



James Swetnam

February 7, 2011

SWETNAM, JAMES 63, died Monday, February 7, 2011. His grandson, Micah James, and his father, Julian, awaited him in Heaven. Jim devoted his life to teaching children. As an elementary physical education teacher in Jefferson County, he was a strong role model of what a man should be and a promoter of healthy living, good choices, fairness, and kindness. He instilled in his students a sense of confidence in their abilities and a desire for physical activity regardless of their skill level. Teachers and parents were also inspired by his ability to create fun from even the most mundane activities. His fan club on facebook attests to the memories kept alive in the hearts of his students. Jim coached many sports but passed up the opportunity to coach at the high school level in order to be at home with his own boys in the afternoon and to participate fully in all of their activities. Nothing was so important to him as his family. Jim is survived by his wife, Deborah; sons James "Chip" (Anne) and Joshua (Jodi); Mother, Esther; Brother, Bruce (Pat); Grandchildren Evan, Abby, Kaeley, and Amani; Niece, Alex; and Nephew, Nick. We will celebrate his life in the chapel at Southeast Christian Church at 3:00 p. m. on Sunday, February 13th. The family will be at the chapel at 2:00 for visitation. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Boys Haven of Louisville. If you would like to honor his memory, please just reach out your hand and help a child in some way. Owen Funeral Home-Jeffersontown in charge. On Line Condolence www.OwenFuneralHome.com

Tribute Wall

KK

“ Our family was so sorry to hear of Jim's death. We always thought the world of him and have such wonderful memories of when Jeff and Josh were young. Our deepest sympathy goes out to your whole family. He will be missed by so many people. Ed, Kathy, Jeff, Dave, Kristin Kopp

Kathy Kopp - June 28, 2018 at 04:43 PM

JL

“ To the best neighbors ever, my prays are with you.

Jenny Lindquist - June 28, 2018 at 04:43 PM

DS

“ *Debbie and family:*
We were so sorry to hear of Jimmy's passing. He was a great friend with a contagious smile that reflected his love of life, his unselfish gift of his time to students and friends will be missed greatly. We share in your greif and your celebration of his life. Our continued prayers and thoughts will be with you.

Denny & Janet

denny & janet stomberger - June 28, 2018 at 04:43 PM

DC

“ To the family of Jim, I offer my sympathy for your loss. Jim was so dedicated in all that he did, especially working with kids in physical education. As a past President of the KY Assn. for Hlth, PE, Rec. and Dance, I saw Jim work hard to help others. He wanted to do his best in all his professional activities. He helped me so much during my years in KAHPERD. He always said, what can I do to help you. I am sure that is what he did for his family and for students. My wife and I send our regrets, but being the Christians we are, we know that Jim is with his Heavenly Father still being of help to others and working with all those kids in Heaven. Don Calitri, retired professor ant ECU.

Dr. Don Calitri - June 28, 2018 at 04:43 PM

EJ

“ The pleasures that you give
To boys and girls today
Will bring them happiness
When years have passed away.
For kindly words you speak
And loving deeds you do
Will warm their hearts for years
and they'll remember you. I know Jim is being remembered today in the hearts of many young and old. Our most sincere condolences to the family.

Eleanor Jenkins - June 28, 2018 at 04:43 PM

VK

“ I had the privilege of working with Jim at Wilder Elementary...he touched not only children, but parents and staff with his energy, enthusiasm and commitment...please accept my most sincere sympathy as we are all saddened by your loss.

Virginia Klemens - June 28, 2018 at 04:43 PM

AN

“ *Mr Swetnam was my PE teacher at Portland Elementary from about 1981-1985. We knew he cared about us as students - he touched many lives. My thoughts are with the family.*

Andrea - June 28, 2018 at 04:43 PM

SF

“ *Debbie,
My thoughts and prayers are with you and the family at this time of sorrow. Jim was treasured by so many of us in the field of Physical Education. His devoted dedication to the children of Jefferson County and his professional peers was unsurpassed by any other. I will carry him in my heart and prayers.*

*Sincerely,
Sue Fetter*

Susan Fetter - June 28, 2018 at 04:43 PM