



James "Jimmy" Schemel

August 12, 2007

Schemel, James Grant "Jimmy" Born July 23, 1958 and died accidentally on August 9, 2007. Preceded in death by his father, James Cinclair Schemel. Survived by mother, Lyla Schemel; sister, Deborra (Scott) Wiele; niece and nephew, Erin and Scotty. He is also survived by his domestic partner, Cynthia Abramovitz, and his "adopted" teenagers Ashley and Alex Abramovitz. Also his extended "family" at Schussler Creative. Jim never had an unkind word to say about anyone, and he never let negative energy limit him. He will be deeply missed by all. Memorial service 2 pm Tuesday at Westwood Lutheran Church, 9001 Cedar Lake Road South, St Louis Park with visitation one hour prior to the service at church and also 5-8 pm Monday at: Washburn-McReavy Edina Chapel 952-920-3996 West 50th St & Hwy 100

Tribute Wall



“ To my everlasting best fiend. I've almost made it a year since youve been gone. I made it through our class reunion and I could not have been more proud to be a part of your life. So many people came up to me to tell me what a great person you were. I know that all to well! I also know you were needed in heaven ,yet it is so lonley here without you baby. I hope to see you soon. Happy Birthday Jimmy I miss you so very much. All my love forever yours. C.

~

Cindy

July 21, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ *To my everlasting best friend*

~

Cindy

July 21, 2008 at 12:00 AM

GO

“ Cindy- I just heard about Jim. Our sympathy goes out to you. Brian & I did not know you two well, but we always enjoyed our times at the Showcase Galas. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Gigi & Brian

~

Gigi Olive,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Gigi Olive - August 24, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ Jim, Jimmy, James, Love, I find it interesting that I feel like I am communicating to you through the world of internet. What has the world come to? We used to write notes in school. If I could turn back time I'd give it all to you. We've climbed so many mountains together, and to try to hold on without your rope of optimism is overwhelming. I will give it my all and try to teach the kids that it is not the destination it is the journey. It's not about fashion, it's about class. It's not about who you are it's about what you are, and all the other little sayings that mean so much to me right now. I will try so hard to live your legacy, no matter what I am thinking. I believe in our hopes and dreams I believe in you me us. I believe in the moon and stars to guide us, and keep us. And I truly believe that you are the best thing that's ever happened to us. Will I see you in Heaven? There will be Hell on Earth if I don't. I love you with all my broken heart. C.

~

Cindy

August 17, 2007 at 12:00 AM

ER

“ I remember when I was new to the Twin Cities, I didn't know a lot of people here. Jim became my friend. I'll always remember him for that. But as a lot of people have stated, he was a generous soul and I was a frequent recipient of his generosity. Jim, I'm sad that I have missed my chance to thank you in person.

~

Erick Reinikka,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Erick Reinikka - August 14, 2007 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ We got to know Jimmy thru Schussler Creative. We enjoyed working with Jimmy many times on various projects. This is truly shocking. Our deepest regrets to the Schemel family and our condolences to all who knew him.

~

KAUFMAN SIGN,

MINNEAPOLIS

Contact Me

KAUFMAN SIGN - August 14, 2007 at 12:00 AM

TP

“ Hey Jim ~ Heaven is very lucky to have you. We are very lucky to have known you. Peace, love, and light to all who nurse the empty spot in their hearts, especially to Cindy and to your family. Till we meet again. Fondly,

~

Tamara (Munsterman) Parisio,

Richland, Washington

Contact Me

Tamara (Munsterman) Parisio - August 14, 2007 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ Most often, Jimmy and I used the word “love” or “love you man” when we engaged in conversation or used salutations. I am proud to consider Jim as one of my very best friends. Jim provided me with excellent words of encouragement and advice and was ALWAYS willing to lend a helpful hand. He always made whoever he was with feel like they were the best at whatever they did and the most important person in the room. Family was priority #1 for Jim. I remember watching Twins games with he and his parents and later with just Jim and Lyla. Jim even missed my wedding because he didn't want to miss one of Alex's hockey tournaments. Jim was a God-spirited, loving, forgiving and tender man. Although I moved a distance away I kept in touch with Jim and will forever cherish our friendship. Jim, I know that your smile in heaven is just as big as those that you shared with all of us here. I will deeply miss you!

