



James Omand Snustad

December 25, 1938 - June 24, 2025

James O. Snustad, aged 86, passed away peacefully on June 24, 2025 surrounded by family and friends.

Jim was born on December 25, 1938 in Bemidji, Minnesota, to Nick and Bertha Snustad; a Christmas child - befitting a man of deep spiritual nature and faith - Jim carried a quiet grace throughout his life that reflected his strong inner conviction.

Jim began his professional journey in the world of baking. He launched his career as a baker in Bemidji, later moving to Rochester to study cake decorating. He then relocated to Fort Dodge, Iowa, where he owned and operated one of the first in-store bakeries within a grocery store - an innovative concept at the time.

In 1968 Jim made a life-changing move to Minneapolis, where he transitioned into the field of interior design. Over the years, he contributed his talent and vision to several respected firms including Olson's Planned Interiors, Palmer Olson Ackerman Interiors, Mr. Furniture, 2112 Design Studio, and Design Studio 1200. In 1998, he co-founded Abitare Design Studio with colleague David Wehrspann, establishing a boutique firm known for its refined, thoughtful, and deeply personal approach to design. His work will live on in the homes he shaped and the lives he touched.

Jim had an eye for beauty - in design, in life, and in people. He didn't just make friends; he collected them, much like he collected art - each unique in their own way. A natural host, he curated gatherings filled with cocktails,

conversation, and laughter. Always ready with a story to tell, Jim brought a distinctive spark to every room. He was never shy about sharing his personal opinions on life, politics, design or anything in between - and did so with humor, boldness and heart.

Throughout his life Jim mentored many, offering guidance, encouragement, and an unwavering belief in their potential. His wisdom, patience, and generosity shaped the paths of countless people who carry his influence with them today.

He is lovingly survived by his sisters, Anne and Elaine, and by his soulmate of 32 years, David. He also leaves behind a wide circle of devoted friends, colleagues, and clients - his chosen family - who will remember his wit, warmth, creative spirit, and unmistakable charm that endeared him to so many.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, August 9, 2025 at Central Lutheran Church in downtown Minneapolis. Visitation will be 12:00 - 1:00 with services 1:00 - 2:00 followed by a reception. All are welcome to attend and celebrate the life of a truly remarkable man.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Central Lutheran Church Casavant Organ Restoration Project or to the Marie Sandvik Center in Minneapolis, two causes close to Jim's heart.

www.Washburn-McReavy.com

Glen Haven 763-533-8643

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 9. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Central Lutheran Church (Mpls)
333 South 12th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55404

Celebration of Life

AUG 9. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Central Lutheran Church (Mpls)
333 South 12th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55404

Tribute Wall

SN

“ Jim was an Amazing Man, He had so many bright ideas in his Future! God Bless Jim and his family too! God Bless all of you! 🙏

Susan Newcomb - August 10, 2025 at 02:30 PM

JS

“ Jim was a wonderful man that was full of life. He and David had a design talent that set them apart. He will be missed. Jim Suddendorf

Jim Suddendorf - July 11, 2025 at 10:08 AM

TG

“ Jim was always so kind and thoughtful. We had so much fun when we were together. Lots of laughter and joy! - Tracy

Tracy Gratton - July 10, 2025 at 09:52 AM

BP

“ Jim was a friend to many! Memories are Chicago, Palm Springs and Minneapolis fun. Remember the Franconia sculpture party we threw at the Abitare' showroom. I shall miss that happy man.... Barb

Barbara Piotrowski - July 08, 2025 at 08:30 PM