



James "Jim" H. Palmquist

November 17, 1930 - December 22, 2022

James "Jim" Palmquist, 92 year old resident of Little Falls, MN passed away December 22, 2022 at St. Otto's Care Center in Little Falls, MN. A funeral service will be held at 11:00 A.M. on Friday, December 30, 2022 at the Little Falls Alliance Church in Little Falls, MN with Rev. Gregg Valentine officiating. Burial will take place in the Nisswa City Cemetery in Nisswa, MN. A visitation will be held from 9:30-11:00 A.M. on Friday at the Little Falls Alliance Church. Caring for Jim and his family is the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls, MN. In Lieu of Flowers, Memorials are Preferred to an organization of your choice.

To view James livestream, please click the link and you will be directed to the livestream. <https://my.gather.app/remember/james-palmquist>

James (Jim) Harry Palmquist was born on November 17, 1930, the son of John and Ragnhild Palmquist. Jim grew up in Duluth and wed Mary Nichols on June 3, 1955. The family moved to Little Falls in November 1969. Jim served as a Marine for 2 years of active duty and 6 years as a reservist during the Korean War. Jim was a valued employee of Minnesota Power for 33 years where he served as a mobile mechanic. In his later years, he enjoyed trips to visit relatives in Sweden, service projects in Bolivia, Belize, Alaska, and bus trips. Summers were spent at the cabin in Nisswa fishing, puttering in the garage, and enjoying his family. He was always ready to give a helping hand, especially if it meant he could use a riding lawn mower or a snowblower. Jim

always had a warm smile and joke ready to share.

Jim is survived by his wife, Mary, children; Ruth, Joyce (Rodney) Thannum, David, Sonja (Stephen) Mayhew, and close family friends, Stephen and Twila Minter; grandchildren, Daniel (Holly) Thannum, Nathaniel (Haley) Thannum, Benjamin Thannum (Samantha Murnane), John (Keeley) Thannum, Grace Thannum, Keaton and Gavin Mayhew; great-grandchildren, Ellery, Dashiell, Jovie, Agatha, and Norah Thannum.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, and his siblings, Irene, Jane (his twin sister) and Earl.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **30**. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Little Falls Alliance Church
903 13th Avenue NE
Little Falls, MN

Funeral Service

DEC **30**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Little Falls Alliance Church
903 13th Avenue NE
Little Falls, MN

Tribute Wall



“ *James "Jim" H. Palmquist*

January 21, 2023 at 11:59 AM

“ I have fond memories of Mr. Palmquist. The Palmquist family lived just up the road from where I grew up. They had a trampoline in their backyard that was at ground level, with a hole dug into the ground beneath to allow clearance for the bouncers and a wooden platform on the long side of the trampoline with a ribbed rubber covering (I assume Mr. Palmquist’s brilliant design). My neighborhood friend group would often stop by Mr. and Mrs. Palmquist’s house and ask if we could “bounce”; that is, if we could get by their fierce German Sheppard, “Smokey”, who was often tied up in front of their house. We were greeted by Mr. or Mrs. Palmquist who would always say “Sure! Be sure to take your shoes off and only one at a time!”. When leaving, I would usually exit by walking on the south side of Jim’s detached garage. He would often be working there on various projects with the garage door open to enjoy the summer breeze. If he would see me, he would holler out “Hello Robert!” with that big warm grin that we all know! I couldn’t resist coming over to him to see what he was tinkering on. He had a lot of neat things. I recall at least one old Model T, and at least one 2-stroke 3 cylinder Saab. In the wintertime he would pull a car hood used as a sled behind the little Saab out on the frozen Mississippi river in front of his house with as many kids as the hood would hold or the car could pull! He also had an old siren from a fire truck that I found particularly fascinating. And for some odd reason, I vividly recall a black 4-cylinder distributor cap that he used as a pencil holder on a high table just inside the garage... Very clever! He had every tool imaginable, and my dad (Pete Hanowski) would often send me over to borrow a tool he knew Jim would have. My dad would always say “Why buy when you can borrow (from Jim)”. I was never very comfortable asking to borrow things from Mr. Palmquist, but he would always get me what my dad needed and did so happily, along with many questions about the project the tool was for and always an offer to help in some way. We would usually part with him making some joke. I can still hear his distinctive warm laugh!

He helped teach me how to be kind and generous to my neighbor,

make others feel welcome and special by just investing a little time in them, and of course, taught me how to smile and laugh more! - One of the "good guys". Thank you Mr. Palmquist. Rest in peace!

Rob Hanowski - December 28, 2022 at 12:29 AM



Those are sweet memories, Rob.

