



James Aloysius Riley

JAN 26, 1939 - JUN 23, 2020



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James Aloysius Riley (Lt. Colonel- Ret) 81, decorated Vietnam War veteran, beloved husband and father, passed away Tuesday, June 23, 2020. Jim will be remembered as a loving husband and devoted father who loved God and serving his country. He was a resident of Annapolis and formerly resided in Columbia and Odenton, Md.

He was born in Youngstown, OH on January 26, 1939, and was the youngest son of the late Anne Lynch Riley & William Edgar Riley. He attended Saint Dominic School ('53) and Ursuline High School ('57). Jim attended Youngstown State University ('61) where he was a member of the ROTC program. He graduated with a degree in Advertising and entered the U.S. Army, completed jump school and was then stationed with the 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment (Wolfhounds), 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

As a young Second Lieutenant, Jim went with the Wolfhounds to Thailand for four months on extended maneuvers in 1962. In 1963 he transferred to Quartermaster Corp and moved to Ft. Shafter, Hawaii. He met and married his wife Jane Kurkjian, in 1964. Together they raised three daughters. He served two combat tours in Vietnam - Cam Ranh Bay, 1967-68 and IV Corp as an Advisor 1970-71 and was awarded several distinguished medals including the Bronze Star Medal with OLC and additional commendations recognizing his service. During his Army career, his assignments included: Ft. Lee, VA; Ft. Hood & Killeen Base, TX; Nurnberg & Ludwigsburg, Germany; and Ft. Meade, MD. Upon leaving active duty in 1975, Jim joined the 310th Theater Army Command Reserve Center at Ft Belvoir, VA and was promoted to Lt. Colonel before retiring from the Reserves in 1991.

After leaving active duty in 1975, Jim joined the Motorcycle Safety Foundation and facilitated Motorcycle Rider Education Courses for military installations across the U.S. until 1994. He joined Origene Technologies, Rockville, MD as Vice President and ultimately retired in 1999.



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He enjoyed traveling with Jane throughout the USA and cruising with friends. He had a witty sense of humor and loved to dance to classic songs. He also enjoyed attending church and spending time with his grandchildren, friends and family.

Along with his wife, Jane (Kurkjian) Riley, of 56-years, Jim is survived by three daughters and their spouses: Colleen (Rich) Prengaman, Severna Park, MD; Diane (Doug) Brown of Rehoboth Beach, DE; and Heather (Chris) Ward of Bryn Mawr, PA. He was also the beloved grandfather to 10 grandchildren, Haley, Reece, Chase, Tucker, Mason, Flynn, Colin, Trent, Bridget and Torin. Jim was preceded in death by his parents and siblings Patricia Ann McCormack, William Riley and grandson Trent (2010).

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Alzheimer's Association, 1850 York Road, Suite D, Timonium, MD 21093. A Memorial Mass at Sacred Heart Church and interment will take place with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.



Tribute Wall

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HS

Harry Simpson sent a virtual gift in honor of James.

Rest James, until you hear at dawn, the low, clear reveille of God. Thank you for your service to this nation. Career U.S. Army.

September 29 at 12:20 PM



DG

Doris And John Gomoljak posted:

Jim always had a smile and a funny joke to tell. He was friendly and kind to everyone. He will be missed. Our condolences to -his wife, Jane, and the rest of the family.

July 12 at 5:38 AM

AH

Anne Hemmer posted:

Rick and I had the pleasure of meeting Jim last New Year at a dance. What a sweet gentleman he was and still dancing to the good oldies with his loving wife, Jane. I'm glad we had the opportunity to meet this lovely man. Our condolences to his family. Anne and Rick Phillips

July 7 at 9:10 AM

CK

Cynthia Keller posted:

Jane, My thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family. Cynthia Keller

July 4 at 12:18 PM

AG

Anne Gardner posted:

I went to high school with Jim and remember him as a sweet quiet guy. He had an exemplary life which I do not find surprising at all. RIP Jim, thank you for your service and God speed!

July 2 at 6:26 AM

LB

Liz Beck lit a candle in honor of James.

June 30 at 4:22 PM





Tribute Wall

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Steve Hamm shared an album called **Memories Album**.



June 30 at 8:39 AM



Kristi Hilbrandt lit a candle in honor of James.



June 30 at 4:00 AM



Media

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Steve Hamm shared a photo to the **Memories Album** album.

June 30 at 8:39 AM



Jim Riley in 2006



Memories only last if you share them

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



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