



James L. Owens

August 13, 1948 - January 4, 2026

James Owens passed away peacefully on Sunday, January 4, 2026, at the VA Hospital in Ann Arbor, surrounded by the love of his family. He was a husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, friend and veteran of the US Army whose presence brought comfort, laughter, and steady strength to all who knew him.

James affectionally known as Jim, shared 54 years of marriage with his wife, Gale. Together they built a family rooted in love, and lots of sports schedules. He leaves behind his three children: daughter Heather and her husband John, son Jamie and his wife Kelly, and youngest daughter Rachel.

He was a proud and deeply loving grandfather to Emmalee (Skyler), Natalie, Erin, Sam, Lily, Blake, Rachel (Gage), John Jr. (Crysta) and Rachel (Bryan) and a cherished great-grandfather to Axel, Jackson, Maverick, Johnny, Emerson, Ezra, and Nolan too, each of whom brought him immense joy.

Jimmy is also survived by his siblings: Midge (Melvin), Cubby (Jenny), Jackie and James Houston as well as many nieces and nephews who will forever remember his kindness, humor, and steady presence.

A simple man with a big heart, Jim loved fishing and spending time with family and friends. He savored the small routines that meant the most, especially his

morning breakfasts with his buddies, where stories were shared and friendships deepened over coffee. These moments, like Jim himself, were uncomplicated, genuine, and full of warmth.

Jim will be remembered for his unwavering love for his family, his quiet strength, and the way he made everyone feel welcome just by being himself. His legacy lives on in the many lives he touched and the family he loved so deeply. He will be dearly missed and forever loved.

A Celebration of Jim's life will be held on Saturday, February 28th from 12 noon until 4 PM with a time for Sharing of Memories at 4 PM at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 Ann Arbor Road West (Between Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth.

To share a memory, please use the share a memory tab on this webpage.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

FEB **28**. 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home Plymouth
46401 Ann Arbor Road West
Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 459-2250
plymouth@vermeulenh.com

Celebration of Life Service

FEB **28**. 4:00 PM (ET)

Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home Plymouth
46401 Ann Arbor Road West
Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 459-2250
plymouth@vermeulenh.com

Tribute Wall

MW

“ Matt, Kelly, Abbey and Brody Woloszyk purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of James L. Owens.



Matt, Kelly, Abbey and Brody Woloszyk - February 27 at 03:58 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of James L. Owens.



February 27 at 12:13 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of James L. Owens.

February 27 at 12:13 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of James L. Owens.



February 19 at 11:51 AM

NM

“ Hi Jim,
Today I became an American citizen and I thought of you alot! I know you were there with me in spirit! You wanted to be there when I told you about my interview... I know you are proud of me. I can tell you that I could not have done it without you! You “adopted” me in your family and supported me in my journey.. you always offered to help with anything you could think of, drove out 45min one way to bring me a bag for a trip... Your kind heart raised good children and you had a special way with your grandchildren! So many things coming to mind when thinking of you! You were a good man and will be greatly missed by many!! I want to thank you for all you have done for me! And to your family: I want to give you my deepest condolences and thank you as well for accepting me and sharing Jim with me!! You are in my thoughts!
Love,
Nico

Nicola Marcus - February 12 at 08:56 PM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of James L. Owens.



February 12 at 09:41 AM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of James L. Owens.*



January 12 at 07:38 AM



“ *One of my most dear memories is traveling to Tennessee with Jim, gale, and his granddaughter Emmalee. We had an amazing time there with all of their family and friends. He will be greatly missed!*

caitlyn kissandi - January 08 at 07:56 PM