



Jim Olson

July 20, 1939 - August 11, 2006

James Kenneth Olson was born on July 20, 1939 to Kenneth and Olive Olson at their home in Wadena. Jim passed away early Friday morning, August 11, at Tri-County Hospital in Wadena at the age of 67 years. Jim grew up in Wadena and, following high school graduation, served our country in the US Navy. Upon his return to Wadena, he became a partner in the Olson Construction Co. and Wadena Ready-Mix. He also was the owner of Modern Cleaners in Wadena. On June 17, 1962, Jim was united in marriage to Diana Eid at Fertile, MN. To this union two daughters were born, Denise and Michelle. In more recent years, Jim has been in cleaning supply sales for the four state area. Jim has always been active in the Wadena community. He was a member of the Wadena Jaycees, Wadena Chamber of Commerce, a Charter member of the Wadena Elks Lodge, and the city planning commission. He was also a member of Frank Heinzel Post 254 of the American Legion in Sauk Rapids, MN. Church was always important to him and Jim served Immanuel Lutheran Church as President, Building Chairman, various committees, and the church choir. In his leisure time, Jim enjoyed hunting, fishing, construction projects, landscaping, woodworking, golf, spending time with family and friends, listening to classical music, and he was an avid sports fan of the Twins and the Vikings. Jim is preceded in death by his parents, Ken and Ollie; and infant grandson, Joseph Daniel Huebsch. Jim is survived by his wife, Diana; daughters, Denise (Joe) Huebsch of St. Cloud and Michelle (Todd) Christiansen of Sartell; grandchildren, Ann, Elizabeth,

John, Ashley, and Nicole; and sisters, Janet (Harsey) Scott of Park Rapids and Karen (Jerry) Jordahl of New Hope.

Tribute Wall

MK

“ Dear Diana and family,
Today I learned of James' death. I am so sorry for your loss. Was there ever a man more dedicated to his wife, daughters, and grandchildren? I think not. The love he shared with all of you was evident in every conversation.
When I think of James, I think of his quick smile and friendly greeting. He was such a warm, caring guy. I wish he could have stayed around for many more years. It's hard to understand why this happened.
You are in my prayers as you cope with these next weeks and months.
With love,
Mary Ellen

Mary Ellen Kennedy Kollodge - August 11, 2006 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ What a wonderful man...a blessing to been acquainted with. He was like a father to us. He truly will be missed...we loved him dearly.

Mary Hager - August 11, 2006 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ *Diana, Denise and Michelle,
I'll probably never have a father-in-law, but if I do, I hope he's just like Jim. He was an awesome man and I have much respect for him - and all of you. When you hosted mom and dad for Thanksgiving 2 years ago and my mom ended up in the hospital with her injured leg, Jim was so caring, helpful, and hospitable with all our comings and goings. A great support for all of us. Thank you. Know that you all are in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Love,
Jan Huebsch*

Jan Huebsch - August 11, 2006 at 12:00 AM

KZ

“ *Thinking of you ~*

*What a beautiful tribute to your Dad.
What a remarkable man.*

Kathy

Kathy Zachman - August 11, 2006 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ I could write many pages about Jim and what a terrific father-in-law he has been. It is quite evident that he touched many people's lives. He will most certainly be missed, but we know that our lives have been enriched because of him. At this time of extreme emotion, I am drawn to one text in The Holy Bible. Although it is generally used for weddings rather than funerals, I believe it is very appropriate for Jim. It comes from Corinthians-13, verses 4 through 7. I have substituted Jim's name for the word "love".

Jim is patient. Jim is kind. Jim is not jealous. Jim does not put on airs. Jim is not snobbish. Jim is never rude. Jim is not self seeking. Jim is not prone to anger. Jim does not brood over injuries. Jim does not rejoice in what is wrong but rejoices with the truth. There is no limit to Jim's forbearance, to his trust, his hope, his power to endure.

These words have consoled me and I hope that they may console you. Jim Olson certainly did embody the word "love". I wrote the above in present tense because Jim's spirit remains with all of us that were fortunate enough to know him. It is our challenge to keep his spirit alive and pass it on to family and friends and co-workers and strangers and future generations. Jim would like that.

Thanks Jim for showing us love.

Love,

Joe

Joe Huebsch - August 11, 2006 at 12:00 AM

FM

“ *Diana, Denise, Michelle,
Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*

Francis and Debby Millner - August 11, 2006 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ *Diana, Denise, Michelle and family-
I am so sorry to hear of Jim's passing. Please know that people
from far away still think of him and you in your time of grief.*

*The video tribute was very nice and I'm glad I was able to see that
since I could not attend the funeral.*

*God bless you all,
Diana (White) Westphal*

Diana (White) Westphal - August 11, 2006 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ *Diana, Denise, Michelle and families,*

*I just viewed the video tribute to Uncle James. It is a beautiful
testimony to a full and blessed life. There is now a void in our
extended family, but there is also hope. The love Uncle James so
willingly expressed to those of us that knew him, he lives on. The
loving spirit with which he interacted with us remains a part of our
spirits. We are one with him and we are better people because of
his loving us. There is hope that we will pass this love on to others
in our lives. Sincerely, Melanie*

Melanie Gohdes Fransen - August 11, 2006 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ *Blessings Aunt Dianna and family:
The video tribute is a beautiful treasure of those fantastic memories of my loving Uncle James. My thoughts and prayers have been with you these days of grief. As the video represented so well, James lived a full and gracious life, tho too short. These memories will be ours to hold and celebrate.
God's peace be with you as it is eternally now given to James.
Steve Gohdes*

Stephen Gohdes - August 11, 2006 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *No one could have asked for a better brother. He was always watching out for Karen and me. Always supportive and helpful. He even consented to play house with me when no girl cousins were around. Most of all he loved life, family and friends. Our loss is great, but our memories are many. With God's love and care we will endure this.*

Love to you Diana, Denise and Michelle,

Janet

Janet Scott - August 11, 2006 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ *Diana, Michelle and Denise:*

I fondly remember the times I would come up to Wadena to see Michelle and the two of us would have our "squirrely" weekends! Your hospitality was second to none and I will always remember the warm smiles Michelle and I would get from both Jim and Diana. You both had a twinkle in your eye and your genuine warmth and kindness surrounded all who were around you.

Jim was a real charmer...I can see why you fell for him Diana! I always felt like I was a part of your family when I was there, and I cherish those times with a smile in my heart. Thanks for the great memories!

God Bless you all during this time.

Joanna and Family (Brent, Amelia, and Mairin)

Joanna Torgerson - August 11, 2006 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ *God's richest blessing to you at this special time of need. We are so glad that we were able to stop by and see both of you in early July. We will certainly keep you all in our prayers in the days to come. Wish we could be there. We are in our thoughts. P and B*

Palmer and Beverly Gedde - August 11, 2006 at 12:00 AM

LG

“ *I'll have much more to say on Tuesday . . .*

For now, we (Evelyn, me and our children and their families) are just sad.

Larry Gedde - August 11, 2006 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ Dear Diana and Girls,

My heart was saddened this morning as I received the message of James' passing. I have asked the Lord to give you added strength in these days and will continue to do so. As a young child, I remember Jaimie being held in such high regard, almost in awe, by all of us "younger" cousins. Especially when he returned from the service, maybe it was college...I just know he was gone and when he came home, it was like he was a celebrity. He always took time to talk to us little kids and we all grew up knowing he was very special. I was very glad to be his cousin. There are some verses in Corinthians that gives us comfort and hope. May the Lord bless them to your heart of hearts.

'This body that can be destroyed will clothe itself with that which can never be destroyed, and this body that dies will clothe itself with that which can never die. Death's power to hurt us is sin, and the power of sin is the law. BUT we thank God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.'

I Corinthians 15:54, 56

'We know that our body--the tent we live in here on earth--will be destroyed. But when that happens, God will have a house for us. It will not be a house made by human hands; instead, it will be a home in heaven that will last forever.'

2 Corinthians 5:1

With Love,

Lin

Lin (Olson) Winger - August 11, 2006 at 12:00 AM