



James Huggins

JAN 22, 1932 - JUL 29, 2019



Scan to Visit

Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Events	Page 4
Tribute Wall	Page 5



James Huggins

JAN 22, 1932 - JUL 29, 2019

Local Spring Lake High School Legend Mr. James Huggins, age 87, of Spring Lake passed away Monday, July 29, 2019 at home. He was born January 22, 1932 in Mt. Pleasant to Myron and Mary (Drew) Huggins. He was blessed to have two loves of his life: his first wife, N. Jeanne (Pew) Huggins who passed away on October 31, 2003; and his second wife who he married in 2008, Karen Dean. Karen survives him along with his seven children: Michael (Pam) Huggins of Kalamazoo, Steven (Deborah) Huggins of Spring Lake, Jamie (Nicole) Huggins of Boston, Deborah Wakerley of Grand Haven, Mike Walling of Spring Lake, Carrie (Dean) Miller of Hastings and Christopher Dean of Muskegon; Nine grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren and his adopted dog, Candy.

James was an active member of St. John's Episcopal Church and attended Nortonville Gospel Chapel. He enjoyed all sports, but especially the Olympics, Lions, Tigers, and U of M. He also enjoyed golfing, gameshows, and spending time with his family. James retired from Spring Lake High School where he worked for 20 years as a teacher, counselor, and principal before retiring as an Assistant Superintendent. He proudly served his country in the US Marines during the Korean War and was a member of the Charles A. Conklin American Legion Post 28. He was a beloved person in the community and will be missed by so many whose lives he made such an impression on.

Memorial service will be 1:00 PM Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at St. John's Episcopal Church with Rev. Dr. Jared C. Cramer and Pastor Joe O'Neill officiating. Visitation will be 6-8 PM Monday, August 5, 2019 at St. John's Episcopal Church (524 Washington Ave). In lieu of flowers memorial contributions in memory of James may be given to Love in Action or Charles A. Conklin American Legion Post 28. Please bring a baseball cap with you to the funeral for a very special send off. Please sign the family's online guestbook at www.sytsemafh.com.



Events

James Huggins

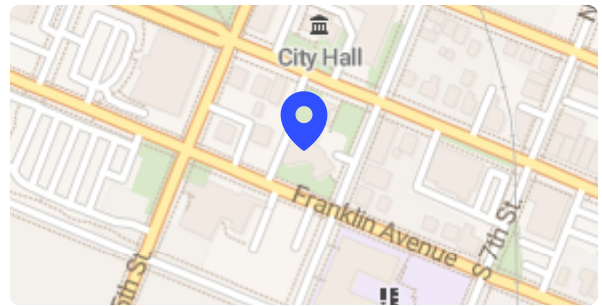
JAN 22, 1932 - JUL 29, 2019

Visitation

 **Monday**, August 5, 2019

 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET


 **St. John's Episcopal Church**
524 Washington Ave., Grand Haven MI 49417

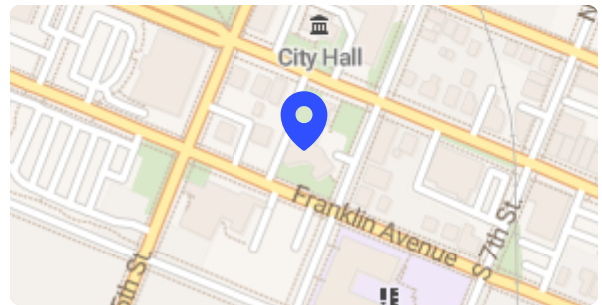


Memorial Service

 **Tuesday**, August 6, 2019

 1:00 PM ET

 **St. John's Episcopal Church**
524 Washington Ave., Grand Haven MI 49417





Tribute Wall

James Huggins

JAN 22, 1932 - JUL 29, 2019



Victoria Reis posted:

Mr. Huggins was one of the finest men I had the pleasure of working with. He hired me to teach night school at Spring Lake HS where he served as the night school principal. He was caring, thoughtful and most of all, wanted adults who had dropped out of school to have an opportunity to get their high school degree . One snowy evening when my car was stuck in snow, he helped me get the darn thing going. Over the years, I have shared his dedication to students, bringing out the best in them. I am grateful for having known him. Rest in Peace, Jim. vicki reis

August 7 at 10:22 AM



Brian Sabo posted:

A great man and genuine person who always made me feel special. He was part of an exceptional group of educators who inspired me to enter that field. Thanks Mr. Huggins.

August 6 at 12:23 PM



Paula DeConing lit a candle in honor of James.



August 5 at 6:31 AM



Paula DeConing August 5 at 6:41 AM

My deepest condolences to the family. Paula DeConing, Framingham, Mass.



Laurie Draeger posted:

Jim Huggins was an all-around great guy. He cared about each and every student he ever had as part of Spring Lake Schools. Always set high expectations for all of us - a real compliment that he thought we, his students, could all amount to something special - no matter what that "special" might be. The world could use more exceptional, decent people just like him. Many hugs to the entire Huggins family. Laurie Rycenga Draeger

August 4 at 4:00 PM



Tribute Wall

James Huggins

JAN 22, 1932 - JUL 29, 2019



Jodie Muskovin posted:

So proud of your devotion and endless support to your husband through difficult health issues which he endured with courage. Your presence at his side all the way was a great comfort to him. His hero !! Know he will be missed by all who knew him . So sorry for your loss. Prayers & Hugs. We love you Karen !! Sincere Sympathy, Rich & Jodie Muskovin

August 4 at 11:50 AM



Phil Sielski lit a candle in honor of James.



