



## Dr. James Cornett, DDS

March 3, 1945 - January 8, 2019

Dr. James L. Cornett, age 73, of Columbus, Ohio passed away at his home Tuesday, January 8, 2019 holding hands with his wife and daughter, the way he wanted it. He was born March 3, 1945 at Grant Hospital in Columbus, Ohio to the late Dallas Cornett and Mary Elsom Cornett. He is survived by his wife Sandra Cornett (Fisher), daughter Erin Cornett Griffing (Bryce) of Clintonville, OH and granddaughters, Willa Joy and Tessa Hope Griffing; brothers Rick Cornett (Barbara) of Powell, OH and Jeffery Cornett of Jacksonville, FL; and many cherished nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He graduated from Elgin High School in Marion County in 1963, where he was All State in Basketball and Marion County Teenager of the Year. He attended The Ohio State University for undergraduate education and was admitted to the OSU College of Dentistry after 3 years, where he graduated in 1970. During that time he was a member of the academic dental fraternity, Xi PSI PHI. In 1970 he hung out his shingle as the “new dentist” in Marysville, OH, where he practiced for 45 years until 2015. Jim was a committed and compassionate dental professional to his patients and they were an essential part for the purpose of his life. Also, special in his life and dental practice were the staff members who were like family to him. From 1973 until his retirement he taught dental students in the emergency clinic and in the Department of Endodontics at the OSU College of Dentistry. He loved imparting “pearls of wisdom” to the students on what private practice was all about.

Jim was a devoted husband and father. He enjoyed motorcycling on his “hog” and with Sandy on their Gold Wing; RV camping with the church group; boating, water & snow skiing; tailgating and OSU football games. Jim was a member of Linworth United Methodist Church, where he participated in many leadership positions in the past. He was a member of the American Dental Association and the Ohio Dental Association. He will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and all who knew him.

Family will receive friends at 2:30 PM on Saturday, January 12 at Linworth United Methodist Church, 7070 Bent Tree Blvd, Columbus, OH. Funeral services will follow at 4 PM. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the OSU Foundation (fund # 602624) for scholarships and support of research for residents in the College of Dentistry, Department of Endodontics.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 12. 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Linworth United Methodist Church  
7070 Bent Tree Blvd  
Columbus, OH 43235

## Memorial Service

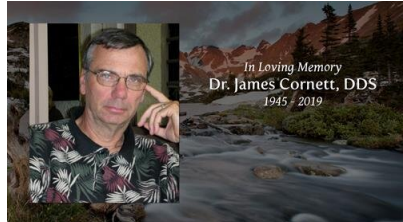
JAN 12. 4:00 PM (ET)

Linworth United Methodist Church  
7070 Bent Tree Blvd  
Columbus, OH 43235

# Tribute Wall



“ Rutherford Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Dr. James Cornett, DDS



Rutherford Funeral Homes - January 09, 2019 at 12:36 PM

MT

*He was one of the best dentist and best person in the world. I loved him to death. We were going to him and 1971 in Marysville at the dentist and I would've never gone to anybody else and he was such a good man a great loss and I'm sorry.*

Mark Thomas - December 20, 2023 at 02:28 PM



“ Dr. James Cornett, DDS

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM

DF

“ *I'm very sorry for your loss! I always said Dr. Cornett was my angel when it came to overcoming the fear of a dentist! He was a good man and I enjoyed visiting with him when I had my dental appointment. He even brought a VHS tape in for me to listen to called "The Whole Bible in One Hour" told me to take it home and listen to it and let him know what I thought. He definitely will be missed here and I look forward to seeing him again some day when I get to heaven!!*

Deb Farrington - February 01, 2019 at 09:25 AM

DB

“ So sorry to hear this update. Jim was a good man. I certainly had fun with him at a few tailgates! My heart goes out to all who knew him. You'll be in my prayers.  
Love, Diana Bahner and John Heuer

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**Diana Bahner** - January 18, 2019 at 09:53 AM

