



James V. Parsons

October 9, 1921 - March 11, 2008

James V. Parsons, 86, of New Britain, passed on from this life on March 11, 2008, after a brief illness. A lifelong resident of New Britain, Jim was a graduate of Mooreland Hill School in Kensington, the Taft School in Watertown and Wesleyan University in Middletown. After serving in the US Army in the Pacific Theater in WWII, he worked for 15 years in the Time Study Department at the Stanley Works in New Britain. He also devoted many hours to volunteering at the New Britain Boys Club, the Boy Scouts of America, and South Church in New Britain, where he was a sexton and member.

Jim's true calling, however, was teaching mathematics and French and coaching athletics at his alma mater, Mooreland Hill School for 29 years. During that time, he bicycled to work nearly every day, regardless of the season or weather. He brought humor, passion and dedication to his teaching role, being a mentor and friend to countless students and faculty members. His enormous impact on the school's direction and values can be felt even today.

An avid piano player, Jim also enjoyed reading, swimming and traveling. He loved playing tennis and spending weekends at his family homestead in Scotland, Connecticut and his summer home at the Isle of Springs, Maine.

Jim was predeceased by his wife, Patricia, in 2005. He was the devoted father

of Stuart Parsons of Bourne, MA, Cindy Parsons of New Britain and Ted Parsons of Plainville. He leaves behind a brother, John S. Parsons of Hartford, seven grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews and a wide circle of former students and friends.

A public memorial service will be held to celebrate Jim's life on April 5, 2008 at 12:00 p.m. at the Mooreland Hill School in Kensington. All are invited to attend and share their personal memories. Burial will be private and at the convenience of the family. The Carlson Funeral home is in charge of arrangements. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Mooreland Hill School, 166 Lincoln Street, Kensington, CT 06037. Please share a memory or note of sympathy by clicking on "GUESTBOOK" at the bottom of this page.

Tribute Wall

PP

“ I feel sadder than I probably would have imagined that Uncle Jim is gone. I’ve been thinking a lot about that wonderful grin and about how very involved and interested he was in all our lives. He spent hours and hours teaching us how to swim, how to throw and catch a ball and not like a girl. He personally tutored me in math and I was amazed at how patient and good-humored he was ; and how good he was at it.

Pat Poe - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ Mr. Parsons was so wonderful with us kids. He was the type of teacher who let us sweep the dust out through his back door rather than using a pan so we thought we were getting around doing chores.
To this day I wish I had taken French rather than Latin and I am grateful that I had him for math.
Can you imagine Mr. Parsons using a white board instead of chalk?
I can't.
He will be missed.

Lisa Ramm Matson - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ I was fortunate to see Jim Mr. Parsons a year or two ago at the Stop & Shop in Willimantic. We had a great talk. I was impressed that, even though it has been about 40 years since he taught me, he recognized me right away.

Jim was a great teacher. He didn't just teach math, he taught me to persevere and not give up. He helped me through a difficult time when both of my grandmothers passed away within a month. But he wouldn't let me quit, even though it was a struggle to keep up with the class.

Jim was always cheerful, and a big tease. We liked to razz him whenever he put his lit pipe in this pocket, usually when lunch started.

I remember Jim always rode his bike to school. It wasn't the most impressive bike, but it worked well. Since his bike ride was longer than mine, I had no excuse not to ride mine to school, also.

To the Jim Parson family:

Your dad was the best. I'm sure you have plenty of fond memories. He left you a legacy that you should be proud of. He lived a long and full life, and touched many in ways you'll never know. I praise God that I had a recent opportunity to thank him for touching my life.

David Lyon - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ To the memory of a great teacher. Even after 35 years his smiling face and great humor are with me. My prayers are with all especially my former classmate Ted.

*Sincerely,
Peter Ciarcia*

Peter Ciarcia - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ I was lucky enough to meet Jim almost a year and a half ago when he moved into the Village. We immediately connected and shared a great relationship during that time. We took walks and had our "talks" through our special way of communicating. Although sometimes apprehensive at first, he would play his piano for us and that apprehension was quickly replaced by his big smile. I am glad I got the opportunity to know Jim and his family even for the short time that it was. To Ted, Marg, Stu, and Cindy - I wish you all the best and comfort through your memories. Thanks for all of your kindness.

Katie Morissette

Katie Morissette - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KP

“ Dear Ted and family,

I was so sorry to hear of your Dad's passing as I know he was the patriarch of your clan and that he was loved and respected by many.

Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Kim Coughlin Phillips - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM