



James Glasgow Weir

October 26, 1920 - August 10, 2020

James Glasgow (JC) Weir 1920-2020

Jim (JC) Weir passed away peacefully at Longwood at Oakmont in Pittsburgh on August 10, 2020 at the age of 99+. He is survived by his wife of 72 years, Ruth Servais Weir. They had 5 children, George, Peg, Will (deceased), Bob and Jane. They have 9 grandchildren; and 3 great-grandchildren.

Jim was born in Pittsburgh Oct 26, 1920 to Wilson Speer and Anna Aylesworth Weir, he had an older sister Jane who married Bob Hutchison.

He has been cremated; there will be no visitation at this time. There will be a life celebration (wake) at Greenwood Cemetery at a future date (after Covid). Many of you know what to expect.

Condolences and remembrances for Ruth and family can be sent by mail or email c/o George Weir, 612 8th St., Oakmont, PA. Email Weir50@aol.com. Facebook: greenwood cemetery- o'hara township, pa.

Jim lived an amazing life!!

After Pearl Harbor, he enlisted at age 21 and became a P47 fighter pilot in the Pacific (Saipan and Ie Shima). He was a bold and skilled pilot with one Japanese Val dive bomber to his credit. His 19th FS members were his best friends. He organized reunions starting in the 1970s for over 30 years. In addition he had smaller reunions at his cottage in Canada for nearly 20 years. His sons were eventually invited and had the blessing of knowing these heroes and listening to their stories, a true gift to all of us.

Jim met Ruth (Swarthmore, PA) in 1947 and they married and settled in Pittsburgh. Jim worked as an insurance agent and they had 5 children.

In 1959, after 5 years in Charleston WV, they returned to Pittsburgh. Jim managed (and lived at) Greenwood Cemetery while keeping his insurance job. That same year, he got a third job with the Pirates in security. For the children, growing up in the cemetery was a wonderful experience with Ruth teaching about history and nature and Jim providing summer jobs cutting grass. Many of you reading this have fond memories of Greenwood Days. Jim's job with the Pirates (and Steelers) provided opportunities to see games in the 60s and 70s, a great time to be a Pittsburgh fan.

Also in 1959, Jim's deceased uncle's property in Canada was released from probate and he built a cottage there on the Severn River. This wonderful place has been a destination for family and friends for 60 years. In the 90s he bought a mobile home in Florida where we all spent warm winter days. He made friends everywhere he went and those friendships lasted a lifetime.

Jim was an outstanding photographer, he has great movies and pictures from his WWII service. He took Christmas photos in the 50s with dark room development. He always cataloged these photos and movies and upgraded to new technologies.

He was an artist and did nose art on the planes of the 19th Fighter Squadron. He was a builder, a fix it guy, a cook, it seemed he could do anything. He loved cars and was a great driver. He was the hardest working man we've ever known, a legend.

The memories and stories are endless, we will share them at the wake. See you there.

Comments



“ Fond memories and many years of joy. A beautiful soul. We remember all of the many holidays and life events shared with Jim. All our love to your family during this time.

-the Mawhinney family.

Mawhinney - October 15, 2020 at 12:03 AM



“ Thanks to all who have posted kind words and great stories about Jim's life. I have read ALL of them to Ruth. She enjoys these stories and I help her recall the people and events. She is very appreciative. One time she mentioned that it was too bad Jim wasn't here to listen to the stories. And yes, it is.

Then I remembered when Jim came back from Howard Barrett's funeral (19thFS) and he said the same thing about Howard not hearing the stories. Many of you know, we then had a wake for Jim and he got to listen to stories and tell his own, Over 100 people came. It was a wonderful day. So Jim did get to hear many stories.

Many of your stories include mom, and I get to read them to her and we talk about them now. It is a wonderful thing for her to know the love that comes to both of them from all of you. She is glad to hear your tributes.

Jim and Ruth have always lived life their own way. To the benefit of all of us.

George Weir - August 17, 2020 at 11:14 AM



“ Test

Larry Barrett - August 17, 2020 at 08:01 PM



“ I met George in 1966 when we were lab partners together in college chemistry, in Cleveland. It turned out that our homes in Pittsburgh were maybe 30 minutes apart. I pretty quickly learned my way to Greenwood cemetery when we were home on vacation, and later to the cottage on the Severn River. Jim was always an impressive guy. His family of five is an especial tribute to Jim, and to Ruth. Jim was a fine role model on how to live a full life.

