



James Lee Steele

March 7, 1955 - November 13, 2023

In Loving Memory of James Lee Steele
(March 7, 1955 - November 13, 2023)

James (Jim) Lee Steele, born on March 7, 1955, in Minneapolis, MN, was adopted by Bill and Annette Steele and later gained a stepfather, John Pauluk. He grew up in Coon Rapids, MN, next door to his lifelong friend, Jerry. Jim graduated from Coon Rapids High School in the class of 1973.

Blessed with four sons and one daughter, Jim entered a new chapter of joy when he married the love of his life, Karen, on August 23, 1991, expanding his role to a proud father of 10 children! Together, Jim and Karen embarked on a journey through life filled with unyielding love and resilience. His joy in fatherhood extended not only to his own children but also to their spouses and his beloved grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Jim dedicated most of his career to commercial truck driving, known by the CB handle "Father Time." He was recognized with numerous awards, including the prestigious 1 Million Mile Safe Driving Award, though his actual safe mileage far surpassed that mark, and he was a proud participant in the National Truck Driving Championships.

Jim enjoyed spending time with those he loved, and much of that time was devoted to hunting, snowmobiling, four-wheeling, camping, or just 'working' in the garage. He was also a former member of the Minnesota Memorial Riders

Club and the Tribute to the Troops motorcycle club.

Jim will always be remembered for treating everyone as family, welcoming them with one of his legendary hugs. He was a man with countless far-fetched stories, an infectious warmth in his smile, and a laugh that could fill any room.

James is preceded in death by his parents, Bill and Annette Steele, John Pauluk; and granddaughter Deja Steele. He is survived by his wife, Karen Steele; children, Jamie (Diana) Steele, Chad (Linda) Steele, Jake Steele, Justin (Diane) Steele, Casey (Troy) Isaacson; stepchildren, Grant (Peany) Patton, Michele (Dan) Leach, Aaron (Shannon) Patton, Kari (Jayd) Terhell, and Angela (Ryan) Krantz; 25 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren; plus his loyal four-legged companion, Ozzy.

In celebrating the life of James Lee Steele, we remember and sincerely miss a man whose laughter, love, and larger-than-life personality touched the hearts of all who were fortunate enough to know him.

A Memorial Service for James Lee Steele will be held on Monday November 20th, 2023

Washburn-McReavy Funeral Services: 1827 Coon Rapids Blvd NW
Minneapolis, MN 55433

10:00am-11:00am Visitation

11:00am Service

Reception to follow at the Coon Rapids VFW.

Memorial fund donations are appreciated in lieu of flowers.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **20**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Coon Rapids Chapel
1827 Coon Rapids Blvd.
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Chapel Service

NOV **20**. 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM (CT)

Coon Rapids Chapel
1827 Coon Rapids Blvd.
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Tribute Wall



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of James Lee Steele.*



November 19, 2023 at 11:58 AM



“ *Jim was a great step-brother. Always high energy and fun-loving, he enjoyed life.*

Gloria Gunderson - November 18, 2023 at 12:35 PM

LS

My name is LaVern Schrock. I'm at linehaul Driver in South Bend. Jim was a tremendous friend and I am so sorry for your loss. It just really hit me hard it's two years younger than me way too young to be passing away. God bless you as a family Godspeed to Jim.

LaVern Schrock - November 18, 2023 at 03:40 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of James Lee Steele.*



November 17, 2023 at 04:37 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Lee Steele.*



November 17, 2023 at 02:55 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of James Lee Steele.*



November 17, 2023 at 01:40 PM