



James F. McKenna Jr.

February 15, 1946 - October 29, 2011

Eulogy - James Francis McKenna, Jr.

It seems like we should be here to mourn the loss of Jim, but we all know that he would want us to celebrate the good times.

Dad always had the answer to our questions. Except if they were mechanical or technical. He was the master of common sense.

The most important lesson that I took from Mom and Dad was to treat people fairly, and that is what he always did. I have NEVER heard anyone say a negative thing about Jim.

He was a loyal son, and I could only hope that my children look up to Stacey and myself as much as he looked up to Grandma and Grandpa.

Jim and Shirley carried those values right down to Kristen, Amy and I. I feel that in life I have always been surrounded by good people, and that is because my Mother and Father have made that possible.

Dad always wanted the best for us. Even if it wasn't feasible, he made it seem like it was no big deal. He had so much confidence in us, we felt like we were special. He was a good Father, the BEST Father!!!

When I think back, I feel nothing but happiness--always a smile, a joke, a good song.

Dad had hard times, who doesn't? He was the first to acknowledge that, but he never dwelled on it. He always made sure everyone around him was OK.

There was never a dull moment with Dad, especially when you were sitting shotgun in his car! Almost every conversation with him revolved around humor. I tried to always impress him with a new joke. I knew I had a good one when he would start with that amazing laugh, followed by a slap on the back and then he would start coughing uncontrollably. I would think.....maybe that was too good!

He had a passion for sports. Some of my fondest memories were simply watching a good game with him. He would get so excited. If I walked into the house and he was sitting on the floor with his legs crossed playing Tetris, I knew there wasn't a good game on. Man was he good at Tetris.

Jim's biggest passion though, were his grandchildren. My kids get so excited when Papa Mac comes to town. They knew that feeding the ducks, trips to the ice cream shop every night and Toys R Us were in their future. Santa Clause has got nothing on Papa Mac in our house.

Jim died peacefully in his sleep at home, Saturday Oct. 29. He will be missed by everyone!!!!

I love you Dad.

--James F. McKenna, III, Son

PDF Printable Version

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 4. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (PT)

Hustad Funeral Home
7232 N. Richmond Ave.
Portland, OR

Mass

NOV 5. 10:30 AM (PT)

Holy Cross Catholic Church
5227 North Bowdoin Street
Portland, OR

Tribute Wall



“ *James F. McKenna Jr.*

January 28, 2023 at 02:51 PM



“ *Uncle Jim was an amazing guy...always full of laughs and kindness. May he watch over the entire McKenna and Fitzpatrick family now and forever be with them.*

Teresa Priest - November 11, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *We are so sorry to hear of your loss. Our Dad-Bob- remembers Jim as a very nice guy, he enjoyed visiting with him. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this time.*

reichman family - November 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Oh, what a smile! What a voracious appetite for life! He lit up the whole room. "How can someone be so happy to see me?" I would think. He made everyone feel so special. Even though I haven't seen him in several years, the news of his passing saddens my heart and soul.*

To the McKenna family, love, respect, and all that is best.

Young Kim

Young Kim - November 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Here is to a man loved by many. Gone but never forgotten.*

Hugs

Tami

Tami (Teeter) Magnett - November 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ I'm sitting here at the cabin, surrounded by memories of Jimmy. So many special times, here and elsewhere, growing up. To Mike, Tom, Pete, Susie, Marryanne, and John, to Kristen, Amy, and Jim III, and especially to my very favorite Aunt Virginia, my thoughts and my love.

Phil Grosse - November 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ Jimmy and family,

May you find comfort in the fond memories and love that you shared. Praying for you at this difficult time.

Lori Jackson - November 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

NP

“ We will miss chatting with Jim at girl's basketball games. Norm and Jan

Norman and Jan Prihar - November 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

EA

“ Jim will be missed by many here at Edgewater. He had a great smile and a warm heart.

Edgewater House Condominium Homeowner's Association - November 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ A sympathy card has been sent to the family of James F. McKenna Jr. c/o Hillside Chapel funeral home.

November 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TG

“ We were shocked and saddened to hear about Jim. He was always a good kind man, a wonderful boss, and one of the craziest persons I ever knew! The world will be a lot less happy without him. God Bless you all.

Tracey & Paul Gruver

Tracey & Paul Gruver - November 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ I am saddened by Jim's death. He was so nice to my brother, Vince, who died a year ago. My deepest sympathies.

Patti Bellini Crotti

Patti Bellini Crotti - November 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KK

“ My thoughts and hopes for peace are with Jim, and with the entire McKenna family, as well as all who knew him.

Kurt Kemmerer - November 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Jimmy, without reserve, was the most Generous giving person. He gave to others before thinking about himself. And he did this his whole life. Jimmy leaves many actions, memories that will help me, and that I hope to follow. I am sad that I will not see him again. I will light 12 candles across Rome in memory, prayer and thought of Jimmy McKenna.

Joum McKenna - November 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ Uncle Jim,

I think you took pride that you knew you were my favorite uncle. You were always there for me as a kid and as I grew up. You came to my high school graduation when my own father could not be there. You flew down to my graduate school graduation in Long Beach and took us all to lunch -of course you flew out to go to Reno before the graduation (there was no getting you to sit around for the dull event). I have so many fond memories of you. I remember the year that I came up for your St. Patrick's day party/philanthropy event -and it was so much fun. I still cannot believe that you have left us -so suddenly. I think of you now and I picture you smiling -laughing. My heart breaks for Amy, little Jimmy and Kristen. I know you were and always will be proud of them -as they will always honor your memory.

My love, "Al" (Alison to most others but Jim always called me Al)

Alison McKenna - November 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Love you, Jimmy. I will miss you. You left too soon.B

Maryanne Himmelsbach - November 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ We are so sad for your sudden loss. Praying for healing for your family during this difficult time.

The Maldonado Family - November 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM