

## JIM L. HAYS



Passed away unexpectedly on November 25, 2024, in Bethel Park, PA. He was only 83 years old. The family is deeply saddened by his sudden death. Jim is survived and sadly missed by his loving wife, Diane of 57 years; and his children, Michelle (Brian), the late Stephanie (JT), Brian (Jill), Johanna and Lance. Forever cherished by his four grandchildren, Lydia and Weston Minor, Axel Jung and Mary Jane Hays. His

memory lives on in his siblings and their families, the late Carl (late Betty), late Donnie, Dorothy (late Gus), Earline (Rick); his in-laws; the late Susan, Kevin (Michele); and many nieces, nephews and their families. Jim was predeceased by his mother, Opal Miller; his father, Ted Miller; his daughter, Stephanie; and grandchildren, Alexander and Justin Linz.

Jim was born and raised in Washington Park, IL and served in the U.S. Army from 1964-1966.

While working at Granite City Steel, he attended Southern Illinois University, attaining his BS in Business Administration. He was the first in his family to attend college and continued to work in the steel industry for 20 years. He met and married Diane in 1967 and before long they were a family of six. Jim's career in the steel industry brought him to Pittsburgh, PA, in January of 1980. The Hays family spent their first night in their new home, watching the Steelers win the Super Bowl. A decade later, Jim went to work for the University of Pittsburgh, heading up capital projects for the school. He returned to work as a Project Manager and Scheduler for Kvaerner Songer, Stevens Painton Corp. and others traveling the country on various large projects until his retirement in 2011.

Jim's work continued at home, on projects big and small. Mostly BIG. There was nothing he couldn't do. He had his visions: a babbling brook, whole house renovation, or front steps. Jim could do anything he set his mind to and with the help of generous neighbors, friends and family he poured his heart and soul into making his visions a reality.

Jim enjoyed researching his family ancestry and reaching out to family across the country. He enjoyed Pitt basketball and golfing in his younger years. He had a love of writing "his stories" chronicling his memories throughout his lifetime. Just when we thought we knew everything about him, he would pen a new adventure or lesson learned and add it to his book.

Jim affectionately referred to and introduced Diane as "his bride". He fiercely loved his family and was most at home with his kids, grandkids, neighbors and friends gathered at "The Hays Compound." He was a familiar site, sitting in his porch swing and waving to neighbors and friends. He and Honey have created a warm welcoming environment built on love and friendship that has been a privilege to grow up in.

Friends and family can be received at **BEINHAUER FUNERAL HOME**, 2820 Washington Road, McMurray PA 15317, on Friday, November 29, from 2 P.M. to 8 P.M. Saturday Burial service will

begin at Beinbauer, at 11 A.M. and proceed to Queen of Heaven Cemetery for Graveside Service.

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