



## Harold James Atkinson

August 20, 1950 - November 17, 2015

Harold James Atkinson, known to all as Jim, 65, passed away at home on November 17, 2015, due to complications from Multiple Systems Atrophy. Jim was born in Detroit, Michigan on August 20, 1950. He was a proud graduate of University of Michigan with a degree in Economics and he received his MBA from Michigan State University. Jim worked for Ford Motor Company and later was employed by Michigan Blue Cross Blue Shield. Jim was a valiant warrior fighting a rare, degenerative neurologic disorder known as Multiple Systems Atrophy (MSA) for nearly 12 years. Jim is survived by his wife, Ruth Ann Atkinson; a son, David Baird Thomas and his fiancé Veronica; 3 sisters, Kathy, Mary, and Joyce; a brother Terry, and 3 stepdaughters and their families, Kari and Troy Nelson, Kristin and Brooks Gaston, Sara Urevig and Matt Gross, and 7 step grandchildren. Jim, always known for his generosity, dedicated the gift of his body to Science Care and his brain to Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida to support research toward the cause, treatment and cure for MSA. A memorial service will be held and announced at a later date at St. John Lutheran Church, Farmington, Michigan. The family is requesting memorial donations in lieu of flowers be sent to Brain Support Network. Charitable contributions can be made in memory of Jim Atkinson by check mailed to BSN, PO Box 7264, Menlo Park, CA 94026, or by credit card at [www.brainsupportnetwork.org](http://www.brainsupportnetwork.org). Brain Support Network is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.



# Tribute Wall



“ *Harold James Atkinson*

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