



Mr. E. Jim Whitfield

February 19, 2018

WHITFIELD, E. James

Passed peacefully, surrounded by his family at Hospice Simcoe in Barrie on Monday, February 19th, 2018 at the age of 75. Devoted husband of Karen for 32 years. Loving father of Jillian Whitfield and of Janna Whitfield (David). Cherished grandfather of Nicholas and Summer. Survived by his brother Dr. William Whitfield. Jim will be sadly missed by many long-time friends and colleagues through his 30+ years teaching high school Physical Education in Barrie. Visitation will be held at the Steckley-Gooderham Funeral Home, 30 Worsley St., Barrie on Friday, February 23rd, 2018 from 2-4 and 7-9 pm, with service taking place on Saturday, February 24th, 2018 at 11 am. Guests are invited to remain for a reception luncheon in the Lounge. In lieu of flowers, donations to Hospice Simcoe or the RVH Cardiac Care Centre would be greatly appreciated by the family. Online memories and condolences may be forwarded via www.steckleygooderham.com

Events

FEB **Visitation** 02:00PM - 04:00PM

23

Steckley-Gooderham Funeral Home Worsley Street Chapel
30 Worsley Street, BARRIE, ON, CA, L4M 1L4

FEB **Visitation** 07:00PM - 09:00PM

23

Steckley-Gooderham Funeral Home Worsley Street Chapel
30 Worsley Street, BARRIE, ON, CA, L4M 1L4

FEB **Service** 11:00AM - 12:00PM

24

Steckley-Gooderham Funeral Home Worsley Street Chapel
30 Worsley Street, BARRIE, ON, CA, L4M 1L4

FEB **Reception** 12:00PM - 01:30PM

24

Steckley-Gooderham Funeral Home Worsley Street Chapel
30 Worsley Street, BARRIE, ON, CA, L4M 1L4

Comments



“ Dear Karen, Janna, and Jillian,

I am so sorry to read of your husband/father's death. As someone commented before me, he lit up a room when he entered. There's not a better feeling for a teacher when she is facing the parent/ teacher interview. He was always caring and understanding of the teacher's role and so proud of both his girls. Your family was the kind of family every teacher likes to teach and befriend. I hope you can find some comfort in all these comments below and from each other in this very difficult time.

Fondest regards,
Jennifer Campbell

Jennifer Campbell - March 18, 2018 at 04:42 PM



“ Jim is my cousin on the Whitfield/Billsten side of the family. I fondly remember visits and overnight stays with Jim and Bill when younger and I helped with their paper route. His mother, our Aunt Carrie, was a favorite too. When Jim & Bill no longer needed their single beds, Aunt Carrie donated them to our two children; best beds ever! I last saw Jim in 2007 when we did a cross Canada trip visiting him and the girls in Barrie and we covered a lot of memories. We're sad that Karen and the family have lost this wonderful husband, father and grandfather. We want you to know that you are held close in our thoughts and our hearts. We'll miss your emails Jim.
George & Myrna Billsten, Victoria, BC.

George & Myrna Billsten - March 16, 2018 at 10:33 PM



“ So sorry to hear of your loss. I remember Jim well from Kiwanis competitions with Jillian and being friends through elementary and high school. He was a wonderful, kind and supportive man. He will be missed. Best wishes and thoughts to you.

Jessica Scott - March 04, 2018 at 02:04 PM



“ I’m so sorry for your loss, Jim was a great dad and such a good guy. He treated Karen right and he knew how to stand up for his girls. I hope your family stays strong and as you can see from the memories below, he has had a great impact on many lives.

Cody Turner - March 04, 2018 at 09:29 AM



“ It was a privilege for me to know Jim and his family through our common church affiliation. You always walked away from a conversation with Jim, happier because of it.

My condolences and best wishes to Karen, Janna and Jillian.

Neil Donnelly, Kingston

Neil Donnelly - February 26, 2018 at 07:43 AM



“ My deepest sympathies to Karen, Jillian, and Janna. Jim was a great friend and colleague. I will never forget the time when we were at a cross country meet with my daughter Meagan (very young at the time). Jim volunteered to carry her on his shoulders as we ran from place to place on the course. As we passed under a tree, my daughter let out a cry. Jim, being so tall, had forgotten the extra bit of height he was carrying, and a tree branch caught Meagan squarely on the forehead. Jim felt so bad afterward, when it should have been her stupid dad (me) for not paying attention as we went through the trees. May you rest in peace Jim.

Jim Wheeler

Jim Wheeler - February 24, 2018 at 09:59 AM



“ My condolences to the entire Whitfield.

I was fortunate to be taught, coached and be a team mate with Jim. Always a gentleman, great sense of humour and very supportive. I have only positive feelings and good memories of Jim. Awesome guy.

