



# James Eugene "Jim" Morrison, Jr.

SEP 21, 1941 - APR 8, 2016



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## **James Eugene "Jim" Morrison, Jr.**

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**J**ames Eugene "Jim" Morrison, Jr., passed away Friday, April 8, 2016 at his home in Rehoboth Beach, DE. Jim was born in Okmulgee, OK, on September 21, 1941, son of the late James Eugene "Gene" and Eleanor Bothwell Morrison.

Jim and his three sisters grew up in Tulsa, OK. He graduated from Central High School in 1959 and from Oklahoma State University with a degree in Engineering in 1963. He was a proud member of the Sigma Nu fraternity at OSU. After graduation, Jim moved to the Los Angeles area to work for North American Aviation on engineering projects for the upcoming Apollo program. After moving to Fort Worth to begin his long IBM career, he earned his Master of Applied Science degree from Southern Methodist University and started his family. Following an IBM move to Ridgefield, CT, Jim met and married the love of his life, Lynne.

Jim and Lynne shared a passion for scuba diving and they had many exciting adventures with wonderful friends. After retiring from IBM, Jim continued his interest in the history of astronomy. His early interest in sundials led to a deep passion for the astrolabe. Jim's research led to making the astrolabe, an ancient device, popular in a new era. He made working astrolabes for countless students and others, and his book about their design and construction is highly praised and very popular. He also participated in researching a 1769 scientific expedition during that year's transit of Venus that led to erection of a historical marker in Lewes, DE.

Jim is survived by his wife of 37 years, Lynne; two sons: Chris and wife, Christine, of Kansas City, MO and Brian of Bethel, CT; a daughter, Jenny and husband, Chris, of Round Rock, TX; five grandchildren: Emily and Jack Morrison and Christopher, Jacob and Sam Reynolds; three sisters: Bette McCormick of Richardson, TX, Marilyn Cox of Tulsa, OK and Pam Jones of Los Angeles, CA.

Funeral Services will be held on Thursday, April 14, 2016, at 11:00 am at Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium, Atkins-Lodge Chapel, 16961 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958, where friends may call beginning at 10:00 am.



## Obituary

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In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 163, Salisbury, MD 21803.

Please sign the guestbook located on this site.

FLORIST NOTE: PLEASE HAVE ALL FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS DELIVERED BY 3:00 PM ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2016 TO PARSELL FUNERAL HOMES, LEWES, DE.



## Events

**James Eugene "Jim" Morrison, Jr.**

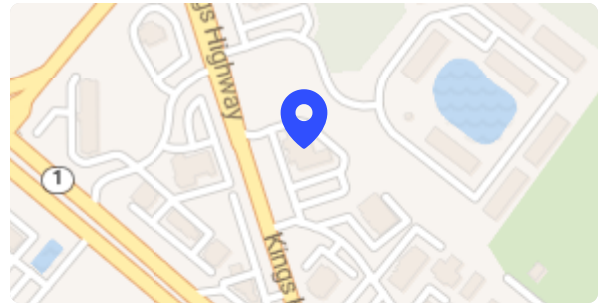
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### Friends May Call


 **Thursday**, April 14, 2016

 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET

 **Atkins-Lodge Chapel - Lewes**  
16961 Kings Hwy, Lewes DE 19958

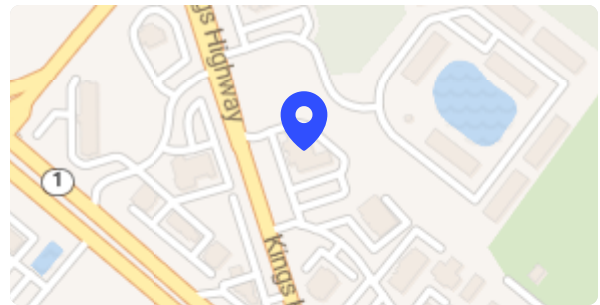


### Funeral Service

 **Thursday**, April 14, 2016

 11:00 AM ET

 **Atkins-Lodge Chapel - Lewes**  
16961 Kings Hwy, Lewes DE 19958





# Tribute Wall

**James Eugene "Jim" Morrison, Jr.**

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**Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium** shared a **Tribute Video**.



