



James Robert "Jim" Jones Jr.

August 19, 1946 - June 10, 2023

Jim Jones was born August 19, 1946, in Miami Beach, Florida. He grew to be very tall, very funny, frequently sarcastic, and utterly devoted to his family and friends. He may have also been a bit impetuous, since he decided less than an hour after meeting his wife of 48 years that he was “going to marry this girl.”

While a student at Florida State University, Jim joined the school’s Flying High Circus. He entertained audiences as a clown on a unicycle and performed the balancing ladder act, a dangerous stunt on the high wire, without a net. After graduating from FSU in 1968, he accepted a position as an officer candidate in the U.S. Navy. Because of Jim’s exceptional aptitude, he eventually commanded a VQ2 air crew that flew unarmed reconnaissance missions. His VQ2 unit launched from aircraft carriers out of Rota, Spain, collecting intelligence from the Mediterranean to the Arctic Circle. Jim took great pride in his military service and 40 years later, when asked about it, he would simply say that he couldn’t discuss it; his missions were classified.

Jim’s friends and family describe him as one of the smartest men they knew. One friend said, “I’m pretty confident Jim ate encyclopedias when he was growing up.” Jim was a voracious historian, an accomplished musician, an avid gardener, and a dauntless traveler who explored the Amazon and rafted through the Grand Canyon. He loved the nature of North Florida. Jim spent many happy hours driving his Jeep through the forests and paddling the rivers, sinkholes, and swamps from Perry to Pensacola. What he most

treasured, though, was the beautiful home he built with his wife. At the end of the day, his favorite things were her company, his backyard view, and a good scotch.

Jim died on June 10, 2023, following surgery at Shands Hospital in Gainesville. He is survived by his wife, Lyn, and his brother, Laurence Michael Jones (Priscilla) of Marble Falls, Texas. He will be missed by many.

Tribute Wall

KM

“ 1 file added to the album James Robert " Jim " Jones Jr.



Ken Marlow - June 21, 2023 at 05:13 PM

BB

“ Jim was a wonderful person, musician and co-worker.
Our trip Alaska made so many memories.



Beth Butcher - June 21, 2023 at 02:39 PM

DC

“ Jim was an incredible guitarist....I loved to listen to him play, especially his own compositions. He was my husband's best buddy and they had many adventures together. Jim's sense of humor and mine clicked and we had many a good laugh over silly things, especially when we were teasing my husband!

Debra Corkhill - June 19, 2023 at 07:38 PM