



# James M. Schaap

SEP 2, 1952 - DEC 21, 2022



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## **James M. Schaap**

SEP 2, 1952 - DEC 21, 2022

**J**ames Michael Schaap “Jim” went home to Jesus on December 21, 2022 at the age of 70. Jim, known to many as “Bubba” was larger than life! He was well known for his kind heart, generosity, warm smile, and sense of humor. Jim was born to Richard and Eleanor (Mervenne) Schaap on September 2, 1952 in Muskegon, MI. Jim grew up in Spring Lake, MI where he excelled in football and wrestling at Spring Lake High School. He went on to play football at Grand Rapids Community College and Grand Valley State College (University) where he obtained his teaching degree. He is a member of the Athletic Hall of Fame at both Spring Lake and Grand Valley. Jim met his wife of 48 years, Carole (Coleman) and married in August of 1974. The couple raised two daughters Brooke and Lauren in Grand Rapids, MI before returning to Spring Lake. Jim started his career as a teacher and coach and then became a sales representative for 30 years with Jostens where he impacted many students from the West Michigan area. After retirement, Jim’s favorite hobby was following his 4 grandchildren and watching all of their sports. He has been an avid supporter of Grand Valley State Football where he donated countless hours to the program. He was preceded in death by his father Richard, mother Eleanor, sister Jennifer Correll, father-in-law and mother-in-law James and Joan Coleman. He will be lovingly remembered by his wife Carole; children: Brooke and Aaron Hein, Lauren and Nic Tarzwell; grandchildren Carson and Peyton Hein, Coleman and Briggs Tarzwell; brother: Steve (Leslie) Schaap as well as many other family members, teammates, and friends he left behind. A Funeral Service will be held 2:00PM, Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at The Lee Chapel of Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services, 6291 S. Harvey St., Norton Shores, MI 49444. Visitation will be two hours prior to the service, from 12:00 – 2:00PM. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Jim’s memory may be made to [Grand Valley State University Football](#). Please feel free to share memories with the family at <http://www.sytsemafh.com>.



# Events

**James M. Schaap**  
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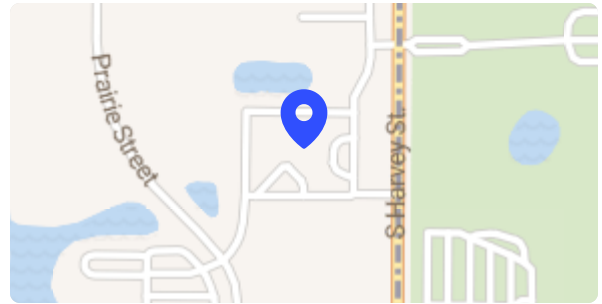
## Visitation

**Tuesday**, January 3, 2023

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM ET

**Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services - The Lee Chapel**

6291 Harvey St., Norton Shores MI 49444



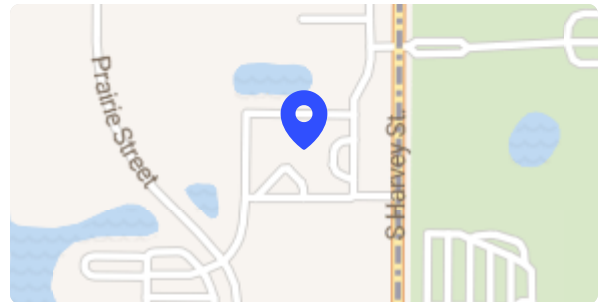
## Funeral Service

**Tuesday**, January 3, 2023

2:00 PM ET

**Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services - The Lee Chapel**

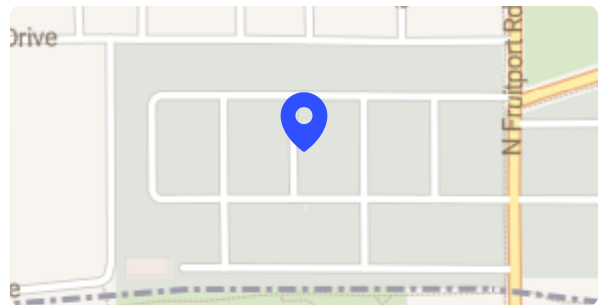
6291 Harvey St., Norton Shores MI 49444



## Cemetery Details

**Spring Lake Cemetery**

17181 North Fruitport Road, Spring Lake MI 49456





# Tribute Wall

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**Kirk Smoes** posted:

Our sincere condolences to the Schaap family. When possible, Jim always took time for a quick chat with us. May God grant you peace.The GV Chain CrewRomans 8:18

January 6 at 4:53 PM



**Mike Mervenne** posted:

Jim. You will be missed. My fondest memory was coming to your spring lake house when I was little. You always gave me attention....and .....let me play with all your Army trucks. I was up stairs for hours.Also what I remember about Jim was no matter how bad a situation looked, Jim would have this grin on his face and shrug his shoulders....the proceed to tell you, "we'll figure it out ". Things just seemed to be OK.I will see you again and we will talk sportsMike Mervenne

January 3 at 6:43 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Schaap family.