April 19 at 4:23 AM



**Joseph Mack** posted:

I corresponded by e-mail with Janus for about 5 years (2002-2007) about astrolabes. Janus made several astrolabes for me and I gave presentations about how they worked to groups of amateur astronomers based on his notes. His book which I saw in draft pdf was a wealth of information and I was very glad that someone had gone to the effort to make the information available to the general public. Last I heard from him he was busy building an astrolabe clock for someone and he'd get back to me. I forgot about him till today, when I got back my first 3D printed armillary sphere and thought I'd seen how Janus was doing. I found that his astrolabe website was gone and then I found his obituary here. I remember asking him if all his notes were kept safe in case of his death. I didn't want his knowledge to die with him. He said he was in fine shape and that he had plenty of astrolabe friends who knew what he was doing. Janus was a kind and wonderful correspondent to me. The world has been fortunate to have someone of his skill, knowledge and generosity. Thank you Janus. You have been a good friend to me. Joe Mack [jmack@trilug.org](mailto:jmack@trilug.org)

December 25 at 6:37 AM



**Collin Miller** posted:

Jim was an amazing man and an even father. I am currently 13 years old and love his page on the Astrolabe, which I have read multiple times. I have never personally met, him, but he sounds like an amazing person. My grandmothers maiden name was also Morrison, and James looks just like her.

March 20 at 7:01 AM



**Collin** shared a photo to the **James E. Morrison** album.



March 20 at 6:07 AM



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GT

**Geoffrey Thurston** posted:

I have had a transatlantic email correspondence with Jim since 2004 on various astronomical subjects of mutual interest. He was a fascinating correspondent because of his intelligent curiosity and wide range of interests. If he posed a question, I knew that my answer would have to be well prepared to survive his keen analysis. I was privileged to collaborate in his investigation of the temporary observatory sited in Lewes in 1769 to observe the transit of Mercury and was delighted when Jim's persistence was rewarded with the establishment of an historical marker close to the site. I shall miss my discussions with Jim. Jim was clearly proud of his family and his messages often included tales of Lynne, their children and grandchildren. I send my deepest sympathy for your loss. Geoffrey Thurston

July 28 at 11:08 AM



**Barbara Merry** posted:

So sorry to hear of Jim's passing. He was a leader at Central and continued as a leader in life. He will be greatly missed. Barbara McNutt Merry

April 16 at 9:42 AM

PS

**Peter Scott** posted:

So sorry to learn of Jim's passing. We shared many good times at Central High School, racing our old jalopies, abusing others with pranks, and telling bad jokes. Jim was a treasure, and will be greatly missed. Peter Scott

April 14 at 3:51 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Morrison family.



April 13 at 1:40 PM



## Tribute Wall

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PR

**Phil & Judy Ringdahl** posted:

Dear Lynne, Judy and I were shocked and saddened to learn of Jim's passing. Our sympathy and condolences to you and your family. We are in the Dominican Republic with our grandkids and unfortunately will miss the service. I talked to Jim just a few days before our departure and he was so looking forward to finishing his PT and returning home to you. We hope to see you upon our return. In the meantime, stay strong and continue on. Phil & Judy

April 13 at 12:35 PM

DW

**Danna Sue Walker** posted:

I sat at the same table with Jim at our last Central High School reunion. Such fun reminiscing about when we danced in the Central Daze with a group. Jim wore a raccoon coat and I wore a flapper dress. Prayers and thoughts to the family. Danna Sue Grimes Walker.

April 13 at 4:16 AM

PG

**Peggy Reynolds Gatlin** sent a Crystal Cross Bouquet to the Morrison family.



April 12 at 6:17 PM

BB

**Bill And Barbara** sent a Gift of Grace Bouquet to the Morrison family.



April 12 at 10:05 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Morrison family.



