



## James Thomas Jurgens

August 12, 1946 - April 14, 2017

James Thomas Jurgens, 70, of Soap Lake, Washington, passed away Friday, April 14, 2017 in California.

Jim was born in

Wenatchee, Washington on August 12, 1946 to George and Edna Jurgens.

The family moved to Soap Lake in 1950.

Jim graduated from Soap Lake High in 1964. He went to Big Bend Community College, Moses Lake, Wash. and to Eastern Washington University, Cheney, Wash. graduating with a teaching degree. Jim went on to get a Masters and a Doctoral Degree.

He taught high school for over 40 years, most of them in Soap Lake and Bethel, Alaska. Jim retired twice but was still substituting at Soap Lake High School at the time of his death.

He loved to travel, in his younger years it was Europe and in the later years he loved to go on cruises. He was always going somewhere, whether it be Las Vegas or with friends to see the wonders of our great country, Canada and Mexico.

Jim never married, he loved spending time with his friends and family and he was loved by all that knew him.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and a brother Joseph Jurgens of Soap Lake.

Jim is survived by his brother Paul Jurgens of Soap Lake; and his sister Georgianna Polaski of Columbia, South Carolina.

He will be missed. Education was such a passion for Jim.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to Soap Lake Education Foundation, c/o Jim Jurgens, P.O. Box 161, Soap Lake, WA 98851.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 13, 2017 at the Soap Lake High School Gymnasium, 527 2nd Ave. SW in Soap Lake.

# Tribute Wall

SC

“ I was not aware JJ passed away until yesterday and was shocked to hear of his passing. JJ was a true friend and always thought of others. I was blessed to know him as he enriched my life in so many ways. I will never forget him.

Sylvia Campbell - January 31, 2018 at 12:53 PM

RL

“ Jim was a wonderful friend and always there for anyone who needed his help. He graduated with my older brother and I graduated with his younger brother, so our families go way back! Bruce and I will miss him very much.

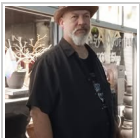


rose leonard - June 01, 2017 at 01:31 PM

MS

“ I met Jim in 1980 on a summer student travel tour of Europe. We became friends and stayed in touch for many years. A joint acquaintance phoned me in Dallas tonight to share the need of Jim's sudden death. I'm saddened. Jim you will never be forgotten and eternally missed. God's Peace my friend.

Mark Sorrells - May 16, 2017 at 08:51 PM



“ Miss you Mr Jurgens. you were the best teacher i ever had.

Joel Irwin - May 15, 2017 at 06:22 AM

BN

“ J.J. traveled to Europe with us before we got married. He ended up to be a great traveling companion with me! He was a great best man for Glenn and later Godfather to our daughter. (That would be 24 years ago and she could still picture him in her mind, although we didn't see him a lot in later years!) I will always remember his wit, humour, intonation of voice and that little smile that always made things better. Bless him and his family, our thoughts are with all.

*Betty Nachbar*

Betty Nachbar - May 13, 2017 at 12:03 PM

GN

“ J.J. And I were both teachers at Cusick High School in the 70's. He was best man at my wedding and Godfather to my daughter. He was one of my best friends! I will miss him.

*Glenn Nachbar*

Glenn Nachbar - May 13, 2017 at 11:48 AM



“ Nancy White-Hursh lit a candle in memory of James Thomas Jurgens



Nancy White-Hursh - May 12, 2017 at 10:57 PM

Tricia Pevehous

“ I was blessed to get to have James jurgens as a wonderful teacher, and as a wonderful uncle

Tricia Pevehouse - May 11, 2017 at 03:16 PM



“ *Tricia Pevehouse sent a virtual gift in memory of James Thomas Jurgens*



---

**Tricia Pevehouse** - May 11, 2017 at 03:13 PM



“ *Dan Brekhus lit a candle in memory of James Thomas Jurgens*



---

**dan brekhus** - May 04, 2017 at 09:25 AM



“ *Norma Dykes lit a candle in memory of James Thomas Jurgens*



---

**Norma Dykes** - May 03, 2017 at 07:58 PM



“ *I remember Jim "way back" when we both took dance lessons with the Espey's. One Christmas show, he played Santa. The rest of us were reindeer! Jim was a wonderful, loving man who will be missed greatly.*