RS

“ Great dentist, wonderful friend. He will be sadly missed. Our prayers to the family.  
Roger & Roberta Schilling

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**Roger & Roberta Schilling** - January 14, 2019 at 09:11 AM

DG

“ Dear Sandy and Erin,  
So sorry to hear of the passing of Jim. As neighbors, we always enjoyed Jim's upbeat attitude and caring spirit in the way he quietly cut elderly neighbors' lawns to lend a hand. We had a backyard party a few years ago that he attended and he sang along to several of the songs...wow, what a great voice he had! And no greater OSU fan lived within miles! He will be greatly missed.  
All our best, Go Bucks, and God Bless,

*Ed, Maureen, Connor, and Tommy Geraghty*

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**Dr Maureen Geraghty** - January 12, 2019 at 04:32 PM

DH

“ *The Hearts of all the Halley family go out to the Cornett family. We shared so much together. All of those meals and all of that play time. You are all in our hearts forever.*

*So sorry I am too far away and the snow storm would probably stop me anyway. I am with you in spirit and my thoughts are with you today.*

*take care of yourselves and remember out times together.*

*dick halley*

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**Dr. Richard D. Halley** - January 12, 2019 at 01:16 PM

KD

“ *Dr. Cornett was a mentor and friend to many in the dental field, from the hundreds of pre-doc students at OSU to his colleagues in Marysville. He treated patients the right way. When I was considering buying a dental practice in Marysville from his long time friend, Dr. Don Coder, he invited me into his home to talk to me, a total stranger who had just cold called him at the advice of a sales rep. He encouraged me to come to town and take care of people with the heart. He offered to help me in anyway that he could, and he did. He had me over to his office many times to talk shop and share with me how he did things. I truly believe he had fun doing dentistry because of the relationships it gives us the opportunity to have. Sandy and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Please know how many people who's lives he has blessed with great energy and love. I will miss the times we were able to step away from the offices and celebrate life together.*

*Dr. Kent Hawkins*

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**Kent Hawkins DDS** - January 12, 2019 at 12:10 PM

RS

“ Sandy, Erin and Family, I am so sorry to hear of Jim's passing. I remember the early days of Wellington and him picking up Erin in aftercare and talking about Sandy writing a book and how was Erin doing? Always a proud papa. He was dentist for years and loved my visits and chats with him. Great man and dentist. My prayers are with all you during this rough time. .

Randy Saxour - January 12, 2019 at 11:54 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. James Cornett, DDS.



January 12, 2019 at 07:44 AM

TF

“ I am so sorry for your loss. He was such a awesome ,talented dentist and a joy to see. He made you feel like a friend not just a patient. Never made you feel like he was out to make a buck off of you , but just to offer you the best care. I enjoyed hearing of his travels, and joy and love for his wife , and the rest of the family . Has been missed, and lucky to of known him. Tami Farmer and family.

Tami Farmer - January 12, 2019 at 12:38 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Dr. James Cornett, DDS.*



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January 11, 2019 at 11:16 PM



“ *Jim and I were dental school classmates. And Jim provided dental care for me until I retired in 2003. I actually loved going to the dentist because it was so enjoyable just taking with Jim. Sure, we talked about teeth mostly, but his knowledge about life in general was terrific. He often talked about his love of family vacations and his hobbies. He will be missed daily by all so many. His family mostly, but also the OSU dental college and his office staff who were so efficient and pleasant.*

*Dr. Louis R. Mott DDS*

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**Louis R. Mott DDS** - January 11, 2019 at 08:32 PM



“ *I was a patient from 1977 till he retired. He was the BEST Dentist. He never ever hurt me and his jiggle he did with his finger when giving a shot kept it from being painful. I was 14 when I started going to him and when I was older started riding my own Harley and we shared many great riding stories over the years. My thoughts and prayers to his family.*

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**Judy Caldwell** - January 11, 2019 at 07:19 PM