January 2 at 10:50 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant to the Schaap family.

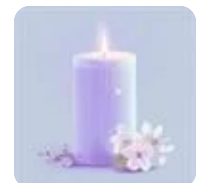


January 1 at 7:36 AM



**Dean Nash** lit a candle in honor of James.

My sympathy to the Schaap family.



December 28 at 5:17 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Schaap family.



December 27 at 8:56 AM



# Tribute Wall

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**Dick Williams** posted:

Dear Carole, Brooke, Lauren and Family, Linda and I want to express our heartfelt sympathy for the loss of your INCREDIBLE husband and father. I never had the opportunity to play on the oline with him, but I got the opportunity to be coached by him at GV. Olinemen are the barometer of football teams and families. They do all the little things that nobody else sees so that the team family can have success. Jim was the definition of a true oline man in how he blocked for his team and family and others so that they could have success. In 1980, I had the great privilege of starting the GV Football Alumni Club with Jim and Coach Hark. That is when I really got to know Jim. This association will now live on because of Jim planting the seeds that he planted just like the seeds of his daughters and grandchildren. Together his children/grandchildren and GV Football Alumni will be his legacy. A few years back Jim and I had a great conversation at a GV tailgate about the three F's that have guided us both through our entire lives. FAITH, FAMILY and FOOTBALL 🌞👊🏈. I put these 3 symbols in all my FB posts and text messages. The sun signifies faith, the arm the strength of family and football the greatest team game. In order of importance FAITH being first. Faith is now what you must embrace in the knowledge that your husband and father is in heaven. He is home in the endzone now. God bless you all and know that your family will remain in our prayers. Dick and Linda Williams

December 27 at 6:40 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful Dreams to the Schaap family.



December 27 at 5:35 AM



**Jeff Hollandsworth** posted:

My father knew Jim well through working with him at Jostens, and the few times I got to meet him he was so incredibly kind and funny to be around. As a Ferris State football Alum, he always made sure to playfully tell me in our conversations that I chose the wrong school. Working with Jostens now myself I see how loved he was by all. He will be greatly missed. My condolences to the whole family.

December 26 at 10:22 AM



**Kelly Klecka Winters** posted:

I am so sorry for your loss. While I didn't know Jim well, my mom - Donna Klecka - thought very highly of Jim and I heard about him over the years through her. Sending peace and prayers.

December 26 at 9:36 AM



## Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Schaap family.

December 25 at 1:04 PM



**Steve Brems** posted:

Carole, thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family. Jim was bigger than life and will be greatly missed by so many of his friends and teammates. I pray for comfort for you and your family. Steve Brems

December 24 at 7:32 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Schaap family.

December 23 at 5:21 PM



**Jeffery Vollmer** posted:

Carol and girls the Vollmers grew up with Jim we celebrated our birthday together and my Mom and Dad took him in after his mother had passed. We did alot of crazy things together. My wife Paula and I will pray for all of u.

December 23 at 2:11 PM



**Rich Petro** posted:

Thinking of you. Wishing you comfort and peace during this difficult time. - The Petro Family

December 23 at 10:52 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Schaap family.

December 23 at 8:41 AM





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**Mara Goetzinger** posted:

Thinking of you Carole, Brooke and Lauren & families. I have good memories from Grand Rapids Junior College days ... Peace and hugs, Mara Goetzinger

December 23 at 8:11 AM



**Donna J Wesenick** December 23 at 3:01 PM

Hi Lauren, so very sorry for your loss. This is never an easy journey and so very young. Prayers that God will bless you and your family with wonderful memories and the reassurance that you will see him again some day! Sincerely, Donna Wesenick (BDC)



**Tom Cleary** December 23 at 2:17 PM

Watching and working at games at Lubbers Stadium won't be the same without Jim. His presence there right up until the end of this season was a link between the program's origins and where it is now--a power built on the shoulders and support of one of Grand Valley's gentlest giants. Safe travels, friend, as you move on to your next Hall of Fame. Tom Cleary Grand Rapids



# Memories only last if you share them

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



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