August 2 at 3:44 AM

Phil Sielski August 2 at 3:51 AM

He could be tough when toughness was called for; but, he had a heart to recognize when it wasn't necessary, when kindness and compassion were the right thing to do. It was always a pleasant encounter to bump into him in the community and catch up with him on how things were going. My thoughts and condolences to his family.



Karyn Merchant White posted:

"Move along people"...a familiar phrase in the halls of SLHS in those early years. Thank you for instilling your values of honesty, integrity and citizenship throughout your career at Spring Lake. We'll always remember you fondly! ❤️

August 1 at 4:33 AM



Mary Hendershott lit a candle in honor of James.

He was the best principal in high school. One day in gym class the teacher notice I was hiding marks on me. She kept me after class and Mr. Huggis came to talk to me. I begged him not to call my mom. He understood and kept my secret. Many years later I ran into him and was surprise he remember who I was



July 31 at 7:12 PM

Mary Hendershott July 31 at 7:17 PM
Huggins. Sorry for the misspelling.



Tribute Wall

James Huggins

JAN 22, 1932 - JUL 29, 2019



Jodie Muskovin lit a candle in honor of James.

July 31 at 7:00 PM



Sandy Morritt lit a candle in honor of James.

July 31 at 6:09 PM



Sandy Morritt July 31 at 6:11 PM

A true Laker! Grateful to have known him and his Family....RIP Mr. Huggins...



Victoria (Vicky) Gardner lit a candle in honor of James.

Always Wonderful Memories of a Wonderful LAKER Man ! Prayers 🙏..Hugs. ..and The Best of Memories to the Huggins Family. ..Much Love 💜💜💜😭

July 31 at 5:20 PM



Debra Hallada lit a candle in honor of James.

What a great guy .Always had a smile on his face when I saw him.The Huggins kids were very lucky to have him for so long.God Speed Mr Huggins,I am sure Jean was there waiting for . Deb Buitenwert Hallada

July 31 at 4:23 PM



Shanna M Briggs lit a candle in honor of James.

July 31 at 4:16 PM





Tribute Wall

James Huggins

JAN 22, 1932 - JUL 29, 2019

KR

Kathryn Riggs posted:

Mr. Huggins, What an awesome principle we had and how fortunate we were to have him. He patrolled the hallways always picking a scrap or 2 if he came accrossed it. Knew every student. Tons of school spirit. You could not pull one over on him for sure. We were so lucky to have this fine example to follow. My most sincere condolences to his family

July 31 at 3:25 PM

DE

Doris And Fred Erhorn posted:

What a guy! Years ago when he was in charge of Spring Lake School closing in the winter, he always checked our road (124th) Jim knew that we were up at 5AM, as that way the milking schudle. I believe he was stuck in a snowbank and walked over to the arn. School was closed, and he came in for coffee.

July 31 at 1:53 PM

JB

John Bryson posted:

Mr. Huggins..great guy...beloved by many...fine principal. We share your sorrow. Claire and JGB...with love!

July 31 at 12:25 PM

KC

Kelly (Wittevrongel) Chapman posted:

In memory of a true icon of Spring Lake Schools and beyond. May God rest him. To Steve, Jamie, and all of the family, sending my deepest sympathy and praying God's comfort and presence to be especially near at this time.

July 31 at 11:16 AM

RG

Rebecca (Rescorla) Glockzin lit a candle in honor of James.



July 31 at 11:03 AM



Tribute Wall

James Huggins

JAN 22, 1932 - JUL 29, 2019



Deb Behm lit a candle in honor of James.



July 31 at 10:56 AM



Joan Goodney posted:

So sad to hear of the passing of my buddy, Jim. Jim and I worked together at the OAISD doing pupil accounting for the schools. Jim was a special man and a good friend. He will be missed. Go Lakers!!Joan Goodney

July 31 at 10:06 AM



Melanie Swiftney posted:

I'm so sad to hear of Jim's passing. Our hearts are with the family.Melanie & Jeremy Swiftney

July 31 at 9:36 AM



Dayv Pope posted:

I will always remember him standing just outside the office during class change with his arms crossed in his special way. I never had a run-in with him, but I suppose I should have many times. I remember one time where he substituted a class until the teacher came in. Was a scary time and we didn't know what to expect. He was funny though. The world has lost as good man and now is heaven's gain. RIP, Mr Huggins

July 31 at 9:26 AM



Peggy Botbyl Bewley July 31 at 1:12 PM

He once told me that if he knew of a college that gave degrees in extra curricular activities I would be a shoe in! He will be missed! Friend, neighbor, all around nice guy. Sending love and hugs to all the family. I will see you on Monday and Tuesday! RIP Jim!



Lore Banks lit a candle in honor of James.



July 31 at 9:20 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring James by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



Scan to Visit