TP

“ Our community has lost a great person! I was a patient of Dr. Cornett for 37 years. He took care of my parents and my children. He was a great man. We are praying for your family and friends. He will be missed

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**Thomas Padovano** - January 11, 2019 at 05:59 PM

JS

“ I am very sorry to hear of Dr. Cornett's passing. He was THE dentist for my children and my husband and me for years. To me he was so much more than "our dentist". He was a friend . I disliked having dental work, but always looked forward to a nice conversation with Doc. His concern for his patients was like no other dentist. He will be missed as a friend as well as a dentist. My deepest sympathy to his family. He loved talking about his grandchildren and looked forward to spending more time with them after retirement.

*Jody Streng  
Marysville, OH*

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**Jody Streng** - January 11, 2019 at 09:12 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. James Cornett, DDS.



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January 11, 2019 at 08:25 AM

JT

“ I was so shocked to read of Dr. Cornett's passing; I wish he could have had many more years to enjoy his retirement years with those he loved. Over the years he cared for the dental needs of 5 different generations in my family; my grandmother, my parents, my husband and myself, our children and our 2 grandchildren. I never felt pain or discomfort when treated by him and he always seemed very confident of what to do. He never failed to demonstrate a caring and calming presence when you were in his dental chair. My prayers go out to all of his family, friends, former employees and his former patients who will miss his Earthy presence.

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**Julie Troesch** - January 11, 2019 at 12:17 AM

JP

“ Rick and Jeff, Jack and I were so sad to read about Jim's passing. Please know that you both and your families are in our prayers.

*Jack and Evelyn (Dix) Porter*

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**Jack & Evelyn Porter** - January 10, 2019 at 11:30 PM

TD

“ Dr. Cornett is my favorite doctor of all time. As a cancer patient I've been blessed with a lot of wonderful doctors, so this is not a small statement. I started going to him in the Summer of 1973 as a 10 yr. When we moved back to Marysville. My Mom was not a wealthy woman and he made sure our dental needs were always taken care of. There are a lot of dentist only interested in making money. That was never Dr. Cornett. He shares with me that he was ready to retire, but had not yet found a replacement he could trust turning his patients care over to. Not many doctors have that type of mind set. He will be greatly missed. You all have another Guardian Angels in heaven!!

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**Tracy DeGood** - January 10, 2019 at 10:23 PM

SK

“ I worked chair side with Doc for over twenty years. In all those years, I never once heard a critical word or raise his voice. When my life was hard, he shared sympathy, a listening ear and sound advice. When I heard Doc say, "You know what I think you ought to do . ." I knew it was time to listen well and carefully consider his words. I enjoyed our theological discussions and a bit of sparring over scripture. Doc knew his Bible. Again, I listened well. I will always remember him as a kind, humble and considerate man who did his very best for his patients. To him, his dental practice was a ministry. It was a privilege to work beside him. He was a fine doctor. Sandy and Erin, we have been praying for you, asking God to cover you with His strength, comfort and peace.

Sharon Kelley

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Sharon Kelley - January 10, 2019 at 10:21 PM

Jl

“ I was so sad when I read of Jim's death. For one being as successful as Jim was when I knew him in high school (All State Basketball, Teenager of the Month / Year, etc.), he was really quite a humble guy. He was one of those rare guys who was nice to everyone and who was liked by everyone. He was one of the really good guys. My thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Jack Ice

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Jack Ice - January 10, 2019 at 08:28 PM

 Cheryl  
Icenhour

“ I'm so sorry, Aunt Sandy, Erin, and Bryce for your loss. We all loved Uncle Jim. He was ever a good humored and easy going man with a passion for life and for his family. The video is a beautiful testament to that. You have my deepest sympathies and love.

Love,  
Cheri

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**Cheryl Icenhour** - January 10, 2019 at 05:07 PM

DE

“ Our entire family were patients of Dr. Cornett. His Mom and Dad had ties to the community of Watkins where I grew up. We loved him, trusted him and was disappointed when he left his practice. He will be missed.

