



James R. Panning

March 25, 1948 - December 21, 2020

James R. Panning, 72, of Napoleon, Ohio passed away on Monday, December 21, 2020 at CHP Defiance Inpatient Hospice Center. He was born in Napoleon, Ohio on March 25, 1948 to Rudolph and Almeda (Bahler) Panning. Jim was baptized and confirmed by Pastor Heuter at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Napoleon Township.

Jim was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Napoleon and worked as a Tool and Die Maker. He was a competent mechanic and thoroughly enjoyed farming the family farm. Jim was always concerned with his friend's and family's welfare and spent time taking care of his family.

Jim is survived by his sisters, Carol (Gary) Bernath and Pat (Andy) McMahon; nieces and nephews, Stephanie (Paul) Eggebrecht, Michelle Brown, Jonathan (Desa) Bernath and Rachel (Bill) Bailey; and 11 great nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Thomas Panning.

Visitation will be held at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Napoleon on Saturday, December 26, 2020 from 9:00 AM until the time of services at 11:00 AM. Interment will take place at St. Paul Lutheran Cemetery, Napoleon Township. Memorial contributions may be made to the St. Paul Lutheran School, Worship Anew, Henry County Humane Society, Defiance County Humane

Society or CHP Defiance Inpatient Hospice. Online messages and condolences may be shared with the family at rodenbergergray.com.

Due to the current health conditions surrounding COVID-19, masks will be required to attend services or visitation in accordance with the State. Please also respect social distancing and make use of the website to contact the family if you are not feeling well.

Cemetery Details

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Napoleon Twp.

16976 County Road Q1
Napoleon, OH 43545

Previous Events

Public Viewing

DEC **26**. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul Lutheran Church
1075 Glenwood Ave
Napoleon, OH 43545

Funeral Service

DEC **26**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul Lutheran Church
1075 Glenwood Ave
Napoleon, OH 43545

Tribute Wall

BC

“ I remember Jim going thru the drive thru at the bank. He was a very nice guy . Always had a smile.

BONNIE Croninger - December 26, 2020 at 05:24 PM

DD

“ Jim was always there if you needed a hand.
Dean

Dean Damman - December 25, 2020 at 08:43 PM

NH

“ Jim was a wonderful friend from grade school all the way to graduating in 1966. He will be missed! I will hold all the memories I have of him in my heart. You have my deepest sympathy.

Nancy

Nancy L Fenter Hasty - December 25, 2020 at 06:21 PM

SH

“ I worked with Jim at Polycraft. He was a very sweet guy and a pleasure to work with. Rest in Peace Jim.



Shelley - December 25, 2020 at 02:59 PM

KS

“ Jim was a very dear and special friend going back to late high school days and our early 20's back in the late 1960s. I have lived in Florida for most of my life but always tried to make it "home" to NW Ohio as often as I could and caught up with Jim, often at Spengler's or in Okolona to hang out for awhile. He was a genuinely kind person and a good friend. I will miss him very much and extend my condolences to his family.

Ken Schwiebert - December 24, 2020 at 09:51 PM

RY

“ Dear Pat, So sorry to learn of your brother's passing. Know I will remember you in thought and prayer this day and coming week. Hugs to you.

Renee Yoder - December 24, 2020 at 02:00 PM

JL

“ Our sincerest sympathies to Carol and Pat and your families at the loss of Jim. Jim was a lifelong friend to Jerry and myself and was also the Best Man at our wedding. We shared so many good times and great memories throughout our friendship. Jim never knew a stranger and whenever we saw him, there was a big smile on his face. It was an honor and a privilege to call Jim our friend and to be his friend in return. He will be truly missed and God surely gained an angel at his passing. Rest in peace dear friend.
Jerry and Marlene Lighthill

Jerry and Marlene Lighthill - December 24, 2020 at 01:01 PM

JW

“ Jim always was a special cousin - always kind and full of fun. Some of my best memories as a kid include him and his brother and sisters. I recall playing Red Rover and Kick the Can on the farm -- and especially remember sitting in the stairwell at his house with him and Patty and Tom and Ron when Carol would tell us spooky stories (usually in the dark with a flashlight). Also, he would basically do anything to help. When I needed to move from Columbus back to Napoleon for my wedding, he offered his help to brother Ron to pack up my stuff and get me home. However, not before the three of us spent an evening bar-hopping up by OSU, of course.

Judy White - December 24, 2020 at 11:18 AM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of James R. Panning.



December 24, 2020 at 09:29 AM

RB

“ Sending thoughts and prayers in memory of a great friend and neighbor.

Rod and Jeri Bostelman - December 23, 2020 at 01:20 PM

MS

“ Jim Thank You for all the help over the past.....55 years. Great times....the best was 2 John Deere 730's passing each other on Road 18 -- a few years back.....Tom headed home and I was headed to a round baling job. Marcus Schuette

Marcus Schuette - December 23, 2020 at 11:30 AM

GS

“ With fond memories of working with Jim and we hunted small game many times together. Jim you will be missed by many. My prayers to the family. Gail

Gail Sloan - December 22, 2020 at 08:56 PM