



James Lee Crockarell

March 9, 1944 - January 25, 2024

James Crockarell

Age 79, of North Oaks, MN, passed away on January 25th after a valiant battle against a sepsis infection.

James was born March 9th, 1944 to Edward and Ruby Crockarell of Indian Mound, TN. After graduating from Clarksville High School, he went on to earn his B.S. Degree in Business from the University of Kentucky, his M.A. Degree in Business Administration from Austin Peay University, his Ph.D in Finance and Planning from the University of Tennessee, and his Post Graduate studies from the University of Tennessee School of Law.

After graduation, he began his career as a Professor at the University of Tennessee. He relocated to St. Paul, MN and became Vice-President of Planning at Ellerbe Becket Companies. Following his tenure there, he began a career in Real Estate lasting over 40 years in which he became one of Ramsey County's largest property owners.

Jim's impact on the city of St. Paul was profound. He was extremely involved in the development of restaurants providing entertainment and food to St. Paul residents.

He worked with the community to redevelop St. Paul's housing and offices

providing dynamic choices for people to live and work. His leadership was a positive force in the City of St. Paul and will be greatly missed.

James is preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife, Rosemary Kortgard, his children Rob Crockarell and Carol March (Tomm Hanson), and grandchildren Shae Crockarell, Carson Crockarell, Hayden Hanson, and Margeaux Hanson.

A visitation will be held from 5:00-7:30, Tuesday, January 30th at Washburn-McReavy Holcomb-Henry-Boom-Purcell Chapel; 515 Highway 96 W., Shoreview. Funeral service Thursday, February 1st at 11:00 AM (visitation 10-11 AM) at The House of Hope Presbyterian Church; 797 Summit Avenue, St. Paul. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to U of M Masonic Children's Hospital, American Cancer Society or the Animal Humane Society.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 30. 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

Shoreview Chapel
515 Highway 96 West
Shoreview, MN 55126

Visitation

FEB 1. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

House of Hope Presbyterian Church
797 Summit Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55105

Church Service

FEB 1. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

House of Hope Presbyterian Church
797 Summit Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55105

Tribute Wall

PP

“ Deep condolences to Rosemary, Carol, and Rob,

I was deeply saddened to hear of Jim's passing. Over the twelve years we worked together in the Degree of Honor Bldg., he became a valued colleague as well as a business associate. Jim's intelligence, humor, and integrity always stood out, and I will miss our conversations and storytelling.

He built his success from the ground up, starting with little and becoming a powerful force in St. Paul's commercial real estate market. It was inspiring to see him achieve his dreams. Jim was truly unique, and he will be missed by all who knew him.

My thoughts are with you during this difficult time.

Phil Powell

P. Powell - December 06, 2024 at 09:54 AM

FW

“ RoseMary, I'd like you and your family to know how much I liked Jim. Al Esther introduced me to Jim and the three of us became business partners some thirty years ago. During all of that time I was able to learn that Jim was honest, trustworthy and could be counted on to help our partnership succeed. I will truly miss him.

Fred Wall

Fred Wall - January 30, 2024 at 05:25 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of James Lee Crockarell.*



January 30, 2024 at 09:41 AM



“ *My deep condolences to Rosemary, Carol, and Rob. Jim and I were close friends and business partners for over forty years. I will miss our discussions and swapping stories. We never had an argument or bad words. He was highly intelligent, good humored, surprisingly athletic, a consummate deal maker, and always maintained a gentlemanly demeanor until he felt he had to dig in his heels. In our early days with little or no money, Jim aspired to be a force in the real estate business. It was great to see him succeed and reach that goal. He was truly unique and will be missed. Al Esther*

Al Esther - January 29, 2024 at 04:54 PM



“ *My condolences (from two of his grandchildren's great aunt). Jim was ever gracious to me when I visited there.*
M. H. DeMers

M. H. DeMers - January 29, 2024 at 01:45 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James Lee Crockarell.*



January 28, 2024 at 05:03 PM

JA

“ Jess & Alok planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Lee Crockarell.

Jess & Alok - January 28, 2024 at 05:03 PM