



James Higgins Norrbom

December 20, 1938 - January 2, 2023

James Higgins Norrbom (Jim) was born on December 20, 1938. Jim was the 9th of 10 children born to Elmer and Clara Higgins Norrbom. He died on January 2, 2023 at the age of 84, surrounded by his family.

Jim grew up in South Minneapolis, and some of his favorite childhood memories were riding the streetcars with his brothers, and playing baseball with the kids from the neighborhood.

Following his graduation from South High School in Minneapolis in 1956, at age 17, Jim served with the American Security Agency of the US Army in Okinawa from 1957-1959.

Jim met his wife, Sharon, in 1962 at the Roller Garden in St. Louis Park, where he was a competitive roller skate dancer. Jim and Sharon married on October 24, 1964. They bought a house on Sharon's parents' land in Burnsville, MN, and welcomed daughter, Stacy, in 1970, and son, Michael, in 1975.

Jim studied computer programming at Minneapolis Business College. He began his career at Hennepin County, and later worked for 28 years at the Toro Company as a computer programmer. He retired from Toro in 2001 at the age of 62.

Jim's church community was very important to him, and he joined Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in the early 70's, where he sang in the church choir and volunteered in various capacities for nearly 50 years. He had many dear friends he enjoyed seeing each Sunday, and at Bible studies and other events.

Jim and Sharon loved entertaining family and friends at their home. Jim was a great dancer, and he loved dancing with Sharon at every opportunity. Jim loved playing games and cards due to his competitive nature, and cherished the many national and international trips he was able to take with Sharon, and his family.

Jim is survived by his loving wife of 58 years, Sharon; daughter, Stacy (Shelly); son, Michael (Dawn); grandchildren, Autumn, Summer, and Zachary; brother, Clarence; and sisters Claris and Carolyn (Bob) Krebs. Jim is preceded in death by his parents, Elmer and Clara; brothers, Lowell, Richard, Hugh, and Fred; and sisters, Shirley and Mary.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church.

If you wish, we would love for you to wear red, white, or blue to the service to both recognize the love he had for his country and reflect his vibrant and energetic personality!

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 6. 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (Burnsville)
13801 Fairview Drive
Burnsville, MN

Memorial Service

JAN 6. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (Burnsville)
13801 Fairview Drive
Burnsville, MN

Tribute Wall

BS

“ Sharon, my sincere condolences to you and your family. It is with great sorrow that I heard of your loss but hold on to your memories and let them guide you during this time of sadness. We did have delightful times at the ASA Reunions. It was so wonderful to have met you and Jim. Please let's keep in touch. You are such a beautiful person. (Jim and Jerry are laughing it up!)

Betty Sturbaum - March 29, 2023 at 02:58 PM

TB

“ I worked with Jim at Toro in the I.S. dept. for a number of years. He did a lot of programs for me and he was a good team player, however I had to put the search out for him occasionally because he liked to socialize. I was also on the Toro Drill Team that Jim was on -.Fun times! When we moved to Burnsville, he helped us get oriented to Prince of Peace Church and to become members. We were so thankful for that. My husband also knew Jim from Toro and we ran into Jim after he retired in the Burnsville area (as well as Sharon) and always had a great visits and laughs. RIP Jim and our condolences to Sharon and family. Jim shared many wonderful stories of you all.

Terri and Arden Bolland - January 06, 2023 at 09:42 AM

SN

Thank you for this glimpse into his life at Toro! I love that he went socializing - that's the way to do work! ❤️

Stacy Norrbom - January 13, 2023 at 11:57 AM

BG

“ I worked with Jim for many years at Toro and also volunteered with Jim at Prince of Peace. He was very proud to be a veteran and loved the reunions with his old buddies. He never mentioned competing in roller skating and I never would have guessed that. I will cherish my memories of Jim.

Brad Gluth - January 05, 2023 at 11:58 AM

SN

Thank you, Brad.

Stacy Norrbom - January 05, 2023 at 07:21 PM

KW

“ Competitive roller skate dancer...I never would have guessed. How amazing to grow up with so many siblings. Condolences to those left and the rest of the family. What a great man to have in your lives Thanks for your service 🇺🇸

Kristen White - January 05, 2023 at 03:43 AM

SN

Thanks Whitey! ❤️

Stacy Norrbom - January 05, 2023 at 07:20 PM

JL

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to Jim's family. I am a fellow South High grad. Not in Jim's class but we knew each other as I am a fellow Toro retiree. Jim was the most pleasant person. His picture shows his wonderful personality. God bless all. Joyce Lilienthal

Joyce Lilienthal - January 04, 2023 at 04:14 PM

JM

My thoughts and prayers are with Sharon and the rest of the family. I was part of a poker group with Jim and several Toro employee for over 30 years. Jim was a great friend and he will be missed.

Jim Miller - January 04, 2023 at 08:28 PM

SN

Thanks Jim ❤️

Stacy Norrbom - January 13, 2023 at 11:59 AM