my Papa and grandma newman ...I remember him coming over and doing magic tricks for us kids and finding his magic quarter behind our ears ! He was a very kind man and ome of a kind ! Jimmy will be missed... thank you jim for all the memories*

Rachael Newman - January 15, 2020 at 04:53 AM

BS

“ *Jim was loved by his family and well liked by his community. Always enjoyed visiting with him, his big smile and friendship.*

Thanks for the memories,

Billy Spencer - January 12, 2020 at 04:42 PM

MH

“ *So sad to hear of the passing of Jimmy, I always enjoyed his smile and hand shake, but most of all swapping Jokes with Jimmy! He will surely be missed by many.*

Mel Hill

Melvin F Hill - January 11, 2020 at 05:11 PM

AP

“ Jim was a great person who treated everyone he met with respect. He could remember jokes like nobody can. God be with you on your journey my friend. You'll be sorely missed by everyone 🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏
Tony & Barbara Poli

Antonio & Barbara Poli - January 11, 2020 at 09:43 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Colburn Tuffts.



January 11, 2020 at 12:53 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Colburn Tuffts.



January 11, 2020 at 12:26 AM

MF

“ Mr & Mrs Terry England and families purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of James "Jim" Colburn Tuffts.



Mr & Mrs Terry England and families - January 10, 2020 at 09:54 PM

LC

“ Had fun sitting on the back porch talking and drinking whiskey. Or having uncle Jimmy drive me all over town. He will be missed.

Lois Coleman - January 10, 2020 at 08:18 PM

LN

“ Lois Coleman niece purchased the Fairest of All for the family of James "Jim" Colburn Tuffts.



Lois Coleman niece - January 10, 2020 at 08:17 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Colburn Tuffts.



January 10, 2020 at 07:56 PM

CK

“ Uncle Jim and Uncle Jack were twin cut ups. Full of fun and laughter. He was my mother's brother and their memories went deep. Another link gone.

Prayers for the rest of the family.

Carol Knockemus

164 north 22nd St

Battle Creek Mi 49015

Carol knockemus - January 10, 2020 at 07:04 PM

PP

“ *Hollie... Timberlee and Family,
Awe sorry to hear this..... loved talking to your Grandpa.....He was
such a fun, outgoing, friendly, kind, and giving guy..... And a bit of a
character....
My prayers are with you all...
Polly Piltz*

Polly Piltz - January 10, 2020 at 05:22 PM

JM

“ *Jerry & Sheryl Miller lit a candle in memory of
James "Jim" Colburn Tuffts*



Jerry & Sheryl Miller - January 10, 2020 at 04:27 PM

LJ

“ *Many years ago when Jim worked for the county road almost
everyday hw would park under our maple tree to have his lunch.
One day he came to the house to ask us the name of our dog that
was running around the yard. We told him his name is Toby and
asked him if did something wrong. " NO" he said" " I just like to
know who I'm sharing my lunch with" !!!*

LARRY & TERRI JONES - January 10, 2020 at 04:15 PM