

REMEMBRANCES

James (Jim) L. Weber

NOVA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

A Celebration of Life

April 18, 2021

By Emma Violand-Sánchez

Who is Jim to me? He is the man I cherished for over 20 years. He taught me the meaning of love. And we loved each other fully.

I learned from Jim that love is trust, responsibility, companionship, friendship, respect, and independence. And beautiful.

Trust

Jim taught me that trust is important: never lie or fake an answer. Be open, truthful, and vulnerable. Jim could always be trusted; he did not promise anything that he would not do.

Beauty

I learned the beauty of companionship and friendship through Jim. Our love was simple, not complicated, our respect for each other profound. We accepted the way we were and did not try to change each other. Our independence was important to him. We could be independent yet still be deeply connected and remain deeply loving to one another.

Responsibility

Jim adored his family; it was his commitment to family that drew me to him. I fell in love with him when I saw him babysit Lila, his first granddaughter, when his daughter Jenny went back to work. The look on his face, the way he held her, the deep connection he had to this little baby showed me the special vast essence of his spirit.

His children Jennifer, Matthew, son-in law Jason, and daughter in-law Ashley as well as his five granddaughters: Lila, Piper, Violet, Juni, and Zora were the pride of his life. We spoke often over our dinners about our families. I will always cherish those dinners and conversations.

In the end, he remained that humble wise spirit, telling me that cancer reminds one to live in the now and appreciate what you have. And he had a lot of love surrounding him and he returned it. I know he was grateful that his family took such loving care of him the last days of his life.

Respect and Independence

I learned to respect his love for Marjorie, for I knew it was hard for him to let her go. Her ashes are still on his mantle after so many years and came to represent the unending capacity of his heart to love. That deep connection and respect for his past, like his respect and love for Marjorie, made him special. He left a legacy of love. My daughter Julie considers Jim as a role model of how a father should be: dependable, kind, and loving.

How did Jim show his love?

He demonstrated it in so many simple ways. He liked to give practical gifts. For my birthday he gave me an electric garage door opener and had it installed. He simply said that every time I opened the garage, I would know that he loved me.

Regularly he brought blackberry jam, peaches for my mother, her favorites. For her 100th birthday, he gave her 100 dollars in 1-dollar bills. My mother loved it! That was Jim.

Jim cherished his toys, tools, antique car in his barn. He kept his erector set he got when he was 12 years old. Many were surprised by his unexpected gifts be it toys, CDs, books, bicycles, pressure cookers from garage sales, practical but like the garage door opener, a reminder of his love.

Generosity and faith

He always had \$20 bills in his pocket to give to a homeless person on the streets. Nova Catholic Community and all of you were important to him; he enjoyed helping at Christ House and Good Friday liturgy using the big crucifix he built.

My loss is great, as is yours

I miss his companionship, our daily phone calls, and our dinners together. Jim always arrived promptly at 5:30 p.m. bringing a bottle of his 2 buck Chuck and milk. As all of you know he had to drink milk during meals and was always grateful for a home-cooked meal. He treasured friendship and liked to celebrate birthdays with George and Bonnie Lowrey. We enjoyed listening to John Prime, Patsy Kline, and sometimes we danced before dinner. He was a closet romantic.

We had some great adventures together

We traveled to Exuma with Jenny's family and to Bolivia with Matt. How can I forget my 60's birthday celebration in Paris?

It was fun to visit his hometown in Perrysville, Ohio and meet the Weber's clan. We enjoyed attending St Thomas Military Academy alumni reunions where he attended school. I admired Jim's self-confidence. He was proud of his hardworking parents, the Dairy Farm and delivering milk with his dad before going to school. His mom kept his acceptance letter to Notre Dame and report cards showing that he was number 1 in English, Sciences and winning the state track championship.

Jim was very smart and quite humble. He was authentic. I marveled at his vocabulary doing word puzzles even in the last week of his life.

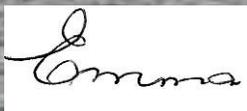
Education

Jim believed that education was a great investment in a person's life. I am happy that we will honor his memory with a Dream Project Jim Weber scholarship for a low-income immigrant student pursuing engineering in college. His legacy will live on through his family and through this scholarship program.

Gratitude

I believe that Gratitude is an antidote to suffering. Thank you, Jim, for showing me "the stuff" of which real loving is made. Let us dance and celebrate your birthday today!

With love and gratitude,

A white rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emma".