



## James William Curtis

May 18, 1936 - October 14, 2021

James (Jim) William Curtis, 85, of Cape Coral FL, passed away peacefully at Cape Coral Hope Hospice on 10/14/2021. James was born 5/18/1936 in Albany, New York to the late William (Bill) Curtis and Phyllis Ernestine Curtis. He was raised and educated in Rochester, New York where he graduated from Madisonian High School in 1956. A yearbook quote states "Happy go lucky, he drives a Ford. When you're with Jim you're never bored". After High School Jim attended and graduated Simmons School of Embalming and Mortuary Science in Syracuse New York, class of 1961. He also served in the Army Reserve and was presented a Honorable Discharge from the Armed Forces of the United States Army in August of 1962. He practiced mortuary / funeral services and drove a Coke a Cola truck for a brief time before spending most of his career at Eastman Kodak as a Chemical Operator for 21 years. In 1986 he moved his family to Cape Coral, Florida where he work in the hospitably Industry. His hospitably career continued at various locations throughout the Southwest region including South Seas Plantation, Sanibel Harbour Resort and Spa and RSW Airport until retirement. For those who met Jim, they quickly realized he was born to make people smile and laugh, he entertained everyone that crossed his path. Armed with his signature pipe and charismatic smile he loved sharing stories and telling his favorite jokes, all while holding a Manhattan or Bloody Mary in hand. He was also known to let out a "crow call" once in awhile, anything for a laugh. He defiantly loved and lived life to the fullest. His goal was to make at least one person laugh a day.

While remembering Jim today and always. "...When tomorrow starts without me, don't think we are far apart, for every time you think of me, I'm right here in your heart." He is preceded in death by his wife, of 50 years, Cheryl Lee Curtis and younger brother Thomas Gordon Curtis. He is survived by daughter Debra (Jeff) Saunders; sons, James, Michael, and Craig Curtis; and daughter Janet (Jarred) Ciccone. Also surviving are six grandchildren; Christopher, Steven and Mark Saunders, Kristy Coville, and Thalia and Cody Curtis. Three grandchildren, Jake, Grace and Lilian Saunders; and many nieces and nephews.

# Tribute Wall



“ *James William Curtis*

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October 09, 2023 at 02:01 AM



“ *James William Curtis*

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January 28, 2023 at 12:09 PM



“ *I had the pleasure of meeting Debbie's father Jim when he came for visits. He was certainly a fun person to be around! Debbie loved him dearly and he will be greatly missed. Keep everyone up in heaven laughing Jim ;)Jean DeBryne*

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**Jean DeBryne** - October 21, 2021 at 01:57 PM

DG

“ Condolences to the family from Rochester, NY.

*I am friends with Jim, namesake of the beloved Jim who will be so missed.*

*I know the elder Jim to be a very loving and patient father, a devoted family man who always ended each phone call to his son with a mellow but heartfelt "love ya and miss ya".*

*Thankfully, the younger Jim (along with others) was able to visit twice this past year reenergizing the father/son bond and James W. certainly has much adoring family in Rochester. However, the constant care and support to his Dad that he told me about by Janet and the Florida family was so much appreciated. James W. was fortunate to have left a legacy of family who truly loved him and cared for him.*

*May you be comforted by family, friends, your memories and by the Creator.*

*Best,  
Debbie Greenholtz*

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**Debbie Greenholtz** - October 18, 2021 at 03:08 PM

DS

“ *Dad, so much i want to say, i will miss our special talks, the smell of your pipe, our love of Halloween, it was our favorite day of the year. you were my lighthouse with your bright shining light, and those Crow calls, i can remember the looks we got in town after having breakfast in town.love and miss you, you were the best Dad a daughter could ever have! love Debbie.*

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**Debra Saunders** - October 18, 2021 at 10:32 AM

JC

“ My Father lived a full and happy life. He was a wonderful person inside and out. Everyone who knew him knows my Father enjoyed sharing his stories and telling his favorite jokes. He had so much happy times to share. He loved to make people happy and bring a smile to their face. Loosing his wife earlier this year truly broke his heart. He tried to hang on for others but with his last surgery and complications he just didn't have the energy to keep fighting. I'm sad that he is gone but take comfort he is with my Mother again. They will be together for their anniversary on 10/31. When you remember my Father remember the smell of his pipe, the drink you shared with him (Manhattan was his favorite) the joke you laughed at or the crow call he let out to get reactions from strangers. Remember the good times as that is what he would want, no tears just good times.

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**Janet Ciccone** - October 17, 2021 at 08:19 AM

KN

“ Jim was a very good man. Always good to my mom myself and my family. I remember spending time at his house, especially with Cheryl and him and Janet during hurricane Charlie in the closet. But we survived. I'm sure Jim is at peace with his mom and dad and brother and Cheryl in heaven. RIP 💕

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**Kathy Northrup** - October 16, 2021 at 01:07 PM

HJ

“ I was a young child when Janet and I became close friends. We have sleepovers a lot. During one of these times, Jim decided to give me a nickname of Heather the little peanut. He even made up a little song to go with the nickname “Hi, I'm Heather and I'm a little peanut...” Jim always made me feel like party of his amazing family. Peace and love, Jim. Until we meet again at the Father's table.

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**Heather Junkert** - October 16, 2021 at 10:53 AM

CC

“ Dear Grandpa you use to tell me this all the time you know what kind of day it is its like any other day but you where there I love you grandpa and I wish you the best on everything stay golden

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**Cody J. Curtis** - October 16, 2021 at 12:08 AM

TC

“ Grandpa I will miss you Always and Forever. I remember growing up with you and how you use to tickle my feet with your beard. I remember junking and garage sales and always laughing with you. As I venture forward in life, I'll be looking for the light from your lighthouse to forever guide me back to shore.

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**Thalia Curtis** - October 15, 2021 at 10:21 PM

CS

“ Message from Chris Saunders:

*"There are certain people we meet in our lives that seem born to make others smile and laugh, this was grandpa. Armed with his signature pipe and charasmatic smile he entertained everyone he crossed paths with. He could strike up a conversation with anyone, loved telling his favorite jokes and stories, and if they were lucky he would call out his signature "crow call" that equally embarrassed family members and confused the general public. He would do anything for a laugh, and we all loved him for it. He taught us to go with the flow and don't take everything so seriously. I will miss my grandpa but his memories will forever bring a smile to my face. Love and miss you.*

*Chris"*

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**Chris Saunders** - October 15, 2021 at 09:31 PM