



James Stites

March 30, 1958 - December 12, 2024

On December 12th, 2024, James (Jim) Stites passed peacefully in his sleep after his long battle against multiple sclerosis and cancer. Jim was born in March 1958 to Robert Stites and Lois Knipp Stites. As a lifelong resident of Napoleon, he graduated from Napoleon High School in 1976. After graduation, he served for a short time in the Navy. Upon his return, Jim met Valorie (Val). They spent 41 wonderful years together and went on to have three children, Alexander (Alex, married to Kelsie Gerardi), Emily, and Robert (Bobby), and one granddaughter, Harper. Jim found joy coaching his sons' baseball teams, chauffeuring his kids to their many activities, hanging out with friends, watching Detroit sports, and going out to eat. In 2019, after 36 years of tenure at Campbell's Soup Company (Silgan Containers), Jim retired and spent his time painting, playing pool, and watching the Michigan Wolverines. Jim was predeceased by Robert and Lois. He is survived by his sister Kay (married to

Jeff Bunke).

Visitation will be held at Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home on Tuesday,
December 17th

from 3-7 PM. A celebration of Jim's life will take place on Wednesday,
December 18th at

11, with viewing starting one hour before the service.

In lieu of flowers, his family has asked that donations be contributed to the
University of

Michigan in memory of Jim Stites allocated to the Jim Stites Memorial Gift to
honor his

memory as a life-long Wolverines fan. Donations can be mailed to:

The University of Michigan, Gift and Records

3003 S State St., Suite 8000

Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1288

Or made online by visiting: <https://maizeraise.umich.edu/james-jim-stites>

Cemetery Details

Riverview Memory Gardens

29321 County Rd 424
Defiance, OH 43512

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 17. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Rodenberger Funeral Home - Napoleon
1010 Westmoreland Avenue
Napoleon, OH 43545

Visitation

DEC 18. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Rodenberger Funeral Home - Napoleon
1010 Westmoreland Avenue
Napoleon, OH 43545

Funeral Service

DEC 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Rodenberger Funeral Home - Napoleon
1010 Westmoreland Avenue
Napoleon, OH 43545

Tribute Wall



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



December 18, 2024 at 08:17 AM



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

December 18, 2024 at 08:17 AM



“ WCR Columbus purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of James Stites.



WCR Columbus - December 16, 2024 at 02:37 PM



“ The Crawfords--Alice, Lynn, Carol purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of James Stites.



The Crawfords--Alice, Lynn, Carol - December 15, 2024 at 05:01 PM

TC

“ The Crawfords--Alice, Lynn, Carol planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Stites.

The Crawfords--Alice, Lynn, Carol - December 15, 2024 at 05:01 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Stites.



December 15, 2024 at 11:25 AM



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

December 15, 2024 at 11:25 AM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of James Stites.



December 13, 2024 at 08:03 PM

WR

“ *With all our love, the Stribulas & Rohrs purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of James Stites.*



With all our love, the Stribulas & Rohrs - December 13, 2024
at 08:00 PM

MS

“ *I'm so sorry to hear of Jim's passing. I will be praying for all of you in the coming days.*

Megan Spengler - December 13, 2024 at 07:33 PM