



James Wilson Vollmer

July 7, 1942 - February 2, 2023

James (Jim) Wilson Vollmer died February 2, 2023 at age 80. He was born July 7, 1942 to Leonard and Ruth (Wilson) Vollmer and grew up in Minneapolis, graduating from Southwest High School in 1960 and the University of Minnesota in 1965.

After a year of employment in Minneapolis, and then at a ski resort in Colorado, he moved to the San Francisco Bay Area where he was an insurance adjuster for Safeco Insurance. Taking advantage of what the area offered, he enjoyed sailing, biking and running. He was a good host and tour guide to visiting family and friends. And every Christmas he would fly back to Minneapolis to be with family.

In 1979, ready for a change and missing the Midwest change of seasons, Jim moved back to Minneapolis and, to the delight of his father, became a partner in Vollmer Packaging. Together the father/son team traveled the territory, calling on accounts and conversing along the way. They managed a showroom at the UMGA Merchandise Mart. Jim often said the times working with his dad were his best years. After his father's death in 1983 Jim continued the business until 2021.

Jim liked Minneapolis and his neighborhood of lakes. He ran, played tennis, did some biking, and in later years walked his lakes area. He enjoyed car shows, following Minnesota sports teams, attending various concerts and theater events, checking the stock market, attending senior classes, and watching TV documentaries.

Family and friends were important to Jim. After his father died he watched over his mother as she remained in her home. He would take his nephews to movies and sporting events when they were young and became good friends with them as adults. Over the years he went on many short trips with all or part of his sister's family. He enjoyed activities with his many good friends. He was a thoughtful brother.

When Jim began experiencing balance problems, he had to limit many of his activities. He made accommodations and tried hard to stay independent. After a fall in his home in June 2021 he moved to Walker Healthcare Center. It was a difficult time for Jim. His days were made better when family or friends could engage him in conversations about old memories or past adventures. He was grateful for visits and for extra help from family, often calling later to again say Thank you.

Jim is survived by his sister Joan (Bill) Burkhart of Olivia, MN; Nephews Daniel (Lisamarie) Burkhart of Shoreview and Thomas (Tonette) Burkhart of Minneapolis; Grand nephews Noah and Emerson; Grand nieces Christine and Cynthia; many customers, cousins and friends.

Memorial service Friday, April 28 11:00 am, with visitation at 10:00 am.
Reception following.

All at Washburn-McReavy Edina Chapel 5000 W. 50th and Highway 100
Edina, MN

Washburn-McReavy.com Edina Chapel 952-920-3996

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **28**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Edina Chapel
5000 West 50th & Highway 100
Edina, MN 55436

Chapel Service

APR **28**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Edina Chapel
5000 West 50th & Highway 100
Edina, MN 55436

Tribute Wall



“ I grew up in the same home as Jim did on Xerxes Avenue. Jim was a great friend to our family, especially my dad. I always enjoyed when he came over for a visit and loved any chance to take a ride around Lake Harriet in one of his fancy cars. I'm thinking of him and sending love to his family and loved ones.
-Vanessa Borotz

Vanessa Charlotte - April 28, 2023 at 08:22 PM



“ 31 files added to the album Life Tributes



Washburn-McReavy - April 26, 2023 at 10:04 AM

JP

“ I was saddened to hear Jim had passed away. Although I had not seen him for a long time, I have many fond memories of him. He was such a funny and kind soul. Jim will be greatly missed, but I take comfort in knowing that his memory and positive impact he had on those he knew well will live on. I am sorry I am not able to attend his celebration of life. Jill Peacock

Jill Peacock - April 25, 2023 at 01:55 PM

RB

Jim was a great friend for many years, ever since we met playing tennis. He was an important part of my life, with me when I met my future wife Char, with me at our wedding and there to comfort me when she passed away. He was a part of our family, we even moved into the same house he grew up in! His humor and friendship through the years will be greatly missed.

Richard Borotz - April 27, 2023 at 10:46 PM



“*Jim was a life long friend, He was thoughtful and mindful of others. Volmer Packaging supplied our company for many decades. I found this obit while trying to look him up. His friends, Bill and Lauri Keitel Cows Outside/Buffalo Billfold Company.*



Bill Keitel - March 05, 2023 at 05:19 PM

JB

Thanks for the kind words! I sure do remember you from the days helping Jim at UMGA. You were great customers and always fun to work with.

jJoan Burkhardt - April 10, 2023 at 11:31 PM

GB

Jim, as well as his father, called on my family gift business for many years in Osseo & Brooklyn Park. I have many fond memories of Jim, playing golf with him and going out to lunch many times. He was an integral part of making my business a success for many years. He was always very kind, professional, and thoughtful in everything he did. He will be missed by many.

George Berndt Brooklyn Park

George Berndt - April 25, 2023 at 05:22 PM