



James R. Urbaniak

July 10, 1951 - April 16, 2022

James R. Urbaniak 1951-2022

James Robert Urbaniak, professional carpenter, accomplished musician, foodie, and lover of horticulture, died peacefully in his sleep on Saturday, April 16th. He was 70.

Known to most as Jimmy, he was born to the late Florian and Dolores (Rusin) in 1951. The eldest of five children, he is survived by his sons Randy and Jeremy; siblings Tom (Sherry), Larry (Toyia), Pat (Dave) Przywara, and Joe (Heidi Fischer); sister-in-law Kerri; nieces, nephews, and cousins from near and far; his family from the Third Warder's Social Club; and many friends, young and old, from every walk of life.

Jimmy was a professional carpenter and woodworker. He loved his craft and over the years received many accolades for his work. You would be hard pressed to visit the homes of his family and friends and not see his handy work and beautiful creations.

After retirement from his carpentry career, Jimmy found great joy in preparing gourmet meals for his friends. The same consideration and attention to detail from his woodworking days was channeled into his love of food. He became quite the chef; proof that anything done out of love always reigns.

If you couldn't find Jimmy in the kitchen, you'd find him at the Third Warder's sipping on "pops" and enjoying the company at his second home. His membership extended several decades, and he became a warm and inviting fixture for all who entered.

He was also a skilled musician, playing the electric bass for local band Fossil Rock and his new venture, Brooklyn Roads. A founding member of Fossil Rock, the band had an extensive following and entertained the masses for many years, acquiring a respectable number of groupies.

Some of Jimmy's favorite people included his life-long friends from high school, better known as the "69ers" (NTHS Class of '69). He forged relationships that lasted 60+ years and cherished every moment with every friend. His gang will forever treasure his devotion, compassion, and intelligence.

Most dear to Jimmy's heart was being a school Bus Aide for autistic kids. He was a patient and loving force in their lives and the lives of their families – attributes that came naturally to him. He raved about "his kids" constantly.... and to whomever would listen. They were his pride and joy, and he dedicated much of his love and energy to Autism awareness. He will be sorely missed for his warmth, humor, and constant optimism.

Jimmy's love of music, work, family, and friends was the essence of his life. He brought an unmatched light to this world and words cannot describe how deeply he will be missed by all those who knew and loved him. Even in death, Jimmy found a way to give more through his anatomical donation allowing education of future medical professionals.

Please join us to celebrate Jimmy's life on Sunday, April 24th from 1pm – 4pm at The Third Warder's Social Club, 147 12th Avenue in North Tonawanda. The family has requested that remembrances be made in the form of contributions to The Summit Center, 150 Stahl Road, Getzville NY 14068 or by visiting www.thesummitcenter.org/donate/

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

APR **24**. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

The Third Warder's Social Club
147 12th Avenue
North Tonawanda , NY 14120

Tribute Wall

AS

“ *My husband, Dan, was in Fossil Rock with Jimmy. Many good memories. Jimmy was such a friendly, nice guy.*

Amy Skidmore - June 05, 2022 at 04:42 PM

EG

“ *Rembering a fun-loving classmate at OLC. And a man who happily greeted you with an easy smile. Definitely gone too soon. With sympathy to his family Elaine Gawrys*

Elaine Gawrys - April 25, 2022 at 12:05 PM

NL

“ *About 36 years ago, Jimmy taught my girls how to play Scat. They lovingly called him FUJ (favorite uncle Jim), and still call him that to this day. In honor of him today, I will be teaching my grandson how to play scat and share stories about FUJ! He certainly was one of a kind and will be missed terribly. Gone too soon. God bless.*

Nancy Liebeck - April 24, 2022 at 11:59 AM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of James R. Urbaniak.*



April 24, 2022 at 02:17 AM

MM

“ went to grade school together Boy scouts together ! Served together in the Military! His mom used to drive me home many times after school at OLC!! A wonderful guy with a great sense of humor and a caring disposition!! he will missed ! God bless him and rest his Soul! Amen



martin mis - April 23, 2022 at 07:46 PM

ES

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Erik Sumi - April 23, 2022 at 05:25 PM

NK

“ Jimmy was the first person to greet me and welcome me into the Third Warders Club when I joined in 2004 . He sat down next to me and made me feel comfortable and talked to me before long we were friends . Jimmy had a heart of gold and will be missed many.

nicholas kolpack - April 22, 2022 at 05:10 PM

MK

“ Jim and I were the only "all seasons" bike riders at work. He surprised me once with bike lights for my bike. He was worried I'd get hit so early in the morning @ work.
LOL, when He got his electric bike, "Watch Out!"
He was a man on a mission.
I worked with him a few times on his bus, he was the hardest working attendant I ever met. Jim had a passion for the kids and his job. Always up and moving.
It was a honor to work with him.
He will be sorely missed.
Maureen P. Kissell

Maureen P. Kissell - April 21, 2022 at 06:24 PM

RB

“ Jimmy was a guardian angel to those kids on the bus. He endured quite a bit keeping the kids safe, and did so with a smile. He was arguably one of the kindest, friendliest, warmest human beings you could meet. I am thankful I saw him recently at the Club. I will cherish that memory each time I walk in from now on. God bless you, Jimmy! Ron B.

Ron B - April 21, 2022 at 08:19 AM