Don and Joe Anna Eirich

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**Don Eirich** - January 10, 2019 at 05:02 PM

MR

“ The neighborhood just won't be the same without Jim. I will miss his humor, thoughtfulness, caring, great stories, good common sense, and unparalleled enthusiasm for buckeye games. Sandy, my heartfelt condolences to you and your family.

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**Melinda Sue Robbins** - January 10, 2019 at 04:15 PM

CG

Sandy, My deepest thoughts and prayers to you and your family.  
Corinne Garvey

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**Corinne Garvey** - January 10, 2019 at 06:48 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. James Cornett, DDS.*



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January 10, 2019 at 03:37 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. James Cornett, DDS.*



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January 10, 2019 at 02:51 PM



“ *So sorry to hear of Jim's passing. I have many memories of him as far back as kindergarten. The video was beautiful. Our sincere sympathy to Sandy and family.*

*Sincerely,  
Ned & Debbie Phelps*

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**Ned & Debbie Phelps** - January 10, 2019 at 02:32 PM

JW

“ Dear Sandy and family,

*I was stunned this morning to see Jim's obituary in the Dispatch. Having OSU football seats next to yours for the last few years, perhaps this explains why our paths did not cross this past fall. Jim was two years ahead of me in dental school and was an ideal upperclassman to emulate. I have also known Sandy for decades at OSU where we volunteered to teach countless Advanced Cardiac Life Support courses to thousands of students, nurses, physicians, dentists, pharmacists and paramedics.*

*The video was beautiful and helps fill in the gaps before I met both of you. You both have been great assets to OSU and the greater Central Ohio area. In keeping with the proud tradition of OSU coach Woody Hayes of giving forward to those who helped make Jim who he was, he mentored many dental students and was a loyal Buckeye in every way possible. Jim will surely be missed, but the lives he touched in so many ways and the patients he made more comfortable, attractive and healthy will be his legacy.*

*Joel M. Weaver DDS, PhD  
Professor Emeritus  
The Ohio State University*

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**Joel M. Weaver** - January 10, 2019 at 01:41 PM

SP

“ Well, dear Sandy, and family your loss of dear husband seems so unfair for having experienced you and he hosting meetings and his teaching me how to make videos all the while sharing the joy of caring for your young grandchildren. I'm so sorry this has come to you. I'll be nearby dear Girlfriend  
So let's sing it out, "lean on me." Love you Susan

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**susan paolicchi** - January 10, 2019 at 01:33 PM

KW

“ What a dear, kind man everyone has lost. I was one of his patients for his entire time in Marysville and I could not have found a better dentist. He was always concerned with doing his very best to save every tooth and making sure you were not feeling any pain, and he did a wonderful job at both. His memory will be with all of us forever. My sincere sympathy to his entire family and please know he is now resting comfortably with God.

Karen

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**Karen Williamson** - January 10, 2019 at 12:59 PM

BP

“ Thank you for the touching video. Jim was such an asset to our class of 63 and I am so glad he made it to our class reunion this past year. My sincere condolences to Sandy and families.

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**Beth Parish** - January 10, 2019 at 12:07 PM

 Sandy  
Herron  
Burns

“ Sending heartfelt sympathy to the Cornett family. Dr. Cornett was our dentist for so many years and we loved him very much!

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**Sandy Herron Burns** - January 10, 2019 at 12:01 PM

LI

“ What a wonderful man! He was my dentist from my first appointment up to his retirement! As an adult, I drove an hour just to go to him. I'll always remember his gum cracking and the time I had a disappearing cavity -- he never could find it again so, it became our joke. Said he just needed a reason for me to come back to Marysville so I could have dinner with my parents. So sorry for your loss. I pray you feel love from the many lives he touched.