April 12 at 8:40 AM



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SH

**Steve Hubele** posted:

Chris and Christine - Sorry to hear about the loss of your father. My prayers are with your family. Steve Hubele

April 12 at 8:08 AM

AS

**Amy Shaughnessy** posted:

My thoughts and prayers to Lynne, Chris, Jenny, and Brian. Uncle Jim was one of the smartest people I have ever known, and an incredibly proud father and grandfather. He and my mom loved to swap stories about their grandchildren until they finally had to call it a draw. I'll miss his dry humor and conversations that were way over my head. What an amazing man and I'm proud to be his niece.

April 11 at 11:32 AM

BS

**Bill Shimer** posted:

I think of our meeting at LaGuardia Airport, our years working together at IBM, being best man at Jim and Lynne's wedding, our social times together as families, our dogs, Jims wry sense of humor and brilliant mind -- a tribute to my best friend Bill Shimer

April 11 at 7:44 AM



## Media

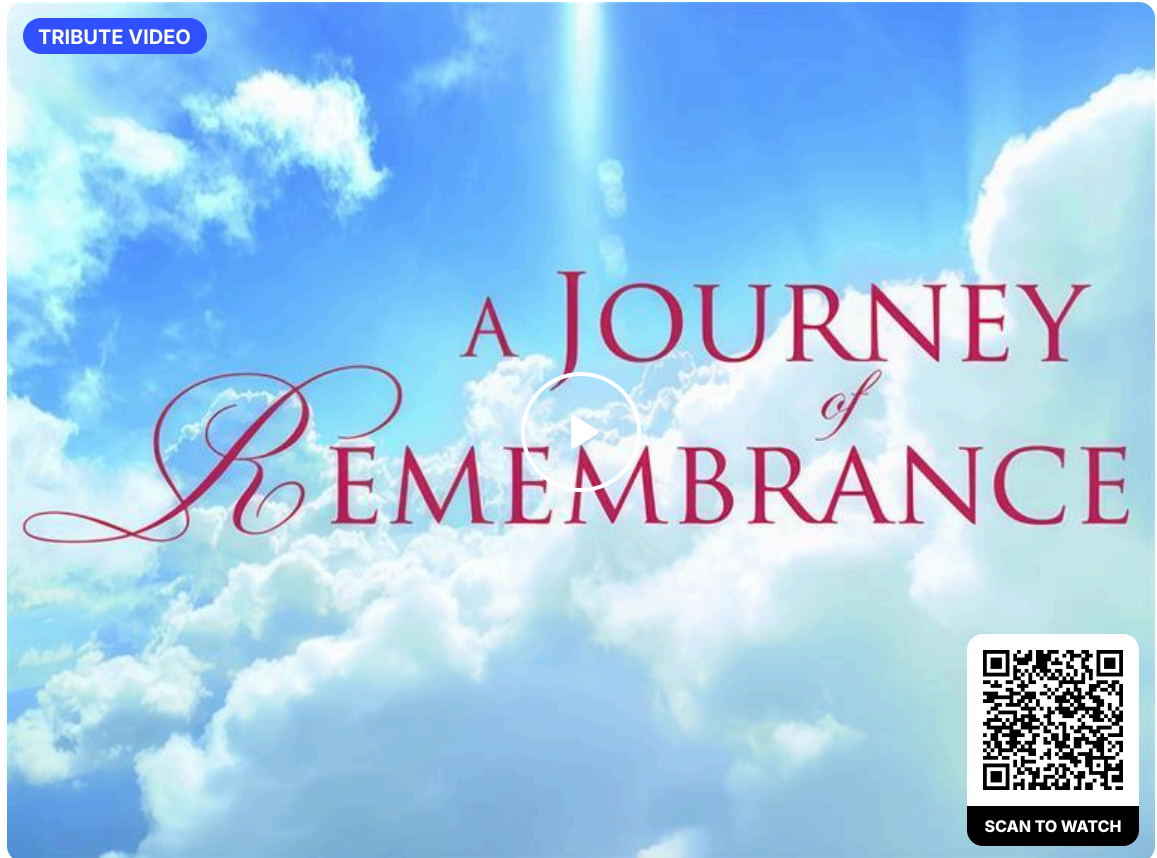
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March 20 at 6:07 AM



A great man, and an even better friend.



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring James Eugene "Jim" by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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