



## James "Jim" Hefner

May 1, 1966 - May 15, 2020

James "Jim" Hefner, age 54, entered into eternal rest from the Ohio Health Kobacker House on Friday, May 15, 2020, following a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer.

He was born in Lima, OH, to James H. Hefner of Lima, and the late Carol A. Hefner. He graduated from Allen East High School in Lima, and Ohio Dominican University in Columbus, OH with a Bachelor of Science in Management. Jim served 4 years as infantry in the United States Marine Corps, where he received Meritorious Masts. He was stationed in Charleston, SC, before being honorably discharged as a Corporal.

Jim is survived by his loving wife Lara, sons Jacob and William, father James (Marlene) Hefner, sisters Amy (Kelly) Shepherd and Emily (Michael) Grone, nieces and nephews.

Jim was a Vice President at Honda of America Mfg., where he worked 31 years; and was former General Manager of the East Liberty Auto Plant.

He was a parishioner of St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, and had a strong faith which reflected in his daily life. He was dedicated to health and fitness, and participated in countless races including the Columbus Marathon and several triathlons. He enjoyed fishing, riding his Harley and visiting locations

of historical significance. Most of all, he cherished spending time with his family.

Due to the current public gathering restrictions accompanying the coronavirus pandemic, a private memorial service will be held.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Pelotonia at <https://yourpelotonia.org/donate/donate-to-the-general-fund/> or mail to Pelotonia

L-3454

Columbus, Ohio 43260-3454

# Tribute Wall



“ *James "Jim" Hefner*

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January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *Lara, Jake and Will,*

*Sherry and I just heard about Jim's passing. Please accept our heartfelt condolences. Jim was a fantastic man and someone for whom we have fond memories from our days at Canterbury, baseball and just visiting. We will also never forget watching the best college football game in history at your home - when the Bucks beat the Miami Hurricanes for the National Championship in double overtime. Your family will remain in our thoughts and prayers. So glad we were able to call Jim a friend and have had the opportunity to know him and you. The world was a better place with him in it. Bill and Sherry Thomas*

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**Bill Thomas** - June 06, 2020 at 10:45 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Hefner.*



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May 19, 2020 at 09:24 PM

MP

“ As young men in high school, during our time in the Marines, and in the early years of marriage, Jim and I formed a bond that lives on beyond his passing. Living seven hours apart and having busy lives, we drifted apart for the better part of 20 years. But, through those years I still considered Jim my best friend.

*While it is difficult to lose Jim the way we did, I was blessed to reunite with Jim this last year. He gave me the precious gift of time with him where I was able to hear about, and see, the life he made for himself and the love he had for Lara, Jake, and Will. I was able to tell him that he is my friend. I was able say that I am proud of the man he became and that my brief time with him will make me a better man. Most importantly, I was able to tell Jim that I love him.*

*I am so grateful for that gift and pray that I am judged worthy by Jesus to renew our friendship in heaven.*

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**Mark Plaugher** - May 19, 2020 at 01:53 PM

PC

“ Jim was a super nice guy..he was a great plant manager..cared deeply about associates..I'm a Browns fan, Jim always talked with me every time I saw him about the Browns..fly high Jim you were a true gentleman..lots of prayers to your family

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**Pam Craig** - May 18, 2020 at 12:46 PM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Hefner.



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May 18, 2020 at 08:12 AM

TS

“ Troy W Byers Sr. lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Hefner



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**Troy W Byers Sr.** - May 17, 2020 at 02:04 PM



“ Lara, Jake, Will and family, I'm so sorry about Jim's passing. He has been an incredible inspiration to me and many others during his courageous battle. I am blessed and honored to have been able to be a friend and coworker with him. He was a master at hard work, problem solving and building relationships with everyone that made them very valued. He is one of the best there was. I am going to miss him. Continued prayers to you all and your extended family. May God bless you all.  
Lance Hickman

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**Lance Hickman** - May 17, 2020 at 12:35 PM

WD

“ The world needs a lot more folks like Jim Hefner. He hired in at Honda and was assigned to (old) Line 2 sealer where I was one of several that trained him on his first processes. We worked together for quite a few years and we always stayed in touch to near the end. Jim's quick wit, devotion to his family, attention to detail, caring for people, and common sense made him stand out among all others. Our family prays for Jim, Lara, Will, Jake, his father Jim, and the rest of his family and friends. He will be forever in our memories.

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**Wayne Dodge** - May 17, 2020 at 09:30 AM

TA

“ It’s hard to believe that Jim is no longer with us. He is now celebrating with the Lord in heaven.  
I had the honor of first working with Jim on the first “M” Project (Mexico) and worked with him on and off after that for almost 30 years. Jim was a good, humble, caring guy...and had a great sense of humor. A great leader who will be missed.  
I also ran “with” Jim in the Columbus half marathon...I will always remember him passing me at about the 6 mile mark and saying “well, we’re half way home.”  
My prayers are with Jim’s family and friends.  
Tom Adams

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Tom Adams - May 16, 2020 at 11:42 PM

PR

“ It’s extremely difficult to write about someone, who has touched your life. Jimmy was a very special friend. The time we spent together in high school was priceless. I was drawn to his positive do anything attitude. He had a zest for life that was contagious. He married the girl of his dreams, had the family he envisioned with two fantastic sons and a family he loved. I will never forget his approach to this illness, and the courage and grace he displayed.

Thanks for the life lesson!

Laura, Big Jim and your family will be in our prayers.

Love,  
Phil Roeder

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Phil Roeder - May 16, 2020 at 10:34 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Hefner.



