



James William Arpey

October 2, 1932 - December 28, 2017

James William Arpey passed away peacefully on Thursday, December 28, 2017 in Conroe, Texas. He was born on October 2, 1932 in Saratoga Springs, New York.

Jim was preceded in death by his wife of 64 years Lorraine Marie, his son Michael who died in infancy, his father William Sr., mother Anna and his brother William Jr. He is survived by his devoted sons James of Montgomery, Texas and Gerard of Colleyville, Texas; his grandchildren Alexandra, James and Luke of Colleyville, Texas; and his beloved dog Freddy.

After graduating from Saratoga Springs High School in 1951, Jim enrolled at the Bentley School of Accounting and Finance in Boston, MA (now Bentley University). His studies were interrupted by the Korean War where he served in the United States Air Force with distinction, being honorably discharged in July, 1956 after four years of active military duty. After his honorable discharge, Jim resumed his studies at Bentley and post-graduation embarked on a lifelong career in aviation.

Jim was blessed with uncommon business acumen and gifted with natural leadership abilities. These strengths, along with his love for people, his unmatched drive and fortitude, combined to fashion him into a truly exemplary business leader. His career spanned many decades and many companies:

from his start with General Dynamics and General Electric, to Trans World Airways, Frontier Airlines, Texas International Airlines and finally as the head of operations for Continental Airlines -- a position from which he retired in the mid-1990s.

Jim instilled in his sons a strong work ethic, compassion for others and a love for all things aviation. Both his sons pursued careers in the aviation field and have lost count of the number of people they've crossed paths with who had a kind word to say about their father's tremendous business skill, kindness and generosity. It seems to them that their father was always willing to lend a hand to anyone in need. He will be greatly missed.

The family wishes to acknowledge its heartfelt gratitude to son James Patrick Arpey for the unwavering devotion, compassion and care with which he tended to his parents in their final years. Sincere and heartfelt thanks are extended to all those who loved Jim in this life: to the many outstanding professionals at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, St. Luke's Hospital in The Woodlands and the Conroe Regional Hospital. Special thanks are also extended to the many care givers that provided for Jim with warm and respectful care at home in his time of need.

A private memorial service is planned for family and friends at the Houston National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorial gifts may be made to the MD Anderson Cancer Center and the Houston SPCA. You may leave written memorials to his family at www.shmfh.com

Tribute Wall



“ *James William Arpey*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *Love, Billy and Patti and Family purchased the Sapphire Skies Bouquet for the family of James William Arpey.*



Love, Billy and Patti and Family - January 11, 2018 at 09:45 PM



“ *I am very saddened over the loss of this good man. Jim wasn't just a co-worker, he was a wonderful friend. It was a privilege working with him all those years. I will always cherish those memories. I was fortunate to not only know and work with him, but in later years, his son, Jim, as well. It's easy to see why he was so proud of his sons. My heartfelt prayers go out to this family at this difficult time.*

Pam Brashear - January 08, 2018 at 12:02 PM

KD

“ Although distance in miles made it challenging to visit my Uncle Jim in Texas, I have wonderful memories of him during my younger years. He had a hearty, contagious laugh and the best bear hugs ever! He always greeted me with an exuberant “Kathleen” then followed by one of those awesome bear hugs. He had a great smile, was always genuinely interested in how I was doing. His “can do” fun spirit, caring nature and love for animals are reflected in his 2 fine sons. I know how much they will miss him. Sending prayers to my cousins Jim and Gerard during this difficult time. Love, Kathy Delcambre

Kathy Delcambre - January 07, 2018 at 03:21 AM

CH

“ Condolences to the family of James Arpey. So sad to hear of his passing.
Fondly, Curtis Hoag

Curtis Hoag - January 04, 2018 at 09:03 PM

JD

Our condolences. Jacob, Cristy and Jake Delcambre.

Jacob Delcambre - January 06, 2018 at 12:15 PM

MW

We were glad to call the Arpey's our neighbor and friends.

Julie and Mickey Wagner and Family

mickey wagner - January 06, 2018 at 08:43 PM