



James Douglas Bennett

January 3, 1977 - January 18, 2021

James Douglas Bennett, born January 3, 1977, in Lansing, Michigan, passed away at the age of 44 on January 18, 2021, in Fort Myers, Florida, after a long, but valiant battle with cancer.

James was a man of true character who dedicated his life and his energy to those that he loved. He was a “gentle giant”, standing tall in any crowd, but with a kind heart that impacted anyone who ever met him. He was thoughtful in his words and actions, always seeking to see the good in everyone, believing that all deserved a chance to be their best.

James passed with the love of 3 women in his life. He was the son of Beverly Morse, who adored him and considered him her “favorite” (a shared title among all her sons); the father to Jaida Bennett who made him see life with purpose and vigor; and the husband to Tina Richardson who was the love of his life, his best friend, and his true soulmate.

James and Tina had a 10-year journey that inspired all who were able to witness their partnership firsthand. Through countless trips, rides on their Harleys, and walks around the neighborhood, they grew a love for the record books. They built homes together, splitting time between Michigan and Florida, joined their families as one, and created a bond that shined brighter than the sun they both loved.

James loved being a grandpa to Leo and Evie. He played the role naturally and effortlessly. For Leo especially, he was the perfect “Umpa” and brought out smiles and laughs that would fill a room.

James built a career serving as a Corrections Officer for the State of Michigan until an injury sustained in the line of duty cut his time there short at 13 years. After his injury, he explored different passions while focusing on his family and planning for his Florida retirement.

James is survived by his beautiful wife, Tina Richardson, his daughter Jaida Bennett, stepdaughter Kenni Richardson, and grandchildren Leo and Evie. He is also survived by his parents Beverly and Dennis Morse, his brothers Ben (Tina) Morse, Dan (Katie) Bennett, and Steven Bennett; his beautiful nieces Mia and Arianna; his father Douglas Bennett and grandmother Marjorie Pifer; and countless friends and extended family members.

A Celebration of James' life will be held Sunday, January 24, 2020, 2:00 p.m. at the Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home, Grand Ledge. Visitation will be from 1:30 pm until the time of the service at 2:00 pm. Masks will be required and social distancing will be observed. Memorial contributions in James' memory may be given to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis Tennessee 38105-9959 (https://www.stjude.org/donate/donate-to-st-jude.html?sc_icid=header-btn-donate-now).

Tribute Wall

TS

“ James was a truly amazing person with the kindest heart! I'm thankful for the short time I was able to work with James and get to know him. Sending deepest sympathy to Tina and the family!



Tricia S. - January 24, 2021 at 10:19 AM



“ Our love and prayers go out to you and may memories comfort you. Love, Doug Theresa, Candyce Pittman



Theresa Pittman - January 22, 2021 at 06:38 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of James Douglas Bennett.



January 22, 2021 at 05:32 PM

IM

“ Tina, and the entire family, I am so very sorry for the loss of your wonderful husband James. Although We didn't know James on a personal level, he seemed to be a great guy. Please accept our sincerest sympathy. Brian & Ivey Matter



Ivey Matter - January 22, 2021 at 01:27 PM

AL

“ Aunt Julie, Calvin Jon and Chloe Lane purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of James Douglas Bennett.



Aunt Julie, Calvin Jon and Chloe Lane - January 22, 2021 at 01:26 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of James Douglas Bennett.



January 22, 2021 at 10:35 AM

CA

“ James lived his life with kindness and devotion. He seemed to understand what was important in life, and he lived it accordingly. He was an incredibly good person, and I feel blessed to have known him. He is so missed, and I wish those closest to him, peace and comfort.

Cathy A - January 21, 2021 at 09:55 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Douglas Bennett.*



January 21, 2021 at 05:43 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of James Douglas Bennett.*



January 21, 2021 at 10:06 AM



“ *James had the most beautiful soul, I always looked forward to James and Tina coming over on Christmas, going on vacations and just spending time with them. James always had something of value to share, and looked at things in such loving manner. He loved it when I would make my peanut butter cookies with the kisses on top and I would tell him they were just for him, and if he wanted to he could share them with Tina. He will forever be in our hearts and will be missed immensely .*

Marie G - January 21, 2021 at 10:00 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James Douglas Bennett.*



January 21, 2021 at 08:57 AM

LA

“ I call him Bennett due to having so many James in my bus garage, he was like a son to me in so many ways, he never complained on the routes he drove, he always asked if i needed anything. What can i say but i will miss you Bennett and you will be in my thoughts each and every day. God give Tina and the family strength as they morn the loss of a great man.

Laurie - January 21, 2021 at 08:51 AM

BM

I've heard such nice things about you from both Jim and Tina. As his mom, I thank you for sharing with everyone the wonderful and caring man I am blessed to always have for my son.

Beverly Morse - January 21, 2021 at 12:35 PM

RP

“ I am so grateful for the precious time me and my kids had with James. There will NEVER be a man as kind and thoughtful as him. He truly was my brother and I miss him so much already. I love and pray for my sister and James's family we love you all.

Robin Pittman - January 20, 2021 at 11:49 PM



Beautiful Robin ❤️

Theresa Pittman - January 22, 2021 at 06:40 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Douglas Bennett.



January 20, 2021 at 08:42 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of James Douglas Bennett.



January 20, 2021 at 06:57 PM



“ *Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet* was purchased for the family of James Douglas Bennett.



January 20, 2021 at 05:21 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of James Douglas Bennett.



January 20, 2021 at 05:16 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage* was purchased for the family of James Douglas Bennett.



January 20, 2021 at 04:55 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James Douglas Bennett.*



January 20, 2021 at 04:49 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James Douglas Bennett.*



January 20, 2021 at 04:40 PM



“ *To my friends Bev and Dennis and the entire Bennett family, Mark and I are so sorry for your loss.*



Arlene Dayboch - January 20, 2021 at 04:04 PM



“ *I never had the pleasure of meeting Jim, but have known Bev and Denny Morse for the past 2.5 years. Their memories of Jim were heartwarming and just affirmed what a fine man he was to his family and friends. RIP Jim!❤️*

Gayle and Don Sisler - January 20, 2021 at 03:39 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Douglas Bennett.* ”



January 20, 2021 at 02:20 PM