



James Bielan

DEC 11, 1938 - DEC 15, 2022



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 4



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James Bielan, 84, of Weeki Wachee passed away on December 15, 2022. He was born December 11, 1938 to Michael and Mary Bielan in Pen Argyl, Pennsylvania. James grew up in a traditional farming community in Stewartville, New Jersey. He graduated from Phillipsburg High School and received his teaching degree from William Patterson College. His parents lovingly provided the best they could with limited education and resources. James was a proud US Army Veteran, where he served in Germany with Elvis Presley. After the army, he became the first male member of his family to graduate college. He began a career in education that spanned two decades and touched countless lives. He poured into his students, teaching them not only the subjects at school, but also good social skills.

He enjoyed collecting music from the 1950's and early 60's. He especially enjoyed Rock and Roll, Doo Wop, and Rockabilly. He loved Western Movies and also collecting Elvis Memorabilia.

James is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Barbara; daughter Lisa Cranert and her husband Frank; son Brett Bielan; daughter Christine McClean; daughter Jessica Gile and her husband Eric; grandchildren Rachelle McClean, Marissa Cranert, Amanda Cranert, Curtis Cranert, and Elisabeth Cranert; and sister Irene Johnson and her husband Vern.

Private Cremation Arrangements are under the direction of Grace Memorial Funeral Home. In lieu of Flowers Please donate to St. Jude's Children's Hospital, Tunnels to Towers foundation, or The Wounded Warrior Project.



Tribute Wall

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JB

Jan Berger posted:

It is just today I learned of Jim Bielan's passing. We lived a few houses down from him on Prospect St. in Stewartsville. The four of us, Jeff, Jan, Virginia and Tim would go to his yard to play with Meiko, his dog. Jim was always so welcoming and would play with Meiko and us. Those were very special times that we remember so very fondly. Jan Godfrey

December 18 at 12:02 PM

BF

Banko Family sent a Sweet Tenderness to the Bielan family.



December 28 at 9:52 AM

IJ

Irene Johnson posted:

I have a lot of memories of my big brother, Jim, but one that stands out was at our house in Stewartsville, growing up. We had two big maple trees that shed beautiful leaves in the Fall, and Jim and I had to help rake them. He was under the pile of leaves that I was raking with a garden rake, and I struck him in the face and chipped a front tooth! He wasn't too happy with me, but I didn't know he was in there. He loved playing baseball and football, and wanted to play high school football, but parents didn't "want him to get hurt." !!

December 27 at 12:05 PM

PV

Patricia Verdi posted:

I always enjoyed talking with your Mom and Dad when they would come to the dental office. I remember one time in particular they were leaving to visit NJ and he said he would bring back a bunch of tomatoes from New Jersey because the tomatoes in Florida all tasted like pumpkin! He was so right, into this day every time I bite into a tomato from Florida. I think Jim was right it does taste like a pumpkin. I am so very sorry for your loss, he will live in your hearts forever. RIP Jim

December 22 at 9:54 PM

JP

Julius And Bonnie Phillips posted:

Our deepest condolences to Barbara and the Bielan family. We had the honor of teaching with Jim at Lopatcong School for many years. He was a wonderful person and a great friend. Rest in peace "Mr. Bielan"

December 21 at 11:33 AM



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Jessica Gile posted:

He was the best father I could have asked for. He was always present and I always knew I could count on him. He valued education but I feel laughter was my favorite quality that I learned from him and enjoy sharing with him. There's a million memories I have and will continue to reminisce on those memories for the rest of my life. Our family will share the grief but also we will find comfort in each other. ❤️ Love you forever Dad!!

December 20 at 2:39 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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