---

**Linda Bonneville** - May 02, 2017 at 08:28 PM

IL

“ *Irineo Leos lit a candle in memory of James Thomas Jurgens*



---

**Irineo Leos** - May 02, 2017 at 08:00 AM

RJ

“ *I remember the day I had gotten married, I had asked Jim to become my best man, his response was I would be honored but he had to head back to Alaska for another year of teaching. But what he did there are not enough words to say Thank you. I received a call and as a gift from him, he wanted to send my wife and I on our honeymoon, we spent 3 nights, 4 days in Hawaii. I also recall many times of calling and whether to talk or he and I would work on a resume, letter of reference or homework. Jim, you may be gone but you are never forgotten.*

---

**Rick Jones** - May 02, 2017 at 12:04 AM

RJ

“ *Rick Jones lit a candle in memory of James Thomas Jurgens*



---

**Rick Jones** - May 01, 2017 at 11:51 PM



“ *Jim taught me to love classical music, he and I have kept in touch, and remained friends throughout my adult life. Our conversations will be missed.*



---

**Richard Milne** - May 01, 2017 at 11:30 PM



“ *Marilyn McCormick lit a candle in memory of James Thomas Jurgens*



---

**Marilyn McCormick** - May 01, 2017 at 11:12 PM



“ *Gloria Valline lit a candle in memory of James Thomas Jurgens*



---

**Gloria Valline** - May 01, 2017 at 11:11 PM



“ *Brook Marten lit a candle in memory of James Thomas Jurgens*



---

**Brook Marten** - May 01, 2017 at 10:47 PM



“ *Eric Jurgens lit a candle in memory of James Thomas Jurgens*



---

**Eric Jurgens** - May 01, 2017 at 06:41 PM



“ *Eric Jurgens lit a candle in memory of James Thomas Jurgens*



---

**Eric Jurgens** - May 01, 2017 at 06:39 PM



“ *Eric Jurgens lit a candle in memory of James Thomas Jurgens*



---

**Eric Jurgens** - May 01, 2017 at 06:30 PM



“ *Kimberly Segura Barnes lit a candle in memory of James Thomas Jurgens*



---

**Kimberly Segura Barnes** - May 01, 2017 at 06:16 PM



“ *Kris Newman lit a candle in memory of James Thomas Jurgens*



---

**Kris Newman** - May 01, 2017 at 04:46 PM



“ *Tricia Pevehouse lit a candle in memory of James Thomas Jurgens*



---

**Tricia Pevehouse** - May 01, 2017 at 04:38 PM



“ *Kathy Flannery lit a candle in memory of James Thomas Jurgens*



---

**Kathy Flannery** - May 01, 2017 at 04:21 PM



*Jim was an extraordinary man who lightened the way for others.. He had a passion for family, dear friends, Teaching, traveling, education. He touched many lives and impacted them richly. I am honored to have known him and share parts of life shared with him.*

---

**Kathy Flannery** - May 01, 2017 at 04:26 PM

 Edna  
Boryk

“ *Edna Boryk lit a candle in memory of James Thomas Jurgens*



---

**Edna Boryk** - May 01, 2017 at 01:54 PM

LM

*My prayers for the family. Jim you will be very much missed. You were a great person and cousin. Loved your sense of humor. Remember the times my family and I spent time with yours going fishing at Banks lake and the other secret lakes your Dad knew about. Rest in peace Jim.*

*Leanne Jurgens McLeod*

---

**Leanne McLeod** - May 01, 2017 at 10:33 PM

JM

“ *He came over a lot to play skipbo and he came over every year for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners when I was growing up*

*Jodi Mullis (Clement)*

---

**Jodi Mullis** - May 01, 2017 at 11:32 AM