Chris Wright, BNC Class of '81

Chris Wright - February 23, 2018 at 10:55 PM



“ Dear Karen & Family
So sorry to hear that Jim has passed away
It's hard to find the right words to say
May your many memories help pull you through
Our sincere condolences
To your family and you
Healing hugs sent your way
That your pain will lessen
With each passing day.
Love Robin & Bob

Robin Ramer & Bob Weaver - February 23, 2018 at 02:06 PM



“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Lee Brebner - February 23, 2018 at 09:14 AM



“ Mr Whitfield was a kind and gentle teacher who was very fair with everyone. I had a great deal of respect for him as one of my favourite teachers at North. He was a fierce athlete but had a soft side too. Rest in Peace Mr Whitfield and Thank-you for all you did for all of us in those years 1975-1981. My thoughts and prayers are with your family as I am sure they are struggling with your loss. Respect.

Hunter Saggar - February 22, 2018 at 11:13 PM



“ I would like to send condolences on behalf of your cousins. Thinking of you Karen and your family at this time. Wendy, Kathi, Cheryl, Lisa, Terri, Dennis and Craig.



cheryl - February 22, 2018 at 07:50 PM



“ Jim Whitfield was part of a wonderful cohort of coaches, students & teachers - all friends at Barrie North Collegiate. I was part of this experience from 1975-1980. Jim was a great leader, a great human - always kind, a great role model for all fortunate to connect with him. God Bless.
- Don Johnston

Don Johnston - February 22, 2018 at 05:40 PM



“ I remember Jim when he helped coach our Barrie gymnastics team in vault! Such a gentleman. He would stand there between the board and the vault and you'd have to dive over him! He was tall! He made us the best vaulters around.

Only sad I never had a chance to see you again after all these years Jim. Loved by us all, missed by us all.

Our family's love goes out to all of his family. Love from All of the gymnastic Scott girls.

Cynde
Heidi
Debra
Donna
Julie

CyndeHarmon - February 22, 2018 at 05:32 PM



“ Sad that Jim is gone. Great guy. Looked good in a Speedo.
When Jim first moved to Barrie, he was us Lemmon's Barrie Neptune's swim coach.
This was our intro to Jim:
.... His first swim meet as our coach ...It was a close meet ... the outcome of last race would decide the winning team ... We remember, the coach of the other swim team, in order to win the meet, decided to enter himself in the race. Jim, being Jim, first called bullshit. Then, when the guy wouldn't back out, Jim, our coach, entered the race. The other coach said something to Jim, not sure what, something good natured and Jim said, "I'm here to win." At the gun (and I think it was a real gun in the day), Jim's start had him most of the way down the pool. Jim's flip turn was impeccable. We in Barrie had never seen anything so good. Jim pushed off and was on his way up the pool before the other coach reached the turn area. Jim won the race very easily. He never said anything to us. Just gave us that bit of a grin that was Jim. Never forget that. So cool.
Jim was always a man of action and always stood behind his word.
We'll never forget him.
Peace to him

Mark Lemmon - February 22, 2018 at 05:24 PM



“ I am very saddened to hear of Jims passing and my thoughts and prayers are with Karin . Jillian and Janna. Jim and I first met in 1954 in Jr. High School while living in the Oliver district of Edmonton which was truly a "1950s" neighbourhood with lots of friends and acquaintances on every block in the area. We learned to swim at the open air West End swimming pool and play hockey and skate on outdoor rinks. We had a real community of kids that will still remember Jim as one of the good guys. Later Jim and i went to Victoria Composite and met fellow travellers Tom Brownie, David Sinclair, Richard Senetchko and Ron Parson. We travelled together for most of our high school years. We often roamed Alberta travelling the backroads, always taking the trail less travelled. After high school we all went our own ways but over the years have kept in touch most recently at a school reunion in 2010 with many more of our lifelong friends. .
We were all so happy to see Jim and Karin marry and have two daughters Jim was so proud of.
RIP my friend.....we will meet again

Tim Cranfield - February 22, 2018 at 04:18 PM



“ My Tribute to Jim Whitfield

Dear Whitfield Families:

Please know how saddened I am for the loss of Jim—your husband, your father, and your grandfather. You all must be strong through this very sad time. I would ask that each of you remember all those special times you had with Jim and know you have no regrets.

I have some thoughts and memories I want to share about my cousin Jim. He and I have been close friends since we were very young—that was about 65 years ago!!! Jim and his brother Bill loved to come to the French farm during their summer holidays. It was a new and learning experience for the boys to be there. We had no running water, no electricity, no natural gas, no indoor toilets that flushed. We often laughed about it and they did get used to it.

Both boys loved the farm horses. The three of us would go for rides pretty well every day they were there. Jim became quite a good rider—he was more daring than Bill and definitely enjoyed knowing he was pretty good. Jim and Bill would help me to do chores for their uncle Alex (of course, my dad). When they were there it was play, play, play and it was so much fun!!