Jim Greenwood (no connection to Greenwood cemetery)

Jim Greenwood - August 16, 2020 at 04:19 PM



“ I have been fortunate to have known Jim since the early 60's. First as the Dad of my friend George, then as a boss at Greenwood and a landlord for the little house in the valley. There would not be many cemeteries today that would let kids race go karts and play release at night, but Ruth & Jim allowed us to make those memories. Jim always had a job available for some poor lost soul like me after college until I “found my self”. After Ruth bought 99 Lower Rd Jim eventually even put in an indoor toilet & shower for me. Life was good . Then we all grew up and Flame had the parties at Greenwood where everyone came back to share the memories and the music. Jim & Ruth were always the center of attention. There are probably 25 people who could write a eulogy like this. They say it takes a village to raise a child. Well Jim & Ruth raised a village. We will miss you Jim.

JOHN WOLFENDALE - August 16, 2020 at 02:02 PM



“ On behalf of my entire family I would like to express our condolences to the entire Weir family. They were great neighbors.

Mr. Weir made possible one of the greatest experiences of my childhood. He took Jane and me to my first baseball game at Forbes Field. I told him how important it was to me many years later.

It was fan appreciation day and we sat right behind the Cubs dugout. We were so close to the field. The Pirates lost but I was a baseball fan for life. When we left the stadium we walked to the car with Bob Prince. Mr. Weir knew Bob Prince! It could not have gotten any better for a nine year old. He was a hero in my book.

I understood his love of a cabin retreat. In later years I admired his independence and attitude toward aging.

Again my condolences to Mrs. Weir and the entire family.

Kathy Vajda

Kathy Vajda - August 16, 2020 at 10:38 AM



“ Laughter!! My memories with my GREAT Uncle Glacco are full of great stories and always laughter! He was the fighter pilot with a car that drove through the water before anyone knew this was a thing. He had a big RV that he taught us to scrub clean in our driveway on Pine Tree Court. I remember he let the 3 of us climb high to get the top while he supervised to be sure we did a good job (& that my mom didn't see how high he let us climb 🤪) I remember always thinking it was so cool that my Grampa's best friend was my Granny's brother. I read these wonderful stories that you have of your father, his dedication to his family, to his country, the value of hard work and the importance of character. God Bless you Uncle Glacco. My wish is that you, your best friend and your beautiful sister are enjoying a cocktail, telling stories & laughing out loud

Erin Gagnon - August 16, 2020 at 10:04 AM



“ We are so very sorry to hear of Jim's passing. The Loflin family has many happy memories of times we got together with Jim, Ruth and family. There are fun stories like how at the Williamsburg reunion Jim bet that he could make water flow up hill and proceeded to do a handstand and sip on his drink or how after a trip to the camp in Canada our Dad, Bill Loflin, said they had all decided that when they showed videos of their baseball game they were going to show them in fast forward so it would look like they could actually run. Dad had a special relationship with Jim. I think they had similar qualities; they were true patriots who loved this country and sacrificed for it. They loved their families and they would put country and family above themselves. They were incredibly honorable & dependable, and from what I see Flame wrote they would both spend hours fixing something that they could have much easier gone out and bought. They were competitive and kept their fun loving spirit and my prayer is that they are in heaven kidding each other now. We are sending our love.

Jana Hadder - August 15, 2020 at 09:00 PM



“ My Dad... so many things he taught me . How to drive and parallel park, balance a checkbook, change a tire, bat left handed to fool the pitchers. Water ski, catch fish even though I hooked him in the eyelid and how to clean our own catch. Drive tractors ride horses , work with tools and wood. How to costume up for a good party. And did he LOVE a good party. Rest in peace . We'll miss you bunches

Peg. - August 15, 2020 at 03:01 PM



“ I read this to mom, she says thanks for recognizing the love between you and dad.

George - August 15, 2020 at 04:38 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Flame - August 15, 2020 at 08:33 AM



“ To my Dad:
He could make or repair anything! I'd like to think I got a little of that. He let us all find our way, but kept a close eye while we were looking. He taught us "if you want something nice, you have to work hard to earn it". What he would do to save a buck - such as buy a boat motor in Pittsburgh, drive to Michigan to pick up a boat at the factory, then off to the Lantern Marina to hang the motor with a 14 year old as his helper in the height of black fly season! Or, telling his 9 year old son to pretend he is sleeping on a pillowcase full of duty free liquor going through the border. It worked! I think the only time I was really upset with him was when he sold our GoKart. Mom made him do it!
You had a good run. You will be missed.
-Flame

Flame - August 15, 2020 at 08:27 AM



“ Read this to mom. We are still laughing. She says that she was right about that go-kart.

George - August 15, 2020 at 04:43 PM



“ Uncle Glacco Will remain in my heart forever. So many cherished o memories! He taught us how to fish. he taught George and I how to drive the boat and he and I know how that went. He taught us how to water ski first on two then on one and then how to ski on one from the dock He challenged himself to water ski to the store in Canada and come home with a dry roll of paper towels which he finally did . He was of course wearing his airforce jumpsuit. Every event had a baseball game and girls werent excluded so he also taught me how to bat a ball and run bases like the boys. He and Aunt Ruthie are so important in my life and I love them both And dont forget Archibald !!!! Love you forever Roberta

Roberta H Greene - August 14, 2020 at 10:03 PM



“ Read this to Ruth. We share some great memories, of Jim and Jane and Hutch in Canada.