May 16, 2020 at 09:52 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Hefner.



May 16, 2020 at 09:42 PM



“ My Soul Lives On Blanket was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Hefner.



May 16, 2020 at 09:25 PM



“ Prayers to all, I had the pleasure to work with him and the new SMURF in Assembly. He will be missed.

Scott Williams - May 16, 2020 at 08:56 PM

PM

“ My condolences to his family and friends. Jim was always such a nice guy and very approachable. He always treated people with respect. Very honorable man.

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**Pat Mullady** - May 16, 2020 at 07:46 PM

CC

“ Jim was a good manager in paint dept. Years after moving into plant management every time I passed by him he never failed to stop and say hello and ask me how things were going.

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**Christopher Cox** - May 16, 2020 at 05:04 PM

SM

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you all 🙏 during this difficult time.  
We knew Jim from when he passed as paint manager at map  
So sorry to hear of his passing.  
Mike and Sharon Murnieks

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**Sharon Murnieks** - May 16, 2020 at 04:47 PM

BB

“ Lara,  
I don't have to tell you all the good memories we have of you and Jim. He was a good friend. Although I hadn't seen him for years, I always kept track of his career at Honda. I was able to wish him well when he became Plant Manager at ELP. I had just retired when he took that position. All our love to you, Will and Jake. If you ever need anything, please don't hesitate to call.  
Prayers,  
Barry, Adonna and Hannah Baney

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**Barry Baney** - May 16, 2020 at 04:33 PM

BA

“ So many memories of shenanigans in the sheep barn of the Allen Co Fair. My deepest sympathy to the Hefner Families. Brian Archer

Brian Archer - May 16, 2020 at 01:36 AM

BH

Such terrible and heart breaking news. Jim was a great American. I'm blessed to have the opportunity to know and work with Jim.

Bob Hale - May 16, 2020 at 04:26 PM

Jeanne Rocco

“ Lara, Jake and Will, I am sorry to hear about Jim passing. No words can take away the pain you are feeling. I am sending hugs and keeping you in my thoughts and prayers.

Jeanne

Jeanne Rocco - May 15, 2020 at 10:50 PM



EK

“ Jim, you will be greatly missed watching future Buckeye games with. The way we helped the Coaches let them know they had called the wrong play! You will be known for your one liners and contagious smile. Bev & I always enjoy time together with you and Lara. So blessed to have our families paths meet all the way back to Coach pitch. I'm glad to have had you as a friend. A man of great faith may you be with our Lord and Savior while reunited with your Mom.

Love you , Jim

Ed Kready Jr

Powell

Ed Kready - May 15, 2020 at 08:34 PM

DC

“ *What a wonderful friend and brother in the Lord. Jim shared his strong faith and believes with so many. A man in which we should all model ourselves after. Lara you and the family will be in our thoughts and prayers, I was so lucky to spend a few moments with you both in fellowship and prayer in the last few weeks.*

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**Doug Cline** - May 15, 2020 at 08:14 PM

BS

“ *So many memories of Jim from school, sports and finally working with Jim as my Plant Mgr at the Honda East Liberty Plant. No more pain my friend! Was lucky to visit and say my final good byes to Jim while we were both at the James a couple months ago, thank you Laura!!!! Our thoughts and prayers to Jim's entire family. Brian & Tracie Schick*

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**Brian Schick** - May 15, 2020 at 08:05 PM

DB

“ *Jim, we are so sorry for your loss. Cherish your memories.. Deb and Denny Barnes*

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**Denny Barnes** - May 15, 2020 at 07:01 PM

JB

“ *so sorry prayers sent to all the families he graduated with our daughter Monica Badertscher*

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**John and Judi Badertscher** - May 15, 2020 at 06:08 PM

LR

“ Love, Sheryl Repasky and Dr. Michael Rudolph purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of James "Jim" Hefner.



Love, Sheryl Repasky and Dr. Michael Rudolph - May 15, 2020 at 06:04 PM

VV

“ Vernon & Sharon Viar sent a virtual gift in memory of James "Jim" Hefner



Vernon & Sharon Viar - May 15, 2020 at 04:46 PM

VE

Amy...So very very sorry to hear of the passing of your brother. You have our sympathies and prayers. If we can help you in any way, please do not hesitate to ask. Love you

Vernon - May 15, 2020 at 04:47 PM

DL

“ Prayers to his wife and kids. Also to the extended family members. Jim was a great guy, always caring for others.He will always be remembered for his funny jokes and great memories from Mr. Towey's chemistry class and Mrs. Holt's English class there at Allen East High School. Continued prayers, Diana (Gierhart) Lugibihl, The Class of 1984, Allen East High School. .

Diana Lugibihl - May 15, 2020 at 04:39 PM

LL

*On his birthday this year, via Amy I sent wishes. Happy Birthday from your favorite English teacher, Miss Holt. Via Amy, he replied back "You were my only English teacher". That was just like him. He brought smiles to many and he was a pleasure to have in class. With my deepest sympathy to his entire family. Rest In Peace, Jim!*

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**LuAnn Holt Lause** - May 15, 2020 at 09:01 PM

AW

*James Hefner and Family, Sorry for the loss of your son who fought a great battle of his illness. May he rest in peace in the arms of the Lord. God Bless to his Family.*

*Alice Winter, Neighbor of his Father James and Marlene in Lima, Ohio*

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**Alice Winter** - May 17, 2020 at 01:46 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Rutherford Funeral Homes** - May 15, 2020 at 01:27 PM