



Willford B. James

January 17, 2008

James B. Willford, 75, of Elery, Ohio died on Thursday, January 17, 2008 at the St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center in Toledo, Ohio. He was born on November 3, 1932 in Napoleon, Ohio to the late Byron and Hallie (Long) Willford. On December 14, 1952, he married Carolyn (McClure) Willford at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Napoleon; and she survives in Elery. Jim was a farmer and also a truck driver for Ridgeville Elevator for the last 10 years. He was a member of the Hope Lutheran Church in Hamler, Ohio, where he served as a former deacon, usher and played on the church softball team. He was also a lifetime Patrick Henry High School Booster. He is also survived by three daughters, Peggy (David) Follett of Deshler, Ohio, Cynthia (Roger) Dinius of Cincinnati, Ohio, Diane (Michael) Elchinger of Ney, Ohio, and two sons, James (Barbara) Willford of Occidental, California, Michael (Jacqueline) Willford of Napoleon; 12 grandchildren; a brother, Fredric (Voleta) Willford of Findlay, Ohio and a sister, Carol (Ronald) Gerken of Deshler, Ohio. He was preceded in death by two infant children, Patty Lynn and Joel Richard Willford, and a brother Robert Willford. Funeral services will be at 11:00 a.m. on Monday at the Hope Lutheran Church, Hamler, with Pastor Lindsay Shaner officiating. Interment will follow at the Grelton Cemetery, Grelton, Ohio. Friends may call from 2-9 pm on Sunday at the Rodenberger Funeral Home, Napoleon and from 10-11 a.m. on Monday prior to the services at the church. The family suggests memorials to the Hope Lutheran Church or a charity of the donor's choice.

Tribute Wall



“ Sorry to hear of your loss. Jimmy will be missed by all of us in receiving at Iams.##imported-begin##James Jeffers##imported-end##

January 21, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ I worked with Jim at wayne glore trucking. Jim was very hard working, and a down to earth family man. I always liked sitting in with the shop crew at lunch time, hearing all the gossip, and learning much too. the last time I talked to Jim was at the elery supper club during the wayne glore reunion. I was suprised to learn Jim was still working. he always asked how I was doing, and in general, made me feel good! he'll be missed! john steele##imported-begin##John Steele##imported-end##

January 20, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ I've known Jimmy for two years now. Seeing him every week many times over at IAMS. He always made your day brighter and had a smile on his face. He will be missed by many but not nearly as much as you I am sure. In my short time I can only imagine how wonderful he must have been over his many years. My thoughts and prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Rick Gump##imported-end##

January 20, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ *If Jim was anything like his children, then he was a Good Man. I went to School with Diane and Michiel. Im sorry for your loss, but I have prayed for you and You'll make it. My Deepest Sympathy!*
Chuck

January 20, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ *Jacob Willford*”

January 19, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ *Joann Gerken*”

January 19, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ To my dearest family, some things I'd like to say...but first of all, to let you know, that I arrived okay.I'm writing this from heaven. Here I dwell with God above.Here, there's no more tears of sadness; here is just eternal love.Please do not be unhappy just because I'm out of sight.Remember that I'm with you every morning, noon and night.That day I had to leave you when my life on earth was through,God picked me up and hugged me and He said, I welcome you.It's good to have you back again; you were missed while you were gone.As for your dearest family, they'll be here later on.I need you here badly; you're part of my plan.There's so much that we have to do, to help our mortal man.God gave me a list of things, that he wished for me to do.And foremost on the list, was to watch and care for you.And when you lie in bed at night, the day's chores put to flight.God and I are closest to you....in the middle of the night.When you think of my life on earth, and all those loving yearsbecause you are only human, they are bound to bring you tears.But do not be afraid to cry; it does relieve the pain.Remember there would be no flowers, unless there was some rain.I wish that I could tell you all that God has planned.But if I were to tell you, you wouldn't understand.But one thing is for certain, though my life on earth is o'er.I'm closer to you now, than I ever was before. There are many rocky roads ahead of you and many hills to climb;but together we can do it by taking one day at a time.It was always my philosophy and I'd like it for you too...that as you give unto the world, the world will give to you.If you can help somebody who's in sorrow and pain,then you can say to God at night.....My day was not in vain.And now I am contented....that my life has been worthwhile, knowing as I passed along the way, I made somebody smile. So if you meet somebody who is sad and feeling low, just lend a hand to pick him up, as on your way you go. When you're walking down the street, and you've got me on your mind; I'm walking in your footsteps only half a step behind. And when it's time for you to go.... from that body to be free, remember you're not going.....you're coming here to me. Ruth Ann Mahaffey (author) © Copyright 1998-2008 <http://www.ruthann1.com>##imported-begin##Julie Cone##imported-end##

January 19, 2008 at 12:00 AM