



## James Albert Kesler, Jr.

December 28, 1965 - September 7, 2018

James A. "Jim" Kesler, Jr. age 52, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, September 7, 2018 in Columbus, Ohio. Graduate of Bishop Hartley High School and Ohio Dominican University. Longtime citizen of Joplin, Missouri where he is remembered by many beloved friends and was known for his participation in the community. He was an avid golfer and devoted Buckeye Fan. Jim was preceded in death by his father, James A. Kesler, Sr. He is survived by his daughter, Tess (Sean Jenson) Kesler; mother, Sally Kesler; brother, Mark (Melinda) Kesler; nephew, Kamron Kesler; niece, Lexi Kesler; and life partner, Denise Gilbreath. The family will hold a private celebration of life. In lieu of flowers, contributions if desired may be made to the Wagner Benefit, c/o Chris Patterson, 602 Black Thorn Drive, Carl Junction, MO 64834. Arrangements by RUTHERFORD-CORBIN FUNERAL HOME. To leave a condolence for the family please visit [www.rutherfordfuneralhome.com](http://www.rutherfordfuneralhome.com).

# Cemetery Details

**Private**

# Tribute Wall



“ *James Albert Kesler, Jr.*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *Sally, So sorry to read of your loss. We have such fond memories of our children and yours on Glaston Place many years ago. We will keep you and Mark, and Jim in our prayers. Please accept our deepest sympathy.*

*Ben and Jeanne Meleca*

**Ben and Jeanne Meleca** - September 20, 2018 at 10:31 AM



“ *Sally, Mark and family, I am so sad to learn of Jimmy's passing. Jimmy was a very close childhood friend. We used to have a lot of fun playing in the Glaston Place court along with all of the other neighborhood kids (i.e. remember all the kickball). My heart goes out to the family. I will keep Jimmy and your family in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Please accept my deepest condolences for your family's loss. May you be comforted by the love surrounding you.*



**Karen Blogg** - September 19, 2018 at 06:51 PM



“ *Sally, I am so sorry to learn of Jimmy's passing. Please know that I am praying for Jimmy, for you and your family. Deepest sympathy.*

**Louise Kemp** - September 13, 2018 at 10:52 PM

JG

“ Dear Sally, Mark, Tess, and family, I am so sad to hear of Jim's passing and my heart breaks for all of you. I attended Mass this morning in honor of his life. "Jimmy" and I went to CCD together on Monday nights, where he coined the funny phrase "Lackel, Lackel, Tabernacle." I remember our nervous giggles as we waited in line for our first confession with a priest who was older than the hills. Jim once drove from Missouri to Tulsa to meet up with me during one of my business trips and we had fun catching up on life. We met for a glass of wine a couple times when he was in town. He talked about Tess and how proud he was of her. He texted me in June to say he had moved back and we planned to meet, but he had to cancel and we never re-scheduled. That will always be a huge regret for me. This is all so difficult to comprehend, but I will continue to keep you and Jim in my prayers. With love, Jill Gerst

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**Jill Gerst** - September 13, 2018 at 03:12 PM

JD

“ I loved working with Jim when I lived in Joplin. He was such a positive soul and always a delight to be around. He will be missed by many. So sorry for your loss.

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**Julie Damer** - September 13, 2018 at 08:35 AM

KC

“ Jim was a great friend to many people. I was fortunate enough to play a lot of golf with him. He always seemed to be in a good mood and had an infectious personality. He will definitely be missed.

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**Kevin Carey** - September 12, 2018 at 09:57 AM

RC

“ Our prayers are with you and your family, Jimmy was a Best Buddy and Long life Pal I had the pleasure of working with him through Joplin Chamber and we played golf together all year round.  
RIP Jimmy 2...

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**Rich Castillo** - September 12, 2018 at 09:38 AM

RB

“ Jim was a great friend.... I had the pleasure of working with him through Chamber events for many years and we played a lot of golf together at Briarbrook.... even got to witness his hole-in-one a couple of years ago. He will be missed by all of us here in Carl Junction.  
RIP Jimmy 2...

*Randy Brownlow*

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**Randy Brownlow** - September 12, 2018 at 09:08 AM

ST

*RIP J2, keep the Golf gods on our side up there buddy.*

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**Stu Towner** - September 12, 2018 at 09:51 AM

BK

“ I am so sorry for your lost. I had the opportunity to work with Jim at the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce. He was a great man, and great person to work with. He always had a great attitude and was willing to help in whatever way he could.

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**Brian Kelly** - September 11, 2018 at 07:32 PM