



James M. Deneke

November 17, 1942 - March 30, 2016

James Michael Deneke of Greer, South Carolina and formerly of Shreve and Wooster, Ohio, passed away on March, 30, 2016 at his home surrounded by his family after a valiant eight year fight with pulmonary fibrosis.

Jim was born in Orrville, Ohio on November 17, 1942 to Robert W. and Vita E. Hartzler Deneke. On September 25, 1965 he married Judith Henning Deneke in Wooster, Ohio and she survives.

He was a graduate of Smithville High School, Smithville, Ohio with the Class of 1960. He also attended the Wooster Business College. Jim was a proud Army Veteran having served in the U.S. Army 1st Armored Division at Ft. Hood, Texas. He was on one of the ships that would have invaded Cuba if necessary during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Jim started his career in the box business in 1964 having worked at Buckeye Corrugated for 25 years where he was Corporate Services Manager. He then was General Manager of Corrugated Container, Associated Packaging and 3-D Packaging for a total of 43 years in the corrugated box industry.

Jim was a furious fast-pitch and slow-pitch softball player for over 25 years. He was known for being a switch hitter and being able to hit to any field and a master of hitting foul balls and placing balls where they were uncatchable. He played for Sterling Fast Pitch, Marshallville Packaging, Augsburg Lutheran Church, Zion Lutheran Church and Buckeye Container all in Ohio.

Jim was a member of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Greer, South Carolina.

Jim was a humorous, friendly, and helpful person to anyone who asked for his

help and he never met a stranger. He loved to travel having been to 48 states and 16 foreign countries with Switzerland being his favorite country. Above all Jim loved his family and was always there for them.

Jim is survived by his wife of 50 years, Judith, his daughters Rebecca Deneke, husband Floyd Pierce of Alvarado, Texas, Deborah Deneke of Asheboro, North Carolina, and Jenny (Kane) Maynard of Greer, South Carolina. Also surviving are five grandchildren, Kelsey and Kaitlyn Maynard of Greer, South Carolina, Dylan Maynard of Greer, South Carolina, and Ryan Pierce and Meghan Pierce of Alvarado, Texas and he was a proud great-unkey grandpa to Piper Marie Deneke of Greer, South Carolina and two special nieces Chelsea (Asa) Kinnunan and Mary Beth Deneke also of Greer, South Carolina. Three sisters also survive and they are Patricia Frary and Bea Deneke of Greer, South Carolina and Sue (Philip) Horst of Granville, Ohio. He was predeceased by his parents and his younger brother, Rob Deneke. Funeral services will be held 4:00 p.m. Saturday at The Wood Mortuary, conducted by Rev. Jeff Reece.

Visitation will be held 2:30-3:45 p.m. Saturday at The Wood Mortuary.

The family is at the home.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Special Olympics, 1133 19TH Street NW, 12TH Floor, Washington, D.C. 20036-3604.

Online condolences may be made at www.thewoodmortuary.com

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 2. 2:30 PM - 3:45 PM (ET)

The Wood Mortuary, Inc.
300 West Poinsett Street
Greer, SC 29650
(864) 877-3351
woodmortuary@bellsouth.net

Service

APR 2. 4:00 PM (ET)

THE WOOD MORTUARY CHAPEL
300 West Poinsett Street
Greer, SC 29650
(864) 877-3351
woodmortuary@bellsouth.net

Tribute Wall

LB

“ Our sympathy to your family, we only knew Bea through the Nick Amster Workshop. We were saddened to see the notice of Jim's passing. Please accept our condolences. Bea, maybe you remember my daughter Pam Bower. God be with all of you and give you peace.
Linda Bartlett

Linda Bartlett - April 07, 2016 at 10:17 AM

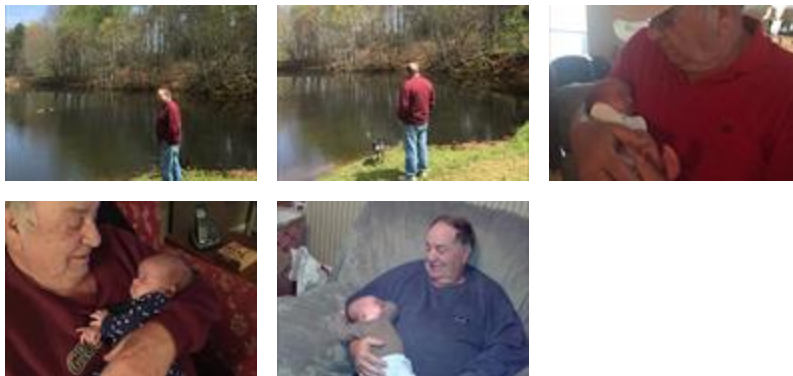
DS

“ My cousin Jim. About the earliest of my people memories, from 4 years old, my playmate from next door in the Flats in Orrville. Sitting together playing battleship during the sermons at Augsburg till as alterboys they made us sit on opposite sides of the alter. Trying to teach me to play softball well but I quit. Showing off his first car with a ride to a Pizza Parlor for my first pizza. Great memories! Farewell.

