



James David Shinn

July 12, 1952 - April 7, 2016

Shinn, James David, April 7, 2016, age 63 of Plymouth. Survived by his loving friend and companion Annette. His brothers John (Donna), Tom (Sandy) and sister Martha. A truck, train and nature enthusiast who possessed an artistic eye and hand who touched and inspired all who met and knew him. Memorial Service Saturday 7 PM at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth, MI 48170. Memorial Visitation Saturday 1 – 7 PM. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Bed and Bread Club of The Salvation Army, Eastern Michigan Division, 16130 Northland Dr., Southfield, MI 48075 website: <https://donate.salvationarmyusa.org/easternmichigan/BedandBreadProgram> or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, P.O. Box 1000 Dept 142, Memphis, TN 38101-9908. To share a memory, please use the share a memory tab on the web page.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

APR **16**. 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

Memorial Service

APR **16**. 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home Plymouth
46401 Ann Arbor Road West
Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 459-2250
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Tribute Wall



“ James David Shinn

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ I just now heard of Jim's passing. I am so terribly sad about about this. Jim was such an incredible role model to all that knew him...especially me!!! I dove for Salem in the late 80's. I still remember many divers from other teams telling me how lucky I was to have such an amazing coach. He taught me to never give up, which I wanted to do so many times on that darn board! Even when I would smack the board, he would tell me I could do it. I used to get so angry with him that he believed in me when I didn't. I remember at one meet, I did a dive that we had worked on for such a long time...and a long time...and a long time...and Jim was so proud of me for finally throwing it. He gave me a 9 and, I was so happy for that. Happy that I made him proud!!!



Since graduating and moving on, I would look forward to bumping into Jim at music in the park and Art in the Park in Plymouth. I would get so excited to see him and share with him what was going on in my life...my wonderful husband and my 2 amazing girls.

I will miss looking for Jim in town. The shared waves, the smiles, the great friendship, the great conversations we used to have, the memories... Heaven has definitely received an amazing angel!!! I have been so fortunate to have met such an incredible man. Mr. Jim Shinn, you will be/are missed so dearly!!!

Tiffany Fisher Raubacher - July 13, 2016 at 08:27 PM

CA


I'm sorry for your loss T.T.! Sounds like an awesome man!

Cassandra - July 13, 2016 at 11:58 PM



He so was!!!

Tiffany Fisher Raubacher - July 16, 2016 at 10:10 PM

 Sheryl
Irving

“ *Sheryl Irving sent a virtual gift in memory of James David Shinn*



Sheryl Irving - April 16, 2016 at 02:30 PM

 Sheryl
Irving

“ *Sheryl Irving lit a candle in memory of James David Shinn*



Sheryl Irving - April 16, 2016 at 10:48 AM

TS

“ 7 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Tom Shinn - April 15, 2016 at 04:25 PM

TS

“ 4 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Tom Shinn - April 14, 2016 at 01:07 PM

TS

“ Jim, you will be missed.

You were an incredible man of character. While you accomplished much in life, it was your heart full of kindness that was appreciated most. You never offered an unkind word. Your patience was beyond compare. And, your inspiration struck a chord in the hearts of those who hungered for an example of hope.

Thank you Jim for your example of a positive outlook under the most trying of circumstances along with your grace, kindness, and most of all your faith and love for others. You touched the lives of many simply because they saw you smile when you said ‘howdy’ as you rolled on by.

It is awesome to know that you are now free of the chair – that’s gotta feel great! When I was younger, the chair seemed so heavy and limiting. As time passed, and your adventures expanded, that same chair became your ticket to greater levels of independence and adventurous wanderings which, of course, brought more worries for mom.

Until we meet again, we will all miss you, your yellow chair and those obnoxiously overly bright t-shirts rolling down the streets of Plymouth. Yes, you indeed, will be missed.

As for me, Cheers to my big brother Jim! The race is done. Enjoy eternity! May the Lord richly bless you for a job well done. In the meantime, I’ll think of you daily and remember the many lessons in life that you taught me. Mostly by quiet examples of courage and patience. Thank you for being a wonderful role model.

On another note, cheers too, to anyone who offered Jim a helping hand when needed over the years. You made a person’s life much easier with even the simplest acts of kindness. Thank-you to all.

Finally, and most importantly, our gratitude to our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are tremendously grateful for Jim's peaceful departure, ultimate destination and meeting you. Thank you for answering Jim's prayer, and ours too, for peace. Thank-you for mercy.

Jim, it is time now to wish you a very good night. I love you.

Tom Shinn - April 13, 2016 at 12:12 AM

KA

Tom, such a beautiful tribute! I am so very sorry to hear of Jim's passing. I knew your brother as a handsome, fun guy who was an amazing athlete. We even spent some time together visiting as inpatients at UM Hospital after both our accidents. What an inspiration he was! Obviously he grew into an incredible man who made a difference in so many people's lives. May God comfort your family in this time of loss.

Kathy King Radom PHS '71

Kathy - April 15, 2016 at 09:59 AM

TS

Thank you Kathy. Jim's day of memorial was amazing. So many people came and shared stories and memories of him. Personally I learned quite a bit more about Jim's mischievous side! I hope God gave a Jim a glimpse of the room full of people celebrating his life - Jim would have been pleased to see how much joyful interaction was taking place. Personally it was an overwhelming experience.

Kudos to Annette for an incredible job of organizing displays of photographs and Jim's drawings into a dozen of so themes that just drew you in deeper into knowing Jim more. Someone said yesterday that she is an Angel. Indeed she is. She took such good care of Jim.

Tom Shinn - April 17, 2016 at 07:59 AM



Hi Tom. My name is Tiffany, and Jim was my coach back in the 80's at Salem. He was such an amazing man, and I am so lucky to have met such a positive, strong person. I read about the drawings Annette displayed at his memorial. He used to send me Christmas cards that he drew and they were so incredible. I remember my mom and I visiting him one day at his home and he showed me pictures of him diving. I was so honored that he shared them with us. He told us not to many people have seen them, and I knew from that day on, he would hold a special place in our hearts. I wish that I found out about his passing earlier. I would have loved to have shared stories about him and what a great influence he was to many. I want to let you know that he is dearly missed, and will be forever. He's up in heaven now with my mom having a great time. We've got some pretty special guardian angels looking out for us. Take care!

Tiffany Fisher Raubacher - July 16, 2016 at 10:36 PM

KS

“ Annette, Steve and I send our deepest sympathies at this difficult time. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Karen Swenson Shircel

Karen Shircel - April 11, 2016 at 09:36 PM

JN

“ Thoughts and prayers from me and all my PHS 66 classmates to the Shinn Family. John, please know I am expressing my sincere condolences and am VERY sure you are being comforted by HIS great promise during this difficult time.

jerry norquist - April 11, 2016 at 04:54 PM

RL

“ My deepest sympathy to Jim's family. I went to Plymouth High School with Jim and as the photographer for the school paper, I had many occasion to photograph Jim at his diving competitions. He was a good guy and well liked. Several years ago, I traveled to Plymouth and was in front of the old high school when I saw Jim. We went through the halls of the old high school together and talked about his life since his accident. He was a courageous person. May he rest in peace! Rene Litalien (PHS 1970)

Rene Litalien - April 11, 2016 at 03:42 PM


TH

“ At this time I would like to send heart felt prayers to the family of jim, Both of us were PHS classmates, Jim was a person who always had that special smile. Now is the time for Jim to be with the good lord and most of all at peace.

Thomas Hirzel PHS class 71



thomas hirzel - April 11, 2016 at 12:32 PM

 Sheryl
Irving

“ My sincerest condolences for Jim's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Jim was very special to me and my family for as long as I can remember. Praise the heavens above for his healing. To be free from the binds that tied him, here on earth. He was an inspiration to all, conquering his circumstance and overcoming it. May he walk the fields of flowers in peace.

Sheryl Irving - April 11, 2016 at 10:59 AM

DD

“ I just heard the news and am deeply saddened. Jim was my diving coach and mentor for my high school years. His calm strength, peacefulness of spirit, sarcastic humor and positive humility had tremendous influence on my life. I always had the intention of getting in touch with him to convey this to him personally but regretfully, life always got in the way. I know his spirit lives on in all whom he touched and my condolences to those who had the honor to spend time with this amazing soul. Jim THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU! Your courage and lust for life despite circumstance deserves recognition.

