



James K. Rifenberg

SEP 21, 1930 - MAR 26, 2022



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James K. Rifembergh

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James K. Rifembergh one of the good guys

On Saturday, March 28, 2022, James Rifembergh passed away peacefully, owing to complications of dementia. Jim was born in the small town of Oconto Falls, Wisconsin, on September 21, 1930. His birth, during the Great Depression, was a blessing to his parents, the late Kent and Marvel (Peterson) Rifembergh.

Jim graduated from Washington High School, where he excelled in sports and earned an Eagle Scout badge. He received a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Wisconsin and an MBA from the University of Chicago. Jim served four years in the U.S. Air Force, serving during the Korean war.

Jim's professional career took him to Madison, WI, where he worked for Carl C. Crane, an engineering firm. Then he was on to Chicago, as an engineer for Inland Steel Co. Jim's career in the printing industry began at Poole Bros., a printing conglomerate in the Midwest. From 1967 till 1995, he worked at Brown Printing Company (now Quad Graphics). Brown is one of the largest printing companies in the United States, printing such titles as "Time" magazine, "Sports Illustrated," and the "New England Journal of Medicine." Jim held the positions of president, chief executive officer, and chairman emeritus II. In 2002, Jim and his wife, Jacqueline (Jackie) moved from Minnesota to Lewes, Delaware. He served on the Canal front Park committee and on the Greater Lewes Foundation board.

Jim is survived by his wife, Jackie; his daughters, Julie Blassick, and her husband, John; Amy Lundberg, and her husband, Andy; his four grandchildren: CJ, Steven, Madeline, and Nicholas; his great-granddaughter, Ava; his cousin Marlene Kreuger; and his loving pets.

Jim's last wishes specified that he wanted his ashes to be sent to his Wisconsin hometown, for burial in the family plot (he also specified that he did not want a funeral or any memorial service).



Obituary

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Jim's favorite song was "Imagine," in which John Lennon envisions a better world. After years of struggling with the debilitating disease of dementia, Jim deserves to be in a better world, maybe one in which his golf score goes down, the stock market goes up, and the Green Bay Packers win the Super Bowl. "Imagine. "

The family wants to thank the staff at the Moorings and Seasons hospice for their attentive care.

Please sign the virtual guestbook located on the tribute page.



Tribute Wall

James K. Rifenbergh

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KM

Kevin And Karyl Miller posted:

Our thoughts and prayers to you Jackie and family. May the gift of memories guide you through this sad time. Think of you often Jackie and times we shared together. Kevin and Karyl Miller

May 20 at 8:51 AM

MK

Marylou Kinkade posted:

Jackie, we are so very sorry to learn of Jim's passing. We have a lot of "Waseca memories" of Jim including being close neighbors. Sending our deepest condolences to you and your family. Robert E Schmidt Mary Lou Kinkade Waseca ❤️

April 27 at 12:21 PM



Earl Redman posted:

Jim and I have maintained our close friendship ever since kindergarden on Oconto Falls Wisconsin, He received many scholastic honors in High School and was an outstanding athlete in a number of sports..He was the Quarterback on our football team. We were Eagle Scouts together and won honors on a semefore sigeling contest. Jim practiced the philophies of the Boy Scouts all of his life for the benefit of many people. He achieved outstanding success in the Busoness world and his leadership sills have benefited a large number of people Jim and I still share some memories and secrets that have never been shared with anyone..Earl Redman

April 20 at 6:56 AM

RJ

Ricky Johnson posted:

Our thoughts are with you Jackie & family. I enjoyed working with Jim in Minnesota and our visits with the both of you. He played a significant role in my career. Rick & Marlene Johnson Waseca

April 12 at 11:58 AM

TE

Terry posted:

My thought and prayers to Rifenbergh's, he was always kind and positive working for and with him my father said and I say the same.

April 4 at 5:17 PM



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JF

James L. Ford posted:

Working with Jim was always a pleasure, and we still have the baseball cards he and Jackie brought us from the Phillies-Yankees game. One of many great memories. Our prayers are with you. Jim and Teresa Ford

April 4 at 9:44 AM

BW

Butch And Theresa Warrington lit a candle in honor of James.



April 2 at 1:07 PM

TJ

Terry Jeddelloh posted:

Mr. Rifenbergh was a friend, a golfing companion, and most of all a mentor to me. Julie and Amy, words cannot express the sorrow I feel today that your dad had to endure this horrible disease. But, I want to remember the good times we had on the golf course. Your dad was always willing to learn the things I tried to teach, some successful some not so much. But, we always enjoyed the time together. The one night I will never forget was the night Richard Nixon resigned and we were playing golf together. After 7 holes he said he wanted to get home to hear what the President was going to say. I said, I hope that crook resigns not knowing that your dad was a Republican and I believe active in county politics. Oops! But, we got past that and enjoyed golf again. My first trip to the Holiday House in St. Peter for dinner. The many nights that someone at work was experiencing an issue and he went out to help that person through whatever situation there was. I said to myself that is the kind of manager I always want to be- put people first. I loved your mom and dad a lot. The world has lost two of the finest people you would ever want to know. And, I had the privilege to know them both. Love and blessings to you and your families. Terry

April 1 at 3:38 PM

KE

Kristin Enevoldsen posted:

What beautiful memories I have growing up at 'Jim and Jackie's' in Waseca! From good food, some of my favorite animals, gardening and even a trip to the big city. I am so appreciative of all of it!!Kristin Enevoldsen

April 1 at 11:25 AM



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JB

John Blassick posted:

For all the men I could have had as a father-in-law Jim was the best. Always supportive and a great mentor
John Blassick

March 30 at 8:41 AM

JJ

Julie Jesse posted:

So sorry for your loss Julie. Thoughts and prayers to you and your family.
Julie Gehring Jesse class of 75

March 30 at 4:55 AM

SM

Safe Harbor Staff @ The Moorings posted:

It was a great pleasure spending the last 3 1/2 years with you here at The Moorings, Jim. We looked forward to your cheery good morning wishes and daily question, "What can I do to make your day go along better?" You will be missed by all. Fondly,
Safe Harbor staff @ The Moorings. Special condolences to wife Jackie and daughters, Julie and Amy.

March 29 at 12:07 PM

DR

Don Ridzon posted:

We are so sorry to hear of Jim's Passing. He definitely was a good guy.
Don and Marilyn Ridzon

March 29 at 10:11 AM

CT

Catherine Tessein posted:

Hi Jackie, we are sorry to hear about Jim, but he has to be in a better place. Imagine is a wonderful song.
Love, Cathy and Ed Tessein

March 29 at 9:56 AM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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