



James "Jim" Paul Kustka

February 12, 1971 - January 4, 2020

James Paul Kustka, "Jim", 48, passed away Saturday, January 4, 2020, after a brief but hard-fought battle with lung cancer.

He leaves behind his mother, Brenda Isasi; Step-Father, Roy Isasi; sister Debra Kustka, her wife Kathy Morris; brother Tim Kustka, his wife Sitvanit and their daughters Noga and Nofar; brother Matthew Kustka, his wife Denise, their daughters Emily and Payton and son Adam.

He was preceded in death by his father, James Henry Kustka, who died at the age of 49 in 1991.

Born in Manhasset, NY on February 12, 1971, Jim was adopted as an infant by Brenda & James Kustka and raised in Farmingdale, NY. Jim served in the Air Force from 1990-1994 immediately after graduating from Farmingdale High School and proudly fought for his country during Desert Storm. That experience was a large part of who Jim was and to show his appreciation he continued to honor his fellow veterans by placing flags at Raleigh National Cemetery for both Veterans Day and Memorial Day every year.

Jim lead an uncomplicated life. He only participated in things that he was truly passionate about. As a result, he was never distracted by things that didn't matter and always gave his full attention to those he was with and what they

were doing.

Work was one of his passions. He was a Turf Manager at Eastern Turf Maintenance for almost 10 years and truly cared about delivering the best quality service to his customers. His authenticity showed because they, in turn, cared about him. During Jim's illness his employer, co-workers and customers rallied around him like family. They loved him as much as he loved them.

His other passions were family and football. If he wasn't rooting for the Steelers or Notre Dame he was hanging out with his brother Matt and his family. Matt often joked that he had a family of 6 because Jim never missed an opportunity to be part of it. Whether it was a family trip to NJ to visit his sister, supporting his nieces and nephew in their activities, prepping for the holidays or just sharing a drink Jim was there enjoying the moments.

Jim's life was short but in some ways, because he expected nothing and appreciated everything, he lived more than most.

There will be a visitation from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm Thursday, January 9, 2020 at Apex Baptist Church, 110 S. Salem St., Apex. A memorial service will be at 2:00 pm in the sanctuary of Apex Baptist Church. Inurnment with Military Honors will follow in Wake Memorial Park, Cary.

The family would like to thank the incredible staff at Durham, VA for their compassionate care and support. The quality of care they provided was an unexpected blessing during a very difficult time. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Durham VA General Purpose Program. <https://www.pay.gov/public/form/start/50810087/>

Cemetery Details

Wake Memorial Park Cemetery

7002 Green Hope School Rd
Cary, NC 27519
(919) 465-0888
<https://www.wakememorialpark.com/>

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 9. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Apex Baptist Church
110 S. Salem St
Apex, NC 27502

Celebration of Life Service

JAN 9. 2:00 PM (ET)

Apex Baptist Church
110 S. Salem St
Apex, NC 27502

Tribute Wall

JS

“ He was my friend and family. And we served together in the USAF. Miss you brother.

John Skaretka - June 19, 2021 at 11:02 AM

BP

“ Jim was the one who treated my yard seven times a year in Durham. As soon as he drove up he would ring my doorbell to let me know he was here. I would go to the door and we would talk quite a while and catch up with what was going on. He had quite a lot of very interesting things that I learned about. I was so thankful and proud for his service to our country and told him so. I am 84 years old and I could have talked to him for much longer than he had time to be here on that day. He was very kind and thoughtful. He loved his family and he spoke of them often and how much he loved them and especially his mother. I had no idea he was even sick but I had missed him because the last two times he was not the one who treated my yard. I don't know why the company did not let me know that he has passed. My grandson found out a few days ago and told me today as they were friends and used to work together. The sadness started in my heart because I will miss him dearly. I am very sorry for your loss of this very fine young man and I pray God's blessings on each of you. Ms Pendergraft

Barbara Pendergraft - January 18, 2020 at 02:37 PM

ED

Jim a really good guy throughout, I remember he had a lizard king shirt he used to wear in h.s. 4H RIP James

Eddie - May 09, 2020 at 03:01 AM

BP

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to your family during this difficult time God Bless you all and Jim as well.

Benjamin Pratt - January 10, 2020 at 06:54 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Paul Kustka.



January 08, 2020 at 11:55 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Paul Kustka.



January 07, 2020 at 09:18 AM

BS

“ *Baptists on Mission Staff* purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of James "Jim" Paul Kustka.



Baptists on Mission Staff - January 06, 2020 at 08:18 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Paul Kustka.*



January 06, 2020 at 08:09 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with Jimmy's family and friends. So sorry for your loss.
May God help you through this difficult time.*

We knew young Jimmy as a little boy and he was always having fun with his family and ours.....he will be missed.....may he rest in peace!

Mrs. Barbara Skaretka Robbins and family

Barbara Skaretka Robbins - January 06, 2020 at 06:56 PM



“ *I will always remember Jimmys smile and kindness back in Farmingdale. I'm so sorry for your loss.*

Muriel Karp Church - January 06, 2020 at 06:10 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Paul Kustka.*



January 06, 2020 at 03:30 PM