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**Lindsey** - January 10, 2019 at 11:39 AM

BR

“ *the nice dr and his wife would come to davinci to dine and were always so nice and a delight to serve they were so proud of their daughter he will be missed by manyso sorry brenda*

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**brenda** - January 10, 2019 at 11:23 AM

DF

“ *Having known Sandy for many years, Bob and I were a bit nervous when she invited us to meet her new love, Jim. What if we didn't like him? Or worse, what if he didn't like us? The worries were unfounded. There was an immediate connection which only deepened over the many years since. Jim was not just our friend. He was part of our family. His death leaves a hole in my heart. Love you, Jimmy! RIP! Deedee Fair*

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**Deedee Fair** - January 10, 2019 at 10:27 AM

DM

“ *Dr. Cornett was my dentist for 20 years until I moved out of State. He was a wonderful person and dentist and will be missed by many. My prayers are with his family*

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**Dianne McGee** - January 10, 2019 at 09:04 AM

DB

“ *He was such a great dentist and a great guy to talk to. He was my dentist for 20 years. I know he will be missed by many. God Bless*

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**Darren Brown** - January 10, 2019 at 08:46 AM

MN

“ Like so many other of his patients, I was so sad when he retired. I was a patient of his from the very start of his practice. He was the best dentist ever!! I could go on with all of the reasons, but you already know them all. I will share my favorite things about him. First of all, he was the original gentle dentist. Through many procedures I never felt any pain in his chair. And secondly, he had a memory like no one else! He would remember things about me that even I didn't! He was one of guys that made this world a better place. I know you will miss him and you all have my deepest sympathies. May your memories and faith sustain you until you see him again.

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**Marcy Hurl Niendam** - January 10, 2019 at 08:38 AM



“ Dr. Cornett became my dentist after I broke a front tooth in gym class. I hadn't realized he would have been only @27 years old. He was so kind and professional and capable, presumably very early in his career. My sympathy to his family.

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**Sandy McNary** - January 10, 2019 at 07:33 AM

EJ

“ Dr. Cornett was my dentist for more than 45 years. He had done a root canal on a molar and it took 13 injections to get it numb. At my next bi-annual visit he asks, “We did a root canal on you, right? How was it?” Of course he's got his hands in my mouth so all I could do was express my wonderment with my eyes. He then says, “The reason I'm asking is I have to have one and I wanted to know how bad it is.” I had to laugh. Because of him, I LOVE going to the dentist! I've missed him these few years since he retired. He was a wonderful, caring soul. My prayers are with his family during this difficult time.

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**Ellen (Harper) Johnson** - January 10, 2019 at 02:01 AM

KF

“ *Dr. Cornett was my Dentist as a child and I never disliked going to my appointments because Dr. Cornett was a kind, gentle man and I knew I'd get a new tooth brush and a treat out of the Treasure Chest at the end of every visit! God Bless his family!*

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**Kathy (Nicol) Francis** - January 09, 2019 at 11:59 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. James Cornett, DDS.*



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January 09, 2019 at 11:17 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. James Cornett, DDS.*



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January 09, 2019 at 09:58 PM

JK

“ *So sorry to hear of Dr. Cornett's passing. He was my dentist until he retired. Such a kind man and an awesome dentist. Prayers for comfort, encouragement and perseverance during this difficult time .*  
*Jan Kelley*

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**Janet D Kelley** - January 09, 2019 at 09:50 PM

LT

“ *What a wonderful video .... I am so sad to learn of Doctor Cornett's passing! I was one of his first patients in Marysville and what a kind man he always was! He was always so gentle and caring..., I loved him and I'm so sorry for his family being without him. Thank you Doctor Cornett for all you did for me and for being such a good man.*



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**linda trees** - January 09, 2019 at 09:21 PM



“ *I have know Sandy since we were classmates Athens High School class of '61. I had the pleasure of meeting Jim during our 50th reunion. My love and sympathy to her and her family. Devens Agnone Rose*

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**Devens Rose** - January 09, 2019 at 07:57 PM