



James Ervin Vester

September 16, 1957 - January 13, 2025

James “Jim” E. Vester, 67, of Sparland, Ill., passed away Monday, Jan. 13, 2025, at home surrounded by his family.

Jim was born on Sept. 16, 1957, to Ervin and Dorothy Vester in Peoria, Ill. He married the love of his life, Teresa “Terry” Pocklington on Sept. 15, 1979. Everyone knew her by the nickname he endearingly gave her, “Runt” or “Little One”. She preceded him in death on Sept. 30, 2020.

Surviving are his children, Tabby (and Andrew) Dorsey of Sparland, Ill., Bob (and Kayla) Vester of Edelstein, Ill., Mike Vester, and Sarah (and Adam) Mobley of Virden, Ill.; 6 grandchildren, Caleb, Bella, Cade, Cam, Carter, Aiden and one on the way; and two sisters, Kathy Franklin of Bartonville, Ill., and Jeannie Foreman of Brownsboro, Texas.

Jim also leaves behind many who he considered his “adopted” children, grandchildren, brothers and sisters.

He was a silkscreen operator for the Illinois Department of Transportation for more than 25 years, until he retired. He was very proud of being one of the only silkscreen operators in the State of Illinois and creating the “Give ‘Em A

Brake, Slow Down” logo and sign used at construction sites around the state.

The term “would give you the shirt off his back” really summed him up. He would give or do anything for someone if he thought it would help them. When looking back at his life, he was always helping others in some shape or form. Jim was a very hard worker and incredibly resilient in everything he did. His strength persisted no matter the obstacle and even to the bitter end – stating, “I’m no quitter!”

He will be missed by so many, but we know he was made new with Christ and back with his one love, Runt.

Cremation will be accorded. Private family services will be held at a later date. Schmidt-Haller Burial and Cremation Services in Peoria will oversee arrangements.

Memorials may be made to the St. Jude Marshall County to Peoria Run.

Tribute Wall

PK

“ *A memorial for Jim Vester, to symbolize the legacy he leaves behind. May this tribute bring beauty and peace to those who see it.*

Portland Kocklers - January 24, 2025 at 10:56 AM

DG

“ *Truly a great man, father, husband and friend with a heart of gold, sadly missed, Pashion and David GAWORSKI 🐶❤️🙏*

David Gaworski - January 17, 2025 at 09:12 PM

AM

“ *Jim welcomed me into his family with open arms and without giving it a second thought. He was the me of the most genuine people I have ever met. I only knew him for a few years, but he impacted my life for the better. I'll sorely miss him, but I find peace knowing he is enjoying the reunion with his wife.*

Adam Mobley - January 15, 2025 at 01:44 PM