



James "Jimmy" M. Cluka

March 21, 1955 - August 16, 2023

James (Jimmy) Cluka, age 68 of Little Falls, passed away August 16, 2023 at the St. Cloud Hospital, after a courageous two-and-a-half-year battle with cancer. Funeral Services will be held at 11 AM on Monday, August 21, 2023 at the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls with Ruth Jeremiason-Jensen officiating. Visitation will be from 9 to 11 AM. Burial will be at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery north of Little Falls. Military Honors will be conducted by the Minnesota State Honor Guard. Caring for Jimmy and his family is the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls, MN.

James Martin Cluka was born March 21, 1955 to George and Elaine (Moe) Cluka in Little Falls, MN. After graduating from high school, he joined the Army and spent time overseas. Upon his return, he worked for Burlington Northern Railroad all around the Midwest. Jimmy married Barb (Przybilla) Cluka on August 14, 1981, and they raised two daughters in Little Falls. In 2008, he retired from the Minnesota Army National Guard having served over 23 years at Camp Ripley. Jimmy enjoyed spending time with his family and friends and being outdoors whenever possible. He loved family camping trips up north with all of his siblings and their families and especially enjoyed sitting (napping) around a campfire. He was an avid hunter and fisherman, and made sure to pass his love of the outdoors on to his girls. Jimmy and Barb also enjoyed traveling around the country, and appreciated a fun casino run every now and then. Watching movies was another favorite pastime of his,

with “Field of Dreams” topping his most-loved movie list.

He will be missed by his wife, Barb; his daughters, Carrie (Stephan) Staniulis of Asheville, NC, and Tara Cluka (Jason Nieman) of Little Falls. His grandchildren, Sabine, Colette, and Owen will also miss their “grumpy grandpa” who they loved very much. Also cherishing Jimmy’s memory are his many brothers and sisters, nieces, nephews, and numerous friends and colleagues.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers, Mike and Bill; his nephews, Levi and Joshua; niece, Becky, and son-in-law, Anthony.

Cemetery Details

Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery

15550 Highway 115
Little Falls, MN

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 21. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

LeMieur Funeral Home of Little Falls
214 2nd Street SE
Little Falls, MN

Funeral Service

AUG 21. 11:00 AM (CT)

LeMieur Funeral Home of Little Falls
214 2nd Street SE
Little Falls, MN

Tribute Wall



“ *Lemieur Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of James "Jimmy" M. Cluka*



Lemieur Funeral Homes - August 18, 2023 at 01:29 PM

CV

So sorry to hear of Jimmy's passing! Prayers for Barb and both girl, Carrie and Tara! Jimmy was a great man and neighbor! Prayers for all of you!

Cindy Vogt - August 20, 2023 at 02:14 PM

CM

Barb and family you have our sympathy. Sorry for your loss. Ernest and Carol Marshik.

Carol and Ernie Marshik - August 23, 2023 at 03:27 PM

AN

“ *Im sorry for your loss Barb*



Angela - August 24, 2023 at 09:07 PM

MD

“ Michelle Dreiling lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" M. Cluka



Michelle Dreiling - August 22, 2023 at 11:26 PM

TS

“ Terry S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James "Jimmy" M. Cluka.

Terry S. - August 21, 2023 at 02:22 PM

DS

“ Barb and girls..You have my deepest sympathies in the loss of Jim. May you rest easily, knowing that his suffering is over. Rest assured, he's having lots of fun with our relatives that have gone before him!
Jim, Thank You for Your Service.
Your cousin, Doris (Hoheisel) Sorensen.



Doris Sorensen - August 20, 2023 at 09:25 PM

TL

“ Tom Ledbetter lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" M. Cluka



Tom Ledbetter - August 19, 2023 at 10:51 AM

MW

“ Barb, I am so sorry for your loss. You and your family will be in my prayers. Your cousin Marlys (Jendro) Will.

Marlys Will - August 19, 2023 at 01:16 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of James "Jimmy" M. Cluka.



