



Harry M. James

JAN 17, 2026



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FUNERAL & CREMATION CENTER

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Harry M. James

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H arry James Obituary

Harry M. James, 80, a resident of Elyria, passed away Saturday, January 17, 2026 at University Hospitals, Westlake. A graduate of the University of Akron, he taught junior high and high school math and science and coached in Lorain County and Huron County. Everywhere he went, Harry ran into former students who told him, "You wielded a mean paddle!" Because he cared about children and older adults, Harry volunteered for two decades as a Guardian-ad-Litem for Lorain County Voices for Children and a Long-Term-Care Ombudsman assigned to local nursing homes. Harry enjoyed bowling with the Murray Ridge Adult Leagues, dining out and ballroom-swing dancing. Under five feet tall, he could nevertheless guide the tallest woman to spin and dip like a pro! Harry treated all people with dignity and respect-his friends included professors, handymen, investment advisors and waiters.

Harry is survived by his sister, Patricia Wells of TX; a niece; 2 grandnieces; 2 grandnephews; his adopted family, Dave and Joy Vaughn of Amherst; his dancing buddy, John Cassee and his longtime companion, Rosemary Myers.

A Celebration of Life will be held in the spring.

To send flowers
to the family or plant a tree
in memory of Harry M. James, please visit our floral store.

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Tribute Wall

Harry M. James

AJ

A Memorial Tree Was Planted For Harry M. James posted:

A Memorial Tree was planted for Harry M. James We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ the staff at Dicken Funeral Home & Cremation Service Join in honoring their life - plant a memorial tree

April 22 at 8:55 AM

BW

Barbie (Ward) Washington posted:

I was a student of Mr. James' in the early 90's. He was a blast in class, even when we were a handful and our class almost always was. It's wonderful to read these memories of our math teacher. I never would have thought of him as a dancer, but I sure do hope that he's dancing in his cowboy boots in the sky. My condolences to all that loved him.

February 14 at 7:07 AM

JS

John Sutton posted:

Mr James had a significant impact on me as an athlete but more importantly as a person. My condolences to his family.

February 8 at 3:23 PM

TF

The Thompson Family posted:

Harry was more than a neighbor to me. He became my family. He grew to be like an "Uncle" to me, my kids and my grands. Be the star that you are, Harry. We'll see you again.

January 28 at 4:49 AM

DH

David Henderson posted:

Mr James was the 7th grade football coach. he helped me for preparing later in life when I joined the Marine Corps

January 27 at 6:50 PM

BF

Barb F posted:

Rose, so sorry for your loss. Harry was always so supportive and such a great addition to the Murder Mystery casts at the Metro Parks

January 26 at 6:05 AM



Tribute Wall

Harry M. James

LN

Linda Nagy posted:

So sorry Rose, to hear about Harry's passing away. He was very nice man and I enjoyed talking to him. He will be missed at the Blue Sky lunch group. With sympathy, Louie's sister, Linda Nagy.

January 25 at 12:48 PM

MS

Marianne Sommerfelt posted:

Harry was an extremely talented actor in many Carlisle reservation murder mysterie even if he ad libbed a lot! Ginger and I always laughed so much. He will be GREATLY missed.

January 25 at 8:03 AM

DC

Debbie Ciprus posted:

I have so many fun memories of Harry out on the dance floor bringing smiles to so many of his friends faces. He was such a little character who loved to tease and joke with everyone he met. I was one of those ladies who loved dancing with Harry. He taught me some of the disco and ballroom dance moves I never got to learn back in the 70's. He would often get the band's lead singer out on the dance floor for a special performance with him. We would all laugh and say, "only Harry". We all loved Harry and my heart is broken to know that I won't see him on the dance floor at Grindstone again but he will be there in our memories and spirit. Until we meet again my dear friend RIP. My deepest sympathy to Rose and Harry's family Debbie Ciprus

January 25 at 5:54 AM

JU

Joe And Rosanne Uveges posted:

We have a lot of great memories listening to music and dancing along with Harry and Rose. Harry had a very big heart and a great sense of humor. He will surely be missed and thought about for a lot of years. God bless you both, Harry and Rose!

January 24 at 3:22 PM

JV

Joy Vaughn posted:

Harry You Are Missed So Much We Love You You Are Such A Blessing To Our FamilyDavid Joy And FamilyJoy vaughn

January 24 at 8:10 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Harry by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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