They became two of my favorite cousins (Auntie Carie was my dad's favourite little sister).

Jim and I stayed in touch over the years and he would visit whenever he could. We would usually reminisce and enjoy again some good laughs.

I know Jim was a hard-working, intelligent, caring and very thoughtful person. He was certainly close to his family and his friends.

We often discussed our grandchildren, and I am so glad he was blessed with enjoying them—he was so proud of them!! I will never forget how excited he was when he called to announce the birth of his first daughter. Very obvious that Karen, his girls, and his grandchildren were so special.

I am so glad Jim was a part of my life. I have such fond memories of this wonderful man and will miss him terribly.

Isabelle Sliter – Jim's cousin



“ i am so sorry to hear about Jim.

i taught with him at North and played with him on the Barrie RFC and he was always a smiling gentle gentleman who could always see the good in any situation or any person.

His smiling, calming presence will be missed.

Jack LeSage

jack lesage - February 22, 2018 at 12:41 PM



“ I am sorry to to hear about his passing. Will remember him for his calming influence as a player with Barrie Rugby Club and the fun times off the field

Don Arkell - February 22, 2018 at 01:47 PM



“ We will miss Jim's happy smile and gentleness. I worked with Jim at north and I found him to be a very professional teacher. But most of all he loved working with young people. He was in glory in the classroom and in the gym.He NEVER had a bad word for anyone. He now rests in the palm of God's hand.

We miss you

Jim Perri

Jim Perri - February 23, 2018 at 10:30 AM



“ Like so many fortunate students at North I was so very lucky to have Mr. Whitfield as a teacher and mentor. Such an accomplished educator even at a very young age. He was always so kind and encouraging but not afraid to push you to be just that much better.

But it was my relationship with Jim as a founding member of the Barrie Rugby team where our relationship grew from teacher/student to just friends and teammates. A decievingly good player and a true gentleman on and off the field Jim's big personality was always great fun to be around. It was so great to reconnect with Jim at the recent BRC reunion.

Jim will be greatly missed by his family, friends and Rugby "guys".

Brian Dagneault. BNC Class of '68

Founding Member BRFC

Brian Dagneault - February 24, 2018 at 10:58 PM



“ Sorry for the loss of your husband, Karen, and father of Janna (Dave) and Jillian. He will be missed. You are all in my prayers.

God Bless Always Susan DeVriese

Susan DeVriese - February 22, 2018 at 10:57 AM



“ Only saw him get angry once. A Balmy Beach player bit him in a line out. Playing at North Collegiate field in Barrie, he actually struck the guy who had just left teeth marks in his thigh.. Sid Cathery said it was his best game ever for the Barrie rugby Football club. A swimmer by trade, his distinctive running style was recognizable around Barrie. I valued the years as his brother-in -law. And his friendship.
Rob Avery

Robert Avery - February 22, 2018 at 09:59 AM



“ I'll never forget Jim driving my Corvette fast as all hell with a smile on his face asking me if it's ok to go faster. Always had the same smile on his face, gonna miss it my brother. Rest easy kind sir

dave edgar - February 20, 2018 at 05:34 PM



“ So so sorry for the loss of your awesome husband, Karen, your awesome dad, Jillian, Janna, Dave, and your awesome grandfather, Nicholas and Summer. May the good memories be a treasure you hold close to your hearts.

God Bless, Judy van Oirschot

Judy van Oirschot - February 20, 2018 at 05:29 PM



“ Jim's smile always warmed up a room when he entered into it. He always made you feel a sense of calm and true quiet strength. His pride for his family was always evident and you always knew that you could count on him if you ever needed to. He was one of those people who made a difference just by saying hello. My deepest sympathies to Karen, Jillian and family.

Joy Thompson

Joy Thompson - February 20, 2018 at 05:21 PM



“ Karen and girls I am so sorry for your loss

terri lynn bechard - February 21, 2018 at 07:16 PM



“ My sincerest condolences to Karen and family.

Buffy - February 21, 2018 at 10:17 PM



“ I taught with Jim at both North and Central. He as a consummate professional as well as a true gentleman and gentle man. My sympathies and prayers go to Karen and all Jim's family.

Rory MacDonald - February 22, 2018 at 12:04 PM



“ I am sorry to hear of Jim's passing. I played football for him at North and later he refereed a number of my basketball games when I coached with the Royals. I always found him to be a real gentleman. I know he will be sorely missed.

Ian Rowe

Ian Rowe - February 23, 2018 at 07:32 AM



“ Our family will miss Jim greatly. He was a good friend to us and a true gentlemen. Our deepest sympathies to Karen, Jillian, Janna, Dave and grandchildren.
Karen & Stefan Bolliger

Karen Bolliger - February 20, 2018 at 04:30 PM