Joyce Thannum - December 28, 2022 at 08:50 AM

TH

My memories of Jim are similar to my brother Rob's. The trampoline was a big attraction and great fun! Amazingly, nobody got seriously hurt despite the fact that it was located next to a barb wire fence!

I drove by Jim's house a lot because we lived nearby. If Jim was outside, he'd always have a big smile and wave for me!

Above all, Jim was kind and welcoming, always willing to help with advice or tools. I remember one Winter not being able to get the snow blower started, despite having what I thought was a good understanding of gas engines. I couldn't even get it to fire, much less run. In desperation, I thought, who would know what to do? I know . . . Jim Palmquist! So I walked over to see Jim, and told him my problem. He said, "Remove the spark plug and heat it with a blow torch. Then, while still hot as you can handle with gloves, reinstall the spark plug and try starting it." So I did, and it started on the first pull!!! Thanks Jim!

Jim was always working on something cool in his shop, and happily explained what he was doing. He never talked down to me, and was patient and kind. Jim was an optimist, always finding the good in things and people. I admired him for that. Even as the end was near, he was upbeat and always had a smile. That was Jim!

Jim always seemed genuinely interested in what was going on in my life, asking what was new and then listening intently with interest. I really appreciated that. One time, I told him about my new hobby of flying Powered Parachute airplanes. He was so intrigued, that I asked him if he wanted to go flying with me. To my surprise, he excitedly responded, "SURE!" So I took him up and we flew for quite a while, including over his house which he really enjoyed.

There was no better neighbor to have than Jim Palmquist! Truly, he lived right and was "One of the good guys" as brother Rob said. Thanks Jim for being more than just a good neighbor. You were also a good friend, and I will miss you! I have a feeling that Heaven will run a lot smoother now that you are there! Rest in Peace Jim!

Tom Hanowski - December 31, 2022 at 09:12 PM

SM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Sonja Mayhew - December 27, 2022 at 09:38 PM

JB

This is how we remember Jim! A great neighbor & always up for a chat. We were unable to come but joined you online. Planting a tree in his memory & will always remember him & your family fondly.

Jlm & Mary Burrell - December 30, 2022 at 02:51 PM

EB

Jim's smile and kind spirit will be missed! Thinking of you all during this difficult time. My parents (JB & Mary) shared the link so I was able to watch online.

Emily Burrell - December 30, 2022 at 03:11 PM

JT

“ Few among us have a smile that is as warm and approachable as was that of Jim Palmquist. As children my siblings & I would visit the Palmquist residence from time to time, and I always felt the reach of kindness after having shared an hour or two with them. The community at large had in Jim an advocate for positive outreach and hospitality that brought with it a rare sense of peace which is ever so elusive in the world at large, and by sheer gravitas so often in life itself. Jim knew how to carry a conversation and brought with him a wealth of experience about numerous crafts and trades. He was open to sharing his technical knowledge and skills, and if he didn't have an answer to a technical problem, he was kind in sharing where to look next, and usually had some idea about it. I think those who knew him can take a lesson on living with grace and decency, and striving to expand knowledge for the sake of bettering ourselves, as well as the world in which we ourselves are found. I only can make some meager attempt to bring charisma as warm and honest into my own years that remain in this world, and to say I left as indelible a point of light in it as did Jim Palmquist. Little wonder that Jim went Home during the holiday season of Light. May he rest in peace accompanied by a song of angels that was reflected often in his earthly smile and affectionate countenance. Fondly will Jim be remembered.



John Thoma - December 26, 2022 at 09:48 PM

MS

“ Mark E Savage lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" H. Palmquist



Mark E Savage - December 26, 2022 at 09:41 PM

JT

“ 1 file added to the album Jim



Joyce Anita Thannum - December 25, 2022 at 11:35 AM

DJ

“ Debbie M Jelinski-Harakel lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" H. Palmquist



Debbie M Jelinski-Harakel - December 25, 2022 at 04:35 AM

PH

“ Always enjoyed conversations with Jim! Good person to work with at Minnesota Powe! Sympathy to Mary and Family.

patti Hammerbeck - December 24, 2022 at 06:51 PM

PH

Minnesota Power

patti Hammerbeck - December 24, 2022 at 06:52 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of James "Jim" H. Palmquist.



December 24, 2022 at 12:39 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of James "Jim" H. Palmquist.*



December 24, 2022 at 09:53 AM



“ *Mary Jo Retka lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" H. Palmquist*



Mary Jo Retka - December 24, 2022 at 08:00 AM



“ *I will always remember Jim with his welcoming smile. Sympathy to Mary and family.*



Donna Kuklock - December 23, 2022 at 05:18 PM