

JIM YOUNG



I, Jim Young, of Pittsburgh, passed away on December 31, 2023, hopefully to a better place. I hope I died peacefully of natural causes, and someone didn't kill me. As my Dad and Uncle Bob Young always said, "Getting old ain't for sissies." I lived a full life during one of the most exciting times in the history of the world and lived in the greatest country in the world. Born August 19th, 1954, to the greatest parents

a person could want, Donald and Betty Young. My greatest accomplishment was helping raise two exemplary human beings, daughters, Alyson and Dr. Amy Young, DO, along with a lot of credit going to my ex-wife, Sharon. I had five great siblings, Mike, Gale, Joe, Sally and Barb and a fantastic extended family.

I worked on the railroad for 38 years. I worked in transportation department management for Penn Central, Conrail and Norfolk Southern. I thought of myself as somewhat of a "train brain" and helped manage Conrail to the business success story of the 20th Century as stated in the Wall Street Journal. I moved 19 times in my lifetime and made many, many friends along the way.

I enjoyed watching my favorite football team, the Pittsburgh Steelers win six Super Bowls and beat up on the Cleveland Browns regularly. My favorite baseball team, the Pirates, won three World Series in my lifetime. I liked to hunt with Brother Mike, Cousins Jim and Dan and Uncle Baldy and fish with my dad.

My major passion was playing golf, once sported a five handicap and made five holes-in-one during my lifetime. I believed you could learn a lot about myself from golf. Dealing with adversity, bad luck, how to win, how to lose, and how to treat others were some of the qualities I learned. I also believed you could learn a lot about a person by playing 18 holes of golf with them. You learned if a person was friendly, honest, if they took chances, or were conservative, had a temper, how they handle adversity, or if they had a big ego. A special thanks to anyone who conceded a short putt to me in my golfing lifetime. At times, short putts were my nemesis.

I lived during a time when man landed on the moon and Rock and Roll was formulated. I especially enjoyed Franki Valli, The Ronettes, The Beatles, CCR, Led Zeppelin and the Stones. I didn't like the beach. Sand, saltwater, sunburn, and seagull poop made me miserable. I loved sunny days and the states of Pennsylvania and Florida. My first loves were Judy Garland, Linda Ronstadt, Cher, and Natalie Wood. As you can see, I was fond of brunettes. My favorite movies were "It's a Wonderful Life", "The Shawshank Redemption", "The Wizard of Oz", and "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest." I never liked cartoons, comics, or any animated entertainment for some reason. I also never played video games or watched animated or superhero movies.

I authored a book in 2023 titled, *Oh, What a Lucky Man He Is*, chronicling my life with family, the railroad and golf. If you ever did anything special involving me, did something funny or stupid, or "pissed me off", chances are you are mentioned in the book.

My biggest regret in life is not putting as much work into my marriage as I did my job. I apologize to my ex-wife and my daughters for that.

I enjoyed eating and my favorite meal was fried eggs cooked in bacon grease, thick cut bacon, homemade bread and whatever else came out of the fridge made by my maternal grandmother, Inez Clawson with the smell of a coal fired furnace in the air. My second favorite meal was my mom's homemade spaghetti and meatballs.

Advice to everyone: As Andy said in *The Shawshank Redemption*, "Get busy living or get busy dying". Stop creating a life that you need a vacation from. Move to where you want to live, do what you want to do, and create the life you want to live. This isn't a rehearsal; this is your life.

Please do not send flowers to the funeral home. I have learned to hate the smell of flowers because of going to way too many funeral homes. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Arnold & Winnie Palmer Foundation (palmerfoundation.org).

Godspeed to all. See you on the other side. Get your colonoscopies and mammograms.

Dad, Jim, JY, YJY

Family and friends received, Thursday, January 4, 2024, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the **LAWRENCE T. MILLER FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 460 Lincoln Avenue, Bellevue. A memorial service will follow at Shannopin Country Club, 1 Windmere Road, Pittsburgh (Ben Avon), PA 15202, at 2:30 p.m., officiated by Rev. Yesudas Devadan. Interment will be private.

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