



## James Richard Peoples

May 19, 1983 - November 24, 2020

On Tuesday, November 24, 2020, Jim was called Home at the young age of 37 while living in England. He was born in Dearborn, MI on May 19, 1983. Jim was the beloved son of Mark and Karen Peoples, loving brother of Laura (Andrew) Hopson and John (Megan) Peoples, dear uncle of Caleb Peoples and Ella Hopson and cherished grandson of Robert and Nancy James. He is also survived by many aunts, uncles and cousins. Jim was preceded in death by his grandparents Richard and Natalie Peoples.

Jim grew up in Canton with a zest for all life offered. He was born with a passion for music, possessing a God-given talent for the piano. He also played fife and was Commander in the Plymouth Fife and Drum Corps for many years. He played the trombone in the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band including the last year that they won the Bands of America Grand National Championships in 1999. He loved many types of puzzles from jigsaw and 3-dimensional puzzles to Rubik's Cubes and tavern puzzles. He was an avid reader, and his inquiring mind was always seeking to understand how things worked and learning about different aspects of the history of the world. Two of his favorite television shows were Good Eats and Myth Busters.

Jim was gifted with a towering build, which boded well during his time playing rugby while attending Western Michigan University. Despite his intimidating structure, he will always be known as our Gentle Giant, as he was blessed with the kindest of hearts.

Jim loved the client site-based work that he did for WorkForce Software. His

job led to travels all over the states initially and then to many countries including Finland, Israel, United Arab Emirates and Canada. He was based in England, living in Twickenham, just outside of London for the past 4-1/2 years. Jim loved to travel. He treated himself to a trip to Hawaii to celebrate his 30th birthday. His love of adventure led him to many additional countries such as Germany, Scotland, Spain, Italy, the Czech Republic, New Zealand and Australia, where he would hike, participate in 5K's, run inter-country mountain challenges, and absorb the culture. Jim's love of travel, adventure, and all life had to offer was eclipsed only by his love for his family—a family that will miss him dearly and treasure his memory and impact for generations to come. Visitation will be Friday, December 11th 5-9 PM at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 Ann Arbor Road West, (between Sheldon & Beck), Plymouth. Funeral Service Saturday, December 12th 11 AM at St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 North Sheldon Road, (at Warren) Canton, MI 48187. In lieu of flowers, heartfelt donations can be made to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Michigan Chapter, 21311 Civic Center Dr., Southfield, MI 48076-3900, as well as the American Lung Association, 1475 E 12 Mile road, Madison Heights, MI 48071. To share a memory, please use the Share a Memory on this web page.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 11. 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

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

## Funeral Service

DEC 12. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Michael Lutheran Church  
7000 N. Sheldon Road  
Canton, MI 48187

# Tribute Wall



“ *James Richard Peoples*

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ *Jim and I worked together at WorkForce Software. I didn't know Jim outside of work particularly well, but I knew he was a great guy. Kind, honest, sincere and dedicated. Jim and I shared a weekend climbing three mountains last year as part of the Three Peaks Challenge. Specifically Jim and I spent a night alone climbing Scafell Pike where at one point we contemplated taking a nap as we were both very tired. I always expected I'd be climbing mountains with Jim again in the future. I will never forget Jim, and I will share the stories I have of him with others - as they are special and important memories for me. My thoughts and condolences have been and remain with all of Jim's friends and family at this difficult time.*

**Rien** - December 17, 2020 at 05:58 AM



*Thank you for sharing your memories, Rien. Jim sent many pictures and texts during that trip. It sounded exhausting but very satisfying. At the time, he said never again but that was in the midst of it with the aching muscles. We will miss him greatly.*

**Karen Peoples** - December 18, 2020 at 11:35 AM



“ *I will never forget hanging out with Jim (and Mike and Chuck) during Tour 1997 my last year with PFDC. What fun times we had, I was so glad to know him. So sad to hear that a wonderful soul like Jim had his life on earth cut short. Prayers for the family!*

**Melissa J. Dyer** - December 13, 2020 at 04:20 PM

KP

*Thanks, Melissa. We have many happy memories of the Corps including your family. Your dad was the first one to come up and talk to us at the orientation.*

**Karen Peoples** - December 14, 2020 at 09:42 PM

NH

*“ I had the privilege of working with Jim for a few years at Workforce, everything was just ‘better’ when Jim was around, it was impossible to not be happy when he was involved. My thoughts and deepest condolences are with his family.*