August 18, 2023 at 09:47 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of James "Jimmy" M. Cluka.

August 18, 2023 at 09:47 PM

BA

“ Bruce And Kathy Anderson lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" M. Cluka



Bruce and Kathy Anderson - August 18, 2023 at 05:59 PM

TB

“ *Tim, Tabitha, And Wyatt Brisk lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" M. Cluka*



Tim, Tabitha, and Wyatt Brisk - August 18, 2023 at 03:08 PM

DJ

“ *Debbie M Jelinski-Harakel lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" M. Cluka*



Debbie M Jelinski-Harakel - August 18, 2023 at 03:07 PM

IB

“ *Irene Brisk lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" M. Cluka*



Irene Brisk - August 18, 2023 at 03:04 PM

HS

“ *I will never forget our grade school days at OLOL.All the good times going fishing together and of course all the hockey we played.RIP my friend.
Harvey Sobieck*

Harvey Sobieck - August 18, 2023 at 03:01 PM

LK

“ RIP my friend...I will miss you

LeRoy Kowalczyk - August 18, 2023 at 02:19 PM



“ Barb I am so sorry for your loss.my deepest sympathy to you and your family.



Karen Haaland - August 18, 2023 at 02:06 PM

JS

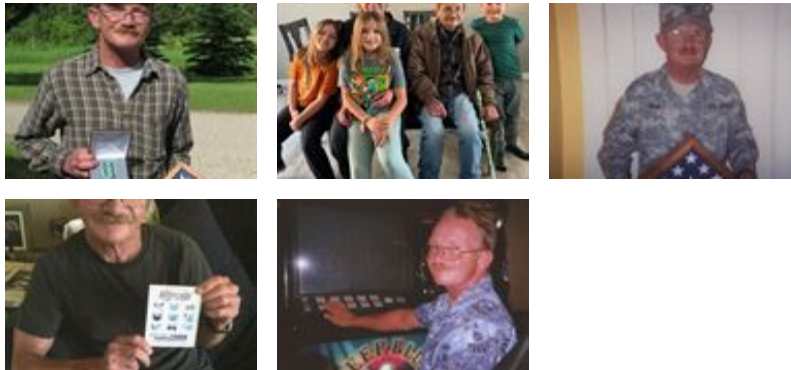
“ Jenny Stout lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" M. Cluka



Jenny Stout - August 18, 2023 at 12:28 PM



“ 38 files added to the album Life Tributes



Lemieur Funeral Homes - August 18, 2023 at 11:51 AM

KP

Those are some great photos! And the obituary is so wonderfully written.

Karen Przybilla - August 19, 2023 at 06:19 AM

DP

“ *Denise Przybilla lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" M. Cluka*



Denise Przybilla - August 18, 2023 at 10:40 AM

KP

“ *Father, You are so gracious and good. I thank you for ending his suffering. Thank you for letting me know him for all these years, and that he brought much joy to my sister, his daughters, and grandchildren. May his soul rest in peace as he joins all our heavenly brothers and sisters that have gone before us. Soldier, your job here on earth is done. Amen.*



Karen Przybilla - August 18, 2023 at 09:56 AM

AS

“ *Audrey Stout lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" M. Cluka*



audrey stout - August 18, 2023 at 08:36 AM

KH

“ Karen Heinz lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" M. Cluka



Karen Heinz - August 18, 2023 at 08:28 AM

KH

Well over the years we sure had a lot of laughs . Rest in peace my friend.

Karen Heinz - August 18, 2023 at 08:35 AM

JH

“ Jerome Heinz lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" M. Cluka



Jerome Heinz - August 18, 2023 at 08:25 AM

JH

Jim you will be missed. A good friend and good times.

Jerome Heinz - August 18, 2023 at 08:34 AM

SW

“ Sandy Wright-Olson lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" M. Cluka



Sandy Wright-Olson - August 17, 2023 at 06:04 PM