~

Peter Bormann,

Moorhead, Minnesota

Contact Me

Peter Bormann - August 14, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Dear Jim & Dear Cindy, What a tragedy to lose someone so full of life, so happy, so joyous to all who knew you!! Cindy dear friend.... I am sooooo sorry that you lost your loved one. I remember seeing you two at the Farmers Market in the fall and you had a bag full of cucumbers and dill. Both of you were so excited to make Pickles.... What a gift to have someone in your life that makes you so happy! Jim you will be missed, Cindy we are here as your friends.... You are in our thoughts and prayers! Love, The Hollways Mary, Bill, Billy, Mike and Molly

~

Mary (Boyer) Hollway,

Edina, Minnesota

Contact Me

Mary (Boyer) Hollway - August 14, 2007 at 12:00 AM

KL

“ At high school parties, I remember that Jim and I were always the first ones to the dance floor. And if there wasn't a dance floor, we made our own. He always made me laugh. I had not seen Jim in a while. When I bumped into him at Knollwood one day a couple of years ago, he seemed happy in his life and work. I am so sorry to hear of your loss, he was far too young.

~

Karen Laukkonen,

St. Louis Park

Karen Laukkonen - August 13, 2007 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ Dear Schemel family, I was shocked to see an e-mail from my mom telling all of us kids of Jimmy's passing. Although I have not seen or heard of him since we moved out of the neighborhood when Jimmy was only about 11, I have never forgotten building forts in your trees, playing in the weeds behind our houses, and my favorite, laying in the grass on the side of your house with Debbie and Jimmy, and my brother Chris. We would put our feet on the wall and watch the house "falling" on us as the clouds drifted by. In all of the fun moments, and all of the friendless moments of childhood, Jimmy was always a friend. Our deepest condolences.

~

Liz (Hector) Stewart,

Portland, Oregon

Contact Me

Liz (Hector) Stewart - August 13, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BN

“ Dear Schemel family, loved ones and friends of Jim, I was deeply saddened to read of Jims passing. My memories of Jim go back 30+ years to when I was a classmate and friend of Jims during elementary school (Lenox) Jr High (Central) and SLP Senior High. What I will always remember about Jim was his great sense of humor and it was still evident the last time I saw him at our 20 year class reunion. I was at our reunion and I was looking out a window into the parking lot and watching a heavy rainstorm with lots of lightning and thunder when I heard this voice from behind me say " Hey Nagle, will go out and roll up the windows in my car" I laughed and turned to see Jim smiling at me. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this very difficult time.

~

Bruce Nagle,

Maple Grove, Minnesota

Contact Me

Bruce Nagle - August 13, 2007 at 12:00 AM

GK

“ *Jim, it's been a long time, but the memories we all had at smelt fry are life lasting. May God bless you*

~

Gabe Kmetz,

Portland, Oregon

Gabe Kmetz - August 13, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ I last saw Jimmy when he gave me a tour of his place of work, my friend Steves' warehouse of ideas. Jimmy and my wife are cousins, so I've had the pleasure of knowing him for 30 years. He was always a delight to chat with, catching up on his ventures and adventures. He'll be missed. God bless us all. Mike Andrews