Duane Shie - April 01, 2016 at 10:39 PM

CK

“ ❤️❤️



Chelsea Kinnunen - April 01, 2016 at 08:21 PM



“ You always have a place in my heart and in my memories as well as your brother Rob Deneke...
My two grumpy friends. R.I.P.

Yeni Gonzalez - April 01, 2016 at 08:08 PM

DR

“ Jim hired me at Buckeye Container (Tuff Nut Packaging) for my first job out of college in 1988. He was tough on me in a fatherly way. I learned so much under his mentorship and have some great memories from the years we worked together. My deepest sympathies to Judy, Rob, Bea and the entire family!
Sincerely, Dayton Reusser and Family

Dayton Reusser - April 01, 2016 at 05:36 PM

DF

“ We are deeply saddened today to read of the passing of Jim! What a great classmate and friend! We missed him at our last reunion and had no idea we would never meet again in this life, but we look forward to our reunion with him in the next. Please accept our deepest sympathy! Sincerely, Dan and Delores Fetter

delores and dan fetter - April 01, 2016 at 02:26 PM

RM

“ I am sorry to hear about Jim. May he rest in peace.
Renaë



Renaë Mills - April 01, 2016 at 01:07 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of James M. Deneke.



April 01, 2016 at 12:22 PM

 Twila Paradis

“ Judy, I am praying for you and your family at this time of grief. It was just 4 years ago on April 2nd that I went through the same thing. I know how much you loved each other and your family. May your family give you support and love. It may take time to heal your broken heart, but he will always be with you in your heart. He will be watching from above and you will know. I pray you get lots of white feathers and butterflies. I still get them so I know he is checking on me. Much love, my dear former neighbor and classmate at GlassRock, Ohio.

Twila Paradis - April 01, 2016 at 10:54 AM

GM

“ I personally did not know Mr. Deneke but to all of his family, you are in my thoughts and prayers.

What Mr. Deneke left behind was a gift that I could never repay him for even had I been fortunate enough to have known him. He left behind my friend, his daughter Debbie. Debbie, I love you and wish I could be there for you. Know that you are in my heart at this time. There are no words that I can say to ease the pain. Keep the memories close, remember the good times. You know, he isn't really gone as long as you carry him in your heart. I am here for you. Anything you need.

Again, to the family, May God wrap His arms around you all and bring you the comfort only He can give.

Ginger

Ginger Milliner - April 01, 2016 at 10:51 AM

WD

“ The Wooster Ohio Wayne Chapter of DAR would like to extend our deepest sympathy to your family in the loss of your loved one. We are very grateful for James service to our country. Patriots are what keep our nation free. May God Bless you and comfort your family at this difficult time.

WOOSTER OHIO WAYNE CHAPTER DAR - April 01, 2016 at 09:11 AM

SW

“ It wasn't that long ago that Jim and I got to catch up with each other, reminisce & smile. He loved having a good time with his family and friends. Loved him to pieces. Prayers for comfort and peace, may it with you all. Love, Sharon Wirnsberger & family



Sharon Wirnsberger - March 31, 2016 at 09:39 PM

TN

“ *Tammy Nixon lit a candle in memory of James M. Deneke*



Tammy Nixon - March 31, 2016 at 07:15 PM

TN

Sending love and prayers.

Tammy Nixon - March 31, 2016 at 07:16 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James M. Deneke.*



March 31, 2016 at 07:11 PM

DJ

“ *Jim Deneke was a fantastic person, the best of friends and a special mentor to me. He was generous to a fault and always willing to help anyone in need. Far too many great memories to share. It was an honor and a privilege to have known Jim and to be counted as one of his friends. Part of me will always be with you Jimbo. RIP my friend.*

David Johnston

David Johnston - March 31, 2016 at 06:35 PM

DJ

“ *Jim Deneke was a fantastic person, the best of friends, and a special mentor to me. He was generous to a fault and always willing to help anyone in need. Far to many great memories to share. It was my honor and my privilege to have known Jim and to be counted as one of his friends. Part of me will always be with you Jimbo. RIP my friend.....David Johnston*

David Johnston - March 31, 2016 at 04:38 PM

JR

“ *Jeff Reece lit a candle in memory of James M. Deneke*



Jeff Reece - March 31, 2016 at 03:07 PM

JR

“ *My most fun memory of Jim was when he grilled sausages at my and Jeff's house in Asheboro. I had hardly even knew him but you would have thought he had known us forever. Praying for comfort and peace through this sad time.*



Jackie Reece - March 31, 2016 at 01:06 PM