



## Mr. James L. Palmateer

July 23, 1949 - February 28, 2018

James L “Sam” Palmateer, Jr

Jimmy Palmateer, lifelong resident of his beloved Athens, joined his parents and friends in heaven on Feb 28, 2018 at Greene Meadows Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Catskill. The only son and youngest child of Jim Palmateer, Sr and Kathryn Mickle, he was born on July 23, 1949 in Catskill. He married Sharon Smith, of Coxsackie, on Feb 26, 1972 at the United Methodist Church in Coxsackie.

Jim was interested in many things. He graduated from Coxsackie-Athens Central in 1967 and made his parents proud when he graduated from Paul Smith’s College in 1970. He worked as a Civil Engineer for NYS Department of Transportation for more than 33 years. When he and Sharon settled in Athens, he followed family tradition and joined the W. H. Morton Fire Company to protect his community. He and his dad were founding members of the Athens Paddock Club which started in the Athens Hotel in 1976. In 1981, his Uncle “Ding” asked him to run for elected office as Athens Trustee, which he did and served for two years and again after he left the Legislature. In 1983, he was asked to run for the County Legislator seat vacated by “Uncle” Albert Salvino. Once again, his Athens community elected him as their representative and he served proudly for more than 15 years. Closer to home, he was Past President of the Athens Little League, served on the board for

the Athens' Senior Citizen Housing during the construction of Unit Two, and as a member of many hunting organizations. In 2000, he shared his son, Ian's interest in Civil War reenactment. He loved his extended family and enjoyed partying and traveling with them. The person closest in proximity to him at any given moment was always his "favorite".

He leaves his wife, Sharon of 46 years, his proudest accomplishments - his sons, Matthew and Ian and their wives, Michelle and Starlyn. and his eight grandchildren - Quincy "his eldest", Reiah "Flower", Romy "Butterfly", Aurora "Sweetikins", Fox, Brayden, Logan and Seamus. Jim is also survived by his oldest sister, Sharon Van Nostrand and his sister, Nancy and her husband, Larry Hausheer, as well as Sharon's brothers, Richard (Janet), Tyler (Jordan), Clarence "Chuck" (Kathy) and Harold. His Uncle Ed and Arline Mickle, Aunt Pauline Palmateer and Aunt Leona Palmateer also survive him, in addition to multitudes of close family and friends.

Jim's family would like to thank the staff at Greene Meadows Nursing and Rehabilitation Center for the compassion and caring of Jim and their consideration to the family during Jim's stay with them. Also, thank you to St. Peter's Hospital and Columbia Memorial Hospital staff for their concern.

Family and friends are invited to share their memories of Jim at Richards Funeral Home, 28 N. Vernon St., Athens, NY. Viewing hours will be held on Tuesday, March 6, from 2-4 and 6-8. Funeral and Military Honor Guard services will be held at the funeral home on March 7, at 11am with Pastor John Capen officiating. Jim has requested cremation and burial of his ashes will take place in June at the New Athens Rural Cemetery.

Condolences may be made at [www.richardsfuneralhomeinc.net](http://www.richardsfuneralhomeinc.net).

# Tribute Wall

SE

“ *Miss you poppop*

seamus - March 16, 2024 at 02:17 PM

CK

“ *I will never forget the day I told him his boys behave better on the bus than he does!! LOL! Or the day he he sent you out the the birthday card for me!! " To Older Than Dirt" I have so many great memories of him.*

Cindy Kniffen - June 18, 2018 at 04:31 PM



“ [https://open.spotify.com/user/126902295/playlist/07sfCSOOsnPWmGz4AMCfM0?si=bR\\_6uTyKSbWHhm1oLcNFTA](https://open.spotify.com/user/126902295/playlist/07sfCSOOsnPWmGz4AMCfM0?si=bR_6uTyKSbWHhm1oLcNFTA)

*Some of Dad's favorite songs. Love you, Dad! I never realized how much music influenced you until it was too late. I am very proud of my daddy's name! Rock out to this playlist in heaven, dear old Dad*



Matt Palmateer - March 15, 2018 at 10:03 PM

MP

“ *2 files added to the album Memories*



Matt Palmateer - March 12, 2018 at 02:19 PM

PV

“ Sharon, I am sending my deepest sympathy to you and all of your family in your great loss. I was so glad I could see Jimmy at our 50th reunion and take a photo of the Athens men. We have many great memories of C-A and other reunions. I was saddened to hear Jimmy had been facing a struggle. You must be so proud of all of Jimmy's lifelong accomplishments. I am so far away but my thoughts and prayers were with all of you today. I wish you comfort and peace as you share so many memories.

