



James Alden Ryba

November 17, 1944 - November 3, 2019

On November 3, 2019, James Alden Ryba died as a result of complications from Coritcobasal Degeneration, a rare neurodegenerative disorder. He moved on from this life in the presence of his devoted wife, Barbara. He is survived by his wife and two daughters, Beth Haab and Nancy Panza; his sons-in-law, Tim Haab and Mike Panza; and his five grandchildren, Abby, Maddy, and Drew Haab and Sophia and C.J. Panza. He was predeceased by his parents, Edward and Harriette Ryba, and his brother, Jack Ryba. He is survived by his brother Larry Ryba.

Jim spent his early years in Euclid, Ohio, a suburb of Cleveland. Later, the family moved to Lake Lucerne, in Chagrin Falls, Ohio. He attended Muskingum College, where met his beloved wife, Barb. Upon graduation he accepted an entry-level position with the National Security Agency and moved to the Washington DC area. Jim's career with the NSA spanned nearly four decades and entailed tours of duty in England and Hawaii, a rise to the ranks of the Senior Executive Service, and the receipt of multiple awards for service, including both the Meritorious Civilian Service Award in 1989 and the Exceptional Civilian Service Award in 2001. He retired in 2001 and happily spent many of his post-retirement days on the golf course. Aside from golfing, he loved spending time with lifelong friends, traveling the world with Barb, and solving the computer problems of anyone in need.

While his impressive career path left Jim much to take pride in, it was his family that ruled his heart. He loved his bride of 52 years deeply, was a devoted and loving father to his daughters. He spent the last two decades of his life delighting in and capturing every aspect of his grandchildren's lives with his ever-present camera and his broad, worshipful smile that was reserved especially for the five of them. Being a grandparent was one of his greatest joys. He loved deeply and was deeply loved.

A memorial service will take place on November 5, 2019 at Rutherford Funeral Home at Powell (450 West Olentangy Street, Powell, Ohio 43065). Visitation hours will be held from 1:00-3:00pm with a brief Memorial Service following at 3:00pm.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Jim's name may be sent to Capital City Hospice (2800 Corporate Drive, Suite 170, Columbus, Ohio 43231).

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 5. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford Funeral Home at Powell
450 West Olentangy Street
Powell, OH 43065
(614) 792-1471
info@rutherfordfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/>

Memorial Service

NOV 5. 3:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ *James Alden Ryba*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *Barb and family, I am saddened to hear about Jim's passing. I'm so grateful for the chance to get to know him during my time at PSL. His smile truly lit up a room. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers.*

Sammie Klunk - November 14, 2019 at 10:18 PM



“ *Jim was like a big brother to me in the early days at NSA. It is hard to believe 50 years have passed and he is gone. My deepest sympathy to Barb, Beth, and Nancy.*

Maureen (Moe) McHugh

Maureen McHugh - November 06, 2019 at 07:55 PM



“ *Jeannie and I remember the great weekend we had with you and Jim, Mark and Daryl visiting the outer banks for a weekend of golf, eating and shopping. We remember the many DA dinners we attended with a great showing of fellow golfers and wives. We will be having a DA dinner coming up on the 13th, we will toast Jim. There are a number of new DA members but we still have a number of our core group that are still playing golf. Thanks for all of the memories, Jeannie and Roger*

Roger Beaudin - November 05, 2019 at 07:56 AM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of James Alden Ryba.*



November 04, 2019 at 07:16 PM



“ *Love, Ray and JoAnn purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of James Alden Ryba.*



Love, Ray and JoAnn - November 04, 2019 at 01:40 PM



“ *The faculty, staff, and students in the Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics at The Ohio State University offer our condolences to the Ryba family during this difficult time.*

AEDE OSU - November 04, 2019 at 01:05 PM



“ *J. D. purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of James Alden Ryba.*



J. D. - November 04, 2019 at 09:45 AM

RP

“ Ron and I have fond memories of when we moved into Southgate. Everyone was new to the neighborhood and we were all young and just starting out. We pitched in and helped each other. Everyone helped each other, they put in driveways (extended), patios, zoizya grass and even helped club Jim and Barbara's basement. They were on a deadline, get it finished so Jim and Barbara could have (Neighborhood) Christmas Party at their home. They did just that got it done in time. We had parties, cookouts and went out to dinner together, oh the memories such great times. A great group of neighbors that wie will hold in our hearts forever. The Pavuks moved to Texas but we will always remember all of these dear friends and their love and support for each other. Rest in peace Jim knowing you were loved. by friends and family.

Ron & Barbara Perron - November 03, 2019 at 11:33 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of James Alden Ryba.



November 03, 2019 at 10:12 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of James Alden Ryba.



November 03, 2019 at 08:17 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James Alden Ryba.*



November 03, 2019 at 07:53 PM



“ *Barbara: Our deepest sympathy to you and your family.
Larry and Kathy Lewis*

Larry Lewis - November 03, 2019 at 06:30 PM



“ *Barb: Debbie & I send our condolences to you and your family. I am glad I knew Jim.*

John & Debbie Rhoades

JOHN RHOADES - November 03, 2019 at 06:10 PM



“ *The Jack Ryba family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of James Alden Ryba.*



The Jack Ryba family - November 03, 2019 at 05:45 PM

MY

“ *Jim was a wonderful man and we enjoyed getting to know him over the years. He will be missed! His family and friends are in our prayers. Much love to Barb, Beth, Nancy and their families. Mike & Sharon Yaple*

Mike & Sharon Yaple - November 03, 2019 at 03:31 PM