George - August 15, 2020 at 04:46 PM



“ From Ed Kearney, son of Gerald "Red" Kearney, pilot in 19th FS with Jim.

Your father was the lifeblood of the squadron not just as a natural leader but as an amazing pilot, could fix or build anything and all the photos and video of the war. He served equal duty and work of a dozen others as he just got things done. My dad used to say your father in so many ways over and over saved the lives of us other pilots by his discipline, training and caring so much. He helped make them all better. That is a hero's hero that lifted them all, and then kept them together the rest of their lives.

He also has taught and painstakingly documented the history of the war they saw to future generations like ours and his grandson who came to the reunions (and rescued all our golf balls by diving for them). Amazing man, legend actually, and an amazing family. Thank you for allowing us to get to know your dad so well, and thank you for your generosity. We will also miss him greatly. God bless your entire family and your mother during this tough time.

From Ed Kearney (posted with his permission by George Weir)

George Weir - August 14, 2020 at 01:19 PM



“ I just read to Ruth,we are both crying. Thanks for an outside view from you and Red.

George - August 14, 2020 at 04:42 PM



“ Talented, fearless and the hardest working man I ever knew. Fly on JC
John Harford

John Harford - August 14, 2020 at 12:33 PM



“ Mom says: Ooh, John that's wonderful, she loves you for your wonderful friendship.
George - August 14, 2020 at 04:37 PM



“ Great family friend and his entire family is great

Sarah Royston - August 13, 2020 at 08:36 PM



“ Ruth says she is grateful for your kind letter, you are great.
George - August 14, 2020 at 04:38 PM



“ Thank you for allowing us the honor of caring for James. The loss of a loved one is never easy, but know our care remains here for you and your family through your grief. We hope we can offer comfort and strength during this difficult time of loss. With heartfelt sympathy, Your Heartland Hospice Team.

Your Heartland Hospice Team - August 13, 2020 at 08:20 AM



“ 8 files added to the album Jim Weir Tribute Wall



George Weir - August 12, 2020 at 11:18 AM



“ A few photos of our many memories. We invite our friends to share pictures and memories. Flowers not needed. Donations can go to a charity of your choice in memory of Jim if you choose.

George - August 12, 2020 at 11:20 AM



“ News of JC's Second Wake at Greenwood will be shared later, hoping for spring after Covid when we can gather for a celebration of life.

George - August 12, 2020 at 11:22 AM



“ Quite an extraordinary man - many, many talents! I'm so glad that I had the opportunity to know him. Whenever I eat coconut custard pie - I'll think of Jim. . Toni.

Toni Saul - August 13, 2020 at 03:39 PM



“ I had the privilege of knowing JC for over 45 years and I found few in my life were as genuine as he was. His humor, wisdom and war service were an inspiration; he always seemed to do and say the right thing at the right time. I was what he called his "Canadian attorney", but more importantly, he taught me the proper way to hammer in a nail so as to avoid damage to self and surface!

My deepest sympathies to Ruth and family.

Patrick Phelan - August 14, 2020 at 05:43 AM



“ What a great man. Having know the Weir family for over 40 years it is impossible to think other wise. From discussing and watching his war videos and pictures to just hearing his point of view on things JC was someone I always enjoyed talking to. Nothing but respect and admiration for this man. Peering out over his glasses JC could make you laugh with his often short but to the point comments or keep you totally engaged listening to his life time story's. It was a pleasure to have know him.

Emile LeDonne

Emile LeDonne - August 14, 2020 at 10:07 AM



“ I had the pleasure of knowing Jim for 50 years. I first met him in Canada when his son George invited some of us fellow graduating seniors from Case Tech to the cottage (May 1970). Jim welcomed us as family. We immediately felt like it was already a tradition to meet on the Severn. Once I discovered that Jim was a WWII Army Air Corps guy as my own father had been, the bond between Jim and George and me strengthened. George and I are best of friends to this day. I was also blessed to share several afternoons and evenings with George and his mom and dad at the Bonita Springs residence, sharing a story, a laugh, memories of Jim's war days including video, and food and drink. Jim indeed lived a great long life. He is missed and his memory will bring me smiles for the rest of my days. All my best to the family. May Jim rest in Peace, and may Perpetual Light shine upon his soul.

Gene Muratore

Gene Muratpre - August 14, 2020 at 01:36 PM



“ I read Emile's to Ruth, she says the thoughtful words comfort her.

George - August 14, 2020 at 04:48 PM



“ I read Gene's to Ruth, she remembers you and Kim from Florida. She is thankful for the frindships and bringing back memories.

George - August 14, 2020 at 04:52 PM