



## James Earl Wilkison

October 27, 1939 - May 20, 2021

Conway, SC.....James Earl Wilkison, age 81, died Thursday, May 20, 2021, following a long illness.

He was born October 27, 1939, in New Castle, PA, son of the late Henry and Martha (Coulter) Wilkison. He grew up in Geneva, NY, and graduated from Geneva High School and SUNY Alfred with a degree in Civil Engineering. Jim worked for The New York State Department of Transportation for 35 years until his retirement where he worked on the design of many bridges and roads. He also designed the logo used for all bike trails throughout the state. Outside of his career, he was a gifted carpenter and built many decks for neighbors, his own sailboat, and a boathouse, now named the Jim Wilkison Boathouse, for the Rochester Rotary Sunshine Camp.

A dedicated Rotarian, Jim was a member of the Brockport Rotary Club for many years. He served as President of the club 1983-84 and in 1997 served as District Governor of District 7120 in the Finger Lakes Region in New York. He continued his service with Rotary once he moved to Conway, SC, and was a member of the Rotary Club of Conway. He received many distinguished service awards, including The Paul Harris Fellow.

Jim is survived by his wife of 58 years, Helene Wilkison (Solomon), his daughter Melissa, son-in-law David Wallach and one grandson Jacob and Hoss the puppy. Brothers Charles and Thomas, and many nieces and

nephews also survive him.

A graveside service will be held on Saturday, June 12, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. at Hillcrest Cemetery on Hwy 544 in Conway.

Memorial donations may be made in his name to Rotary International Foundation, One Rotary Center, 1560 Sherman Ave., Evanston, IL 60201-3698 or the Alzheimer's Association, 225 North Michigan Ave., Floor 17, Chicago, IL 60601.

Please sign the online guestbook at [www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com](http://www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com)

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapter, is in charge of arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Hillcrest Cemetery

1000 Highway 544  
Conway, SC 29526

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

JUN 12. 10:00 AM (ET)

Hillcrest Cemetery  
1000 Hwy 544  
Conway, SC 29526

# Tribute Wall

MD

“ The Conway Rotary Club honored the memory of Jim Wilkison at the May 27, 2021 meeting. Always loyal to Rotary, he gifted decals to the members, suggested the idea of Coins for Charity, and introduced the importance of a web presence. We prayed, “Heavenly Father, thank you for all the joys of living, for the gifts of fellowship, and the reassurance of memories.” Helene, thank you for sharing him with us.

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**Mike and Kathy DiMarino** - June 12, 2021 at 12:21 AM

BC

“ Jim was a wonderful man so kind and thoughtful. So glad we shared many Myrtle Trace memories and experiences. Glad i met David, Melissa and Jacob. Felt like we had known each other forever. Jim and I were the same age. I was born in December 1939. Helene - take one day at a time and know you are loved throughout wonderful Myrtle Trace.

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**Beth Crow** - June 10, 2021 at 11:45 AM

BS

“ Betty and I were saddened to learn of Jim's passing. We have fond memories of the times we shared with Jim and Helene in Conway and as members of the Rotary Club of Conway. Jim was a dedicated Rotarian who practiced the Rotary Four Way Test in his lifetime. Our deepest sympathy to Helene, Melissa and family. Love , Betty and Bob Squatriglia ,Fort Mill, SC

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**Bob Squatriglia** - June 05, 2021 at 11:56 AM

AA

“ Jim was one of the good guys. I knew him as a driving force in Rotary, a family man and a person who could be relied upon to do the right thing. There are so many memories of the things we all did and the people we supported at Camp Haccamo and other avenues through Rotary. Helene and Melissa and their family were surely blessed by having Jim as Brother, Husband, Dad and Grandfather.

*Art and Cathy Appleby*

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**Arthur Appleby** - June 03, 2021 at 08:01 PM



“ Helene, Melissa and family you have our heartfelt sympathy at the loss of your husband, father, grandfather and all around special person and friend, Jim. We have a lot of fond memories from years ago in Brockport as your neighbors around the block. Whether it was a spring break trip to Myrtle Beach or a St Paddy's Day Parade, Women's Club event or just happy hours at the Ale House, he was always ready to help with the details or plans with what seemed to us his cool, calm and collected attitude. May he Rest In Peace. Love to all, Lynne, Mark And Erika Conradt

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**Diane Conradt** - May 27, 2021 at 01:37 PM

PP

“ We've long moved on from the neighborhood shared for close to 40 years. Kids, babies, first time home ownership came with so many laughs, so many projects. What shall always remain is how we folded into each others lives and bonded. Helene, we met you, Jim and Missy and you brought us to the most special people in your lives. Our memories of Jim cannot help but drift pleasantly to those wonderful decades. We love that we crossed paths with Jim, sharing a wonderful friendship. Helene, Missy, David and Jacob, we are so sorry for your loss.  
We send our love and heartfelt sympathy,  
Phyllis and Charlie Pecorella

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Phyllis Pecorella - May 26, 2021 at 04:10 PM

TG

“ My heartfelt sympathy to Cousin Helene and family

Toni George Gully



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toni gully - May 26, 2021 at 02:06 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of James Earl Wilkison.



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May 26, 2021 at 08:57 AM

JQ

“ *A wonderful father to a Melissa. My condolences and prayers*



jennifer quick - May 25, 2021 at 10:39 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of James Earl Wilkison.*



May 25, 2021 at 10:16 PM



“ *Paul Penna lit a candle in memory of James Earl Wilkison*



Paul Penna - May 25, 2021 at 07:59 PM



*Melissa and family, I am extremely sorry for your loss.*

Paul Penna - May 25, 2021 at 08:01 PM

SR

“ Jim will always be remembered by us as a true trusted friend. We have been friends for over fifty years. We lived close by in Brockport and shared many a good time. Jim built a beautiful deck for us there. He and Helene move here to be close to old friends. Jim's dedication to Rotary is unmatched, he and Helene traveled a great deal both with and for Rotary. They hosted many Rotarians from all over the world in their home in Brockport, We attended many parties for these Rotarians. Jim will be remembered by Myrtle Tracers for all he did to improve this community. Jim took charge of the roads and the gate, an overwhelming task that he preformed so very well. Jim was instrumental in setting up our web site he and others held classes to teach us computer skills. Jim served for many years o the property committee. Mike and I loved Jim, treasured his friendship and will miss him dearly. Sheilah Reynolds

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**Sheilah Reynolds** - May 25, 2021 at 07:29 PM

DM

“ Loved knowing you, Jim.  
"Bumps"

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**Donna Mancuso** - May 25, 2021 at 07:02 PM