Dr. Otto Geiseman IV DC, CSCS

Dr. Otto Geiseman IV DC - April 11, 2016 at 09:13 AM

CM

“ How sad I was to learn of Jim's passing. He was my neighbor and diving coach for 4+ years. Diving was an important part of my high school experience- I had found my tribe. I spent the summers working in the pools, with him coaching me throughout. He would often give me rides home, to and from meets. I even chose the college I went to, in order to dive. Needless to say, he had a positive influence on my path. He also had a great sense of humour. I am very grateful to have known him. My deepest sympathy to his family and loved ones. He will be remembered. - Cindy McSurely, Plymouth Salem Diver Class of '83

Cindy McSurely - April 10, 2016 at 08:34 PM

LS

“ *Lisa And Steve lit a candle in memory of James David Shinn*



Lisa and Steve - April 10, 2016 at 06:30 PM

LS

Tom and Family...Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.

Lisa and Steve - April 10, 2016 at 06:32 PM

KG

“ *My condolences to the Shinn family, I knew Jim when he was a little kid, his family lived on Ann street a block down from where I live, his dad was my insurance salesman. Jim's tragedy happen at an early age, he picked himself up and got on with his life, I worked with Jim at Salem High School, I don't have the proper words in my vocabulary to describe my feelings for Jim, he was a wonderful person and did a marvelous job with the high school students. Jim Shinn is a real hero in my book, it was my honor to be your friend Jim. Rest in peace my friend. Ken Garner*

Ken Garner - April 10, 2016 at 05:38 PM

SO

“ Jim and I were friends many years ago. We were news boys .We hung out together,we bicycled together we camped out in the back yard and went to high school pool.jim was a70 and I was a 72. So when high school came we both started going different directions but always said hello and .most of the time took alittle time to talk.I left Michigan in the early 70's the last time we talked was mid 80's and was it great to see him and talk one last time.I am saddened by his passing .I will remember him always I will cherish the thought of him as one of the bravest people I'll ever know.

steve orr - April 10, 2016 at 04:59 PM

CL

“ Annette, my deepest condolences for your loss. May the Peace of God be with you now and always.
Carolyn Liebau

Carolyn Liebau - April 10, 2016 at 03:46 PM

DA

“ Was in the same grade as Jim and went off to school with him. Nice guy always. My grandparents lived on Ann Street so I would see him often through the years. He will be missed

Dave Aluia - April 10, 2016 at 03:17 PM

CB


“ Annette and the Shinn family - thinking of you all and remembering fondly Jim and all of the wonderful accomplishments and young people he touched and mentored throughout the years. Rest in peace Jim and know you are loved and will be missed! Carole Overholt Brooks

carole brooks - April 10, 2016 at 03:04 PM

JD

“ *Strong man. Great person and mentor to so many. Rest in peace Jim. You will be missed. Thoughts and prayers to the family.*

Jim Davison - April 10, 2016 at 09:24 AM

 Tanya
Aylsworth
Kempf

“ *This is so sad. Jim was such a kind man and a funny dude. He would push me to do things that I didn't know I could do. Like a back flip off the side of a pool - NOT the diving board. Whenever I did a really great dive, he would say "The cow jumped over the moon" - lol. Some days when I was being a difficult teenager, I think he may have called me out of my flips a little early...perhaps on purpose? I guess only he knows. But he would get those smirks on his face that made me think - oh yes... totally on purpose. Then I would yell "Jim! One of these days I'm going to roll you in the pool and call you Bob!" Yes, I knew how to give it back. He was a funny guy. One time after spending a good hour on my hair for our team pictures, I did my individual picture - forgot about the group picture... and Jim told me to go ahead and jump in the pool. Now when ever you look at our group pictures, I'm the only one with wet hair. Oh yes, Jim totally enjoyed that one too. He was a great mentor. He taught me kindness - to give people a chance... even when others didn't. He taught me not to take myself so serious. And even though I wasn't the best diver, he never gave up on me. He will be greatly missed but I know he lives on in my memories and so many others.- Tanya Aylsworth Kempf Plymouth Salem Diver Class of 92'*

Tanya Aylsworth Kempf - April 09, 2016 at 06:59 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of James David Shinn.*



April 09, 2016 at 10:27 AM



“ *My sympathy to the Shinn family. Jim was a good friend and mentor to many and will be missed for sure. Thanks Jim for all you have done.*

Joe Rudelic - April 09, 2016 at 07:56 AM



“ *My condolences to the Shinn family, may the reassuring words of Isaiah 33:24, which speak of a time when there will be no sickness, bring comfort to the family at this time of sorrow, Psalm, 83:18.*

Wilbert Adams - April 09, 2016 at 03:40 AM



“ *Jim gave selflessly and inspired young athletes for decades. He will be missed by so many. God Bless and thank you, Jim.*

The Pavloff family.

Vickie Pavloff - April 08, 2016 at 08:38 PM