**Norma Hogan** - December 12, 2020 at 10:06 AM

KP

*Thank you for the kind words and for the nice picture of Jim.*

**Karen Peoples** - December 13, 2020 at 12:30 AM

TE

*“ Jim, gentle giant Jim. You will be so sorely missed. Gone before your time. We had so many good memories together during the few years that I knew you and I’m thankful I got to know you like I did.*



**Tess** - December 12, 2020 at 09:22 AM

KP

*Thank you for sharing your memories. One of them looked like it could have been in Dubai?*

**Karen Peoples** - December 13, 2020 at 12:31 AM

TE

*Yes, it was. We got dressed up to go to a Dubai brunch (not like any brunch I'd ever seen at home!)*

**Tess** - December 13, 2020 at 06:55 AM

KP

*Aww, nice. He was quite impressed with Dubai.*

**Karen Peoples** - December 13, 2020 at 12:09 PM

AB

“*Devastated to hear about Jim. His infectious joy made him a wonderful person to know, and to work with. I have such fond memories of Jim doing the Three Peaks Challenge and would love to share this photo of happier times. With my upmost sympathies during this awful time.*

*Ash and Sarah.*

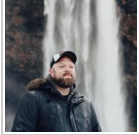


**Ashley Bickerstaff** - December 12, 2020 at 09:12 AM

KP

*Thank you for sharing. Jim was so excited about that that trip.*

**Karen Peoples** - December 13, 2020 at 12:33 AM



“ *Very sad to hear of Jim's passing. We climbed Ben Nevis and Snowdon together last year and that's how I'll remember him, walking back exhausted but still laughing along the seemingly endless Llanberis path.*



---

**Stu Johnson** - December 12, 2020 at 08:58 AM

KP

*Thank you so much for sharing you memories. It means a lot to all of us.*

---

**Karen Peoples** - December 13, 2020 at 01:50 AM



“ *Dear Mark, Karen and family. There's little that any words can really say. Your Jim was a solid and steadfast friend and trusted colleague. We shared many travels and experiences in our short 5 years, and I treasure them more than ever now. I only wish we could have continued that adventure.*

*Jim was loved by all he touched, and that remains the same now. Myself and the team here all miss him hugely.*

*Please accept my deepest and sincere condolences at this sad time. You are all in my thoughts and prayers every day, and I hope the happy memories he created with all of us will give you the courage and strength to stay strong.  
Much love Pearse, Beth and girls.*

---

**Pearse Farren** - December 11, 2020 at 02:06 PM

KP

*Thank you for your kind words and sharing your memories of Jim. It means so much to all of us.*

**Karen Peoples** - December 13, 2020 at 01:51 AM

CP

“ *Jim and I started at WorkForce virtually the same time. At WorkForce, Jim and I worked closely for almost two years on a large scale project on the west coast. I was amazed at his boldness for life and living in new cities to experience the local cultures. Jim surprised me with his love for music... he would find a local piano store while in Washington and would spend time on his days off (Saturdays) to just relax and play in the store. I remember touring the Mt Ranier peak with Jim and the group touring the Boeing aircraft manufacturing plant in Washington. We've had a "wonderful" time working together. Many laughs. Many conversations and beverages of choice. And he will be missed.*

*My thoughts and prayers are with Jim and his family.  
God Bless.*

*C Peck*

**C Peck** - December 11, 2020 at 11:03 AM

KP

*Thank you. Hearing of others' memories helps us so much.*

**Karen Peoples** - December 13, 2020 at 01:54 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of James Richard Peoples.*



December 10, 2020 at 04:09 PM

MA

“ *The world is a little dimmer and Heaven a little brighter.* ”



---

**Marcus Ako** - December 10, 2020 at 02:32 PM

KP

*Oh, my goodness, these pictures brought smiles to our faces. Thank you so much.*

---

**Karen Peoples** - December 13, 2020 at 01:57 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Richard Peoples.* ”



---

December 10, 2020 at 02:28 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of James Richard Peoples.* ”



---

December 10, 2020 at 10:54 AM

KN

“ *Mark and Karen, our hearts go out to you and your family. Sending our deepest condolences, hugs and prayers.*

*Karmen & Darren Nash*



**Karmen & Darren Nash** - December 10, 2020 at 10:14 AM

KP

*Thank you so much. We really appreciate it.*

**Karen Peoples** - December 13, 2020 at 01:58 AM



“ *Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Richard Peoples.*



December 10, 2020 at 08:58 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James Richard Peoples.*



December 09, 2020 at 09:23 PM

JW

“ Remembering you in kdg so long ago yet still  
great memories



---

**Judy Washburn** - December 09, 2020 at 08:12 PM