*Patricia Cook Vieira, class of 1967*

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**Patricia (Cook) Vieira** - March 07, 2018 at 08:27 PM

PV

“ Patricia (Cook) Vieira lit a candle in memory of Mr. James L. Palmateer



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**Patricia (Cook) Vieira** - March 07, 2018 at 08:10 PM

JD

“ Jack & Susan Davis lit a candle in memory of Mr. James L. Palmateer



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**Jack & Susan Davis** - March 06, 2018 at 07:58 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. James L. Palmateer.*



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March 06, 2018 at 10:20 AM



“ *My deepest sympathy to Jim's family. I worked with him for many years at NYS DOT. He was always a gentleman and could always make us laugh.*

*Lorraine Kerins*

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**Lorraine Kerins** - March 05, 2018 at 11:24 AM



“ *Paula, Courtney, Robert & Marla Butler purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mr. James L. Palmateer.*



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**Paula, Courtney, Robert & Marla Butler** - March 05, 2018 at 11:02 AM



“ *Dick and Jan Smith purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. James L. Palmateer.*



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**Dick and Jan Smith** - March 05, 2018 at 09:21 AM

CS

“ I will always cherish the memories we shared at every Thanksgiving at Grandma Smith's house. Football, beer, and smokes...then, a quick nap between dinner and dessert! You lived life to it's fullest and always made me laugh! Rest in peace Uncle Jimmy. Love your "favorite" nephew Chris

Chris Smith - March 04, 2018 at 06:55 PM



Chris, he had so many favorites, but you were truly one of them! Thank you for everything! Love you!

Matt Palmateer - March 15, 2018 at 10:39 PM



“ Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. James L. Palmateer.



March 04, 2018 at 06:28 PM

EJ

“ Jimmy, I enjoyed the times we spent together, sitting on your porch drinking a beer while we tried solving some of the world's problems. I will always think of you as a great elected official, husband, father and friend.

Sharon, please accept my condolences for your and your family's great loss.

By the grace of God, I pray that Jim rests in everlasting peace.

Ed Dalland Jr - March 04, 2018 at 05:20 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Mr. James L. Palmateer.



March 03, 2018 at 05:14 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray* was purchased for the family of Mr. James L. Palmateer.



March 03, 2018 at 01:44 PM



Alicia VanDyke

“ *My sincerest sympathy. Peace be with his family and friends.*

**Alicia VanDyke** - March 03, 2018 at 12:05 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Mr. James L. Palmateer.



March 03, 2018 at 08:35 AM

DR

“ *My sincere condolences and prayers of comfort to the Palmateer family and all who were blessed with his friendship.*

*My first memory of "Sam" was from Nestlen's Beach/The Spot. He was wearing sunglasses, some sort of long brown robe, a string of beads around his neck, and sandals. He was holding a beer can in one hand and holding up two fingers in the form of a Peace sign with the other.*

*RIP - I hope you find all the fried bread dough you desire, "Ma Deen"*

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**Dina Ross** - March 02, 2018 at 09:47 PM

GD

“ *Gail Darling lit a candle in memory of Mr. James L. Palmateer*



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**Gail Darling** - March 02, 2018 at 09:08 PM

GD

*My condolences to Sharon and family. God Bless*

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**Gail Darling** - March 02, 2018 at 09:09 PM

JO

“ With all my Love, Prayers and Thoughts go to Sharon, Matt & Mitchell, Ian & Starlyn and all the grandchildren of Mr. James Palmateer. Well Jim you know how much I love you, Your front porch was a great place to sit and have fun, under my willow tree was another place where we sat many evenings. You were always a great support person for me when I needed it. I will miss you so very much. When I moved away I missed one of the comments we all made...."HEY NEIGHBOR". .... Your influence in the community will never go unnoticed, you will ALWAYS be remembered as a wonderful, caring, loving Man. I just know your in Peace now with O'Donnell and others. It would be great if there was a Tree up there to sit under, this way you can throw a couple of beer cans on surrounding areas. So I wish to bid you a heart felt "BYE" for now....."BYE NEIGHBOR" signing off until I see you again..... with much Love.....R U F F I A N.

*JoAnn O'Donnell*

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**JoAnn Carroll ODonnell** - March 02, 2018 at 06:34 PM

WC

“ Thoughts and prayers to Jim's family & friends. May he Rest In Peace and May perpetual light shine upon him.

Wendi (Tompkins) & Mike Carroll 🙏



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**wendi carroll** - March 02, 2018 at 02:40 PM