



James Bernard Schafer

April 28, 1948 - October 25, 2024

James "Jim" Schafer, 76, a beloved farmer from Princeton, IL, passed away on Friday, October 25, 2024. Born in Princeton, IL, on April 28, 1948, to the late Bernard and Shirley Schafer. James was a man of the land, with deep roots in agriculture and entrepreneurship.

With a Bachelor's Degree in hand, James cultivated not just crops but relationships, sowing seeds and making friends wherever he went. He married his love Mary Ellen Trimble in Monticello, IL on October 20, 1972. His dedication to his work was only eclipsed by his love for his family - his children Jacqueline, Jill, Jarrod and Jason and his devoted spouse, Mary.

Jim's presence in the farming community will be sorely missed, as will his stories of tall tales which always made for interesting conversation. His legacy of hard work, which he passed down to his children, will live on for generations to come.

He enjoyed fine dining, he was quite the foodie, especially prime rib, when it came down to it. He also loved Corvettes; he could spot one on the road from miles away. He enjoyed boating as well as native American history. He was quite the entrepreneur and enjoyed helping people with ideas and getting things started.

Surviving Jim, his wife of 52 plus years, Mary Schafer of Princeton, IL; four children Jacqueline Waterfield of Chillicothe, IL, Jill (Brett) McCrory of Aledo, IL, Jarrod (Julie) Schafer of Marshalltown, IL and Jason Schafer of Galesburg, IL; six grandchildren, Grant, Gregory, Madelyn, Kaitlyn, Jocelyn and Elsa; two sisters, Catherine (Lauren) Cavanaugh of IN and Deborah Yockel of TX.

Preceded in death by his parents Bernard and Shirley Schafer.

In honor of James Bernard Schafer, funeral services and ceremonies will be held to celebrate his life and the impact he had on those around him.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Friday, November 1, 2024 at Norberg Memorial Home, Inc. & Monuments from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be directed to the family.

Online condolences may be directed to www.norberfh.com

Arrangements by Norberg Memorial Home, Inc. & Monuments.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

NOV 1. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Norberg Memorial Home, Inc.
701 E. Thompson Street
Princeton, IL 61356

Tribute Wall

JB

“ Jennifer, Terra, & Beth planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Bernard Schafer.

Jennifer, Terra, & Beth - October 29, 2024 at 02:29 PM

JB

“ Jennifer, Terra, & Beth purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of James Bernard Schafer.



Jennifer, Terra, & Beth - October 29, 2024 at 02:29 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Bernard Schafer.



October 29, 2024 at 10:55 AM

MS

“ I remember my husband's absolute zest for Life. He was always such a positive man with a smile on his face. He loved good food and fun times with family and close friends, of which he had many. He will be greatly missed.
From: Mary, his wife

Mary Schafeer - October 29, 2024 at 08:52 AM

CG

I spent several summer days out at the Schafer farm during my junior and senior years of high school bailing hay, emptying corn cribs etc. Jim and I also spent 2 summers harvesting peas for Del Monte in the summers to pay for college at ISU where we roomed together for two years our freshman and sophomore years. We also spent lots of time at our Methodist Church going to vacation bible school, going to MYF and taking the offering every Sunday for many years. Lots of good memories. Rest In Peace Jim.

Cal B. Gramer - October 29, 2024 at 10:27 AM

LT

Mary, we are so sorry to hear about Jim. So thankful that we got to know you both so many years ago when Jim volunteered to help the boys in track 😊. We have so many good memories. You are in our thoughts and prayers!

Lisa Turner - October 29, 2024 at 11:48 AM

KP

I am so sorry to hear of Jim's passing. I have so many fond memories of special times & adventures our families shared with one another over the years. We sure created a lot of wonderful memories. Please know that you are all in my thoughts and prayers. Sending you all much Love & a big Hug!!❤️

kimberly Phillips - October 29, 2024 at 08:57 PM

DH

Mary, we remember playing pinochle with you and Jim many years ago. Always a good time. Our sympathy to you and your family.

Don & Darlene Husser

Darlene Husser - October 30, 2024 at 03:29 PM

OF

From all at the Galesburg Rescue Mission and Women's Shelter including the Board of Directors, Staff, employees, and volunteers; we extend our deepest sympathy and care to our dear friend Jason and his family upon the passing of his Father. With love and prayers to the family of Mr. James B. Schafer.

Office - October 31, 2024 at 10:07 AM

AO

He was such a good man! We will sure miss him. Saying a final goodbye tonight was hard. He meant so much to us, especially to Jeremy. Go in Peace Jim. Love you Mary. We are here always. ❤️

Angie Owens - November 01, 2024 at 10:32 PM