~

Mike & Susan Andrews,

Palm Springs, California

Mike & Susan Andrews - August 13, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Jimmy is my friend and that says a lot. He always seemed to be there if you asked him and always made whatever it was more fun just by his presence. We spent lots of time together working on projects. You always knew where he was because he had the famous Schemel shuffle. He simply did not pick up his feet; he only shuffled. Jimmy, himself termed it the "famous Schemel shuffle." It was rare for a few days to go by without us talking. He would call when he saw a motorcycle or some toy along the road that he thought I might be interested in. I don't think I ever bought any of the bikes or toys but it was great to know Jimmy was thinking of me. He was my friend. When my parents were very ill it was Jimmy that called to see how things were going. I liked that he called and I really felt his genuine concern. When his dad was sick I learned from him. He stayed close to his dad even though it was hard to see him slipping away. He was a great son and a great friend. He annually took his Mom to Florida for the winter and drove her back when she was ready to come home. He liked those trips and looked forward to them. It is such an understatement to say I will miss him. He was a man that was a big part of my life. I think it was 4 years ago when Jimmy, myself and few other guys all went to the Sturgis bike rally. I found a motorcycle for Jimmy and the two of us rebuilt it for Sturgis. We road over 1000 mile in just a few days and every night we talked about nothing really. I just enjoyed his stories and his unique way he interpreted the world. It was a great time and I still have that. I always hoped we could do that again but it didn't turn out that way. It is funny how Jimmy always referred to the bike we built as the one I built for him. He never forgot if you helped him. I was in Sturgis again last year with my brother; when my brother's air conditioner went out at his home in Plymouth, Minnesota. It was Sunday evening and my sister-in-law was very upset. Jimmy didn't go to Sturgis that year so I called him and he went over that night and fixed it. He never made you feel like you owed him you believed he was happy to help. Jimmy's death is real hard to believe and very hard to know I can't just call him; just to BS, like I have done for so many years. It is said we are here on a round trip ticket. His gentle soul has taken his return flight home. I am not sure if our

souls are forever but if it is I look forward to hearing that famous Schemel shuffle and seeing him again. Goodbye for now. Dave Flom

~

Dave Flom,

Minnetonka, Minnesota

Contact Me

Dave Flom - August 13, 2007 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ Jimmy, You are going to be truly missed by all of us at Schussler Creative. You were a wonderful, wonderful friend and co-worker. Knowing you these past 7 years has been such a pleasure and a gift; from your kindness, friendship, smile, and great sense of humor. We love you and miss your dearly. May God bless you and your family always.

~

Kari Honoroff,

New Brighton, Minnesota

Kari Honoroff - August 13, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ Jimmy's big smile and friendliness is something my family and I will remember. He was generous with his time and always willing to lend a hand. Knowing people like Jimmy is a blessing. He will be missed.

~

David Johnson,

St. Louis Park, Minnesota

Contact Me

David Johnson - August 13, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Jimmy, How can it be? You're indispensable to Steve's life. You're a main artery to what makes everything function at Schussler Creative AND at his home. Like the 'support vehicle' you were for us on our Iron Pony Ride out west on our motorcycles, you continue to be the 'support vehicle' in Steve and Sunhi's life. Nobody can do what you do, and with such integrity. From now on, without you, life will be like a wheel that continues to roll, but with a missing spoke. Functioning, but never the same.

~

Jan Myslajek,

Maple Grove, Minnesota

Contact Me

Jan Myslajek - August 12, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Jimmy, We already miss you at the cabin, the State fair, Matt's (Grayson Band) boat cruises on Tonka, the Viking games when Mel didn't want to go, the places Camp Cindy would rent up in Nisswa, the days that Todd needed help with something, the campfires in our back yard when you would come to visit, and so many more great times together. Thank you for the friendship you brought to our family, Brett Andrea and Muddi miss you all ready. We never got the boat in the water, so when we do, you will be in our thoughts. God Bless Mel

~

Melanie Schumacher,

Saint Louis Park, Minnesota

Melanie Schumacher - August 11, 2007 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ *Jim, I still can't believe your gone. We had so many plans together. I will always keep you in my thoughts and prayers. It won't be the same without you. I miss you buddy.*

~

Todd Schumacher,

St, Louis Park

Todd Schumacher - August 11, 2007 at 12:00 AM