



Robert Sidney James, Jr.

February 26, 1963 - May 10, 2025

Robert (Bob) Sidney James Jr., 62, passed away last weekend in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, a place he cherished, doing what he loved.

A resident of St. Louis Park, Bob was a devoted father, a loyal friend, and a man whose sharp wit and irreverent humor only barely concealed his deep kindness and compassion.

Bob worked as a software engineer at Optum, but his true passions were his children, the great outdoors, running, fishing, camping, and sharing laughter with friends. He was never afraid to "pop his top"-both literally and figuratively-to get a laugh or turn a head.

He is survived by his two children, Marcie James of Chicago, IL, and Bobby James III of Minneapolis, MN; his parents, Bob and Carolyn James of Coppell, TX; and his siblings and their partners: Max James of St. Paul, MN; Nancy and Tim Oliver of Dallas, TX; and Betsy and Carl DiSalvo of Atlanta, GA. Bob was also a beloved uncle to many nieces and nephews, who will always remember him for his unmatched goofiness and his unapologetic lack of filter.

Bob left this world far too soon. His absence is deeply felt by all who knew and loved him, none more than his beloved dog Snooki. We pray Bob's final portage led him to a magnificent new island with a roaring campfire, Fireball shots, and a big walleye ready for dinner. Those who loved him know he

made an inappropriate joke about the "Beaver" airplane used to recover his body.

We welcome you to share a memory of Bob. A memorial mass will be held at the Basilica of St. Mary, 88 N 17th St, Minneapolis, on Friday, May 23, at 11:00 am, with a Visitation starting at 10:00 am. A reception will follow the service in St. Louis Park.

If it would bring you comfort, please consider a donation to those dedicated to the preservation of our wilderness who brought Bob home.

support.nationalforests.org

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY **23**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

The Basilica of Saint Mary
1600 Hennepin Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55403

Mass of Christian Burial

MAY **23**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

The Basilica of Saint Mary
1600 Hennepin Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55403

Tribute Wall

MM

“ *An honor to call this good man a friend....go easy Minnesota Bob*

Michael Mullins - March 07 at 11:45 AM

RH

“ *Reflecting on you fondly, buddy. We miss you.*

Rob Hundza - February 25 at 09:06 AM

CR

“ *I'm deeply saddened by the loss of Bob. He was the most fun, intelligent, and lively person in our team here in India, always bringing smiles and energy to every moment in every scrum call.*

Fridays were special because of him, and his presence made work feel lighter.

You'll always be remembered, Bob. Rest in peace.

Chetan Raj - June 10, 2025 at 01:48 AM

ML

“ *I worked with Bob for many years and enjoyed his outgoing, unfiltered, and fun personality. He will be missed! My deepest condolences to Bob's family & friends.*

Michael Livadas - June 04, 2025 at 01:49 PM

KH

“ My sincere condolences to all of Robert's family. You don't know me, but I wish you all peace and comfort nonetheless. I would very much like to thank YOU for the very kind message at the bottom of his obituary. You see, my son was one of those rangers who found Bob's canoe, and not long after, also found Bob. What a kind gesture to want to support my son, and all of the people who value and protect our natural environment and its resources. Blessings to you all. My heart goes with you.



Kristen Halverson - May 29, 2025 at 04:23 PM

DB

“ Bob and Snookie were a sarcastic ray of sunshine about 10 years ago. We hung out and enjoyed each other company. His intellect, sarcasm, love for his kids, his family...and love of Snookie were awesome to get to know. I am very sad to see he passed. And know he would not enjoy being on the news at his passing - it surely would be worth a sarcastic comment for sure. My prayers are with you all.

Donna B - May 28, 2025 at 08:02 PM

UV

“ Umasree V. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert Sidney James, Jr..

Umasree V. - May 23, 2025 at 12:46 PM

AR

“ Abbey, R. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert Sidney James, Jr..

Abbey, R. - May 23, 2025 at 10:13 AM

SS

“ Stephen Shook lit a candle in memory of Robert Sidney James, Jr.



Stephen Shook - May 23, 2025 at 09:50 AM

CP

“ I am so sorry to hear about Bob's passing. Bob James was a colleague of mine at Optum for many years. He was also a friend and mentor. His intelligence, deep care for his craft and his teammates, humor and wit were unmatched. More times that I can count, he would emphatically advocate for one solution over another, saying "or, we could hold this thing together with Band-Aids and toothpicks." Then after stating what everyone knew to be the right path forward, he would then say, "But what do I know, I'm just a dumb developer." One the contrary, Bob was always the smartest person in the room, but he only gave credit to others. He was a true professional, and will be missed.

Catherine Powell - May 23, 2025 at 07:59 AM

BJ

“ I am one of Bob's first cousins. Bob was a very sweet and loving person. I will always remember the summers that the relatives would meet up in Iota, Louisiana for a big get together of all of the cousins and aunts and uncles. I think the last time that happened, I was in high school and he had already graduated from high school. He was so much fun to be around, and that made our time in Iota that much more fun and enjoyable. My thoughts and prayers go out to my Aunt Carolyn and uncle Bob James and my cousins (his 3 siblings, Betsy, Nancy, and Max). RIP Bob, you will definitely be missed.

Brigid Johnson - May 22, 2025 at 09:46 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Robert Sidney James, Jr..



May 21, 2025 at 01:42 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Robert Sidney James, Jr..

May 21, 2025 at 01:42 PM

TA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Troy Azzivitto - May 20, 2025 at 11:23 AM

TA

We miss you at Thirsty Thursday Trail Running at Theo & Utepils Beer make US HOPPY, Bob. We shared our love of movies, good and bad. Vaya con dios.

Troy Azzivitto - May 20, 2025 at 11:26 AM

YC

“ Your friends at Allianz Life Ins Company purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Robert Sidney James, Jr..



Your friends at Allianz Life Ins Company - May 19, 2025 at 01:09 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert Sidney James, Jr..



May 19, 2025 at 11:30 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Robert Sidney James, Jr..

May 19, 2025 at 11:30 AM



“ Sorry for the delayed condolences. I worked with Bob back at Caribou Lake Software in the early 2000s and we've touched base with each other every year or two since. I will miss Bob, truly.

Mike Leo - May 19, 2025 at 11:21 AM



“ I was very saddened to hear about Bob's passing. We were good friends many years ago and spent a lot of time together—hanging out, laughing, and making memories I still look back on fondly. Even though it's been a long time since we last saw each other, Bob was an important part of my life back then, and I'll always remember those times. My heartfelt condolences to his family and all who knew and loved him.

PATRICK S. REUBEN - May 19, 2025 at 10:43 AM



“ Jane and Steve Plagge purchased the Serene R
etreat for the family of Robert Sidney James, Jr..



Jane and Steve Plagge - May 17, 2025 at 09:46 PM

JP

“ Jane and Steve Plagge planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert Sidney James, Jr..

Jane and Steve Plagge - May 17, 2025 at 09:46 PM