



James Douglas Beeman

DEC 14, 1948 - JUN 21, 2019



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FLORAL HAVEN

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James Douglas Beeman passed away peacefully from a respiratory illness with his wife by his side on June 21, 2019, at the age of 70. He was born in Manhattan, Kansas, on December 14, 1948, and moved to Tulsa as a young boy. Jim graduated from Memorial High School in 1966 as part of the third class in the school's history. He attended Cornell College in Mt. Vernon, Iowa, where he majored in political science and managed the campus radio station, KRNL. It was also there, during a speech class, where he met his soon-to-be wife of 49 years, Liz Beeman. Following graduation, Jim was a disc jockey spinning the day's hits at KCRG in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. But the rock and roll lifestyle gave way to a more stable existence when he took a job in retail and started a family. After a successful 11-year career in personnel management at Sears Roebuck in the upper Midwest he moved his family home to Tulsa where he became the President of Beeman Products Co., a specialty building distributor. For more than 33 years he shepherded this successful small business. He served as President of the Oklahoma Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors and was awarded the Roy Martin Golden Hard Hat award for meritorious service to that organization in 1997. Jim was a devoted patron of Union Public Schools where his children attended, and his wife taught English and speech. His involvement included coaching youth sports, moderating candidate forums and serving on long range planning committees. He was instrumental in the planning, building and completion of the Union High School baseball complex. Jim returned to his broadcasting roots as the public address "Voice of the Redskins", where he called more than 150 Union home football games over a 20-year timespan. In 2015 he was inducted into the Union Athletic Hall of Fame. He was passionate about gardening, growing vegetables, Oklahoma Sooners football, golf and fishing. But nothing gave "Sir" (as they called him) more joy than spending time with his five grandchildren – Kathryn, Holly, Cooper, Alex and Annabel. Survived by wife Liz



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Beeman; sons Jim Jr. (Carrie) of Portland, Oregon, Doc Beeman (Jennifer) of Platte City, MO, Father Daniel Beeman of Norfolk, VA, a Catholic Priest; mother, Florence Beeman; brother William Beeman (Frank Farris); and sister Adele Beeman (Steve Freedman). He was preceded in death by his father, William O. Beeman. His funeral will take place on Friday, June 28, at 10 a.m. at Jim's home Church of 38 years — First United Methodist, 112 E. College Street in Broken Arrow. His son, Father Daniel Beeman, will preside at the Funeral with Reverend Larry Varvel, assisting. A reception will follow. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Beeman Education Scholarship, c/o Shea Ludwig at the Union Schools Education Foundation, 8506 E. 61st Street, Tulsa, OK 74133.



Tribute Wall

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DW

David N. Wilson posted:

Dear Liz and family: I am sorry to hear of Jim's passing. Wonderful memories of Jim in Merner Hall and at KRNL. May the peace of the Lord be with you and your family. David Wilson

September 11 at 11:59 AM

JK

Jan & Terry Keele posted:

Thinking back many years to your time here in Wisconsin, we have such fond memories of your family, our oldest boys being born 2 days apart. We both feel deep sorrow for your loss. Our thoughts have been with you many times and may your family give you comfort, Liz.

June 24 at 10:35 AM

WB

William O Beeman posted:

I am deeply saddened by the departure of my dear beloved brother, Jim. His many achievements have enriched the lives of so many people. His successful business career, service to the business community, service to education at Union High School and service to the community, are all tributes to a truly great man. But perhaps his greatest success was in raising an astonishingly accomplished and loving family along with his wonderful wife, Elizabeth Hoyer Beeman, a beloved master teacher at Union High School for many years. Jim's sons, my nephews, Jim, Doc and Dan have all gone on to great success in business and in their communities. They and their equally accomplished spouses, Carrie (Jim) and Jennifer (Doc) have raised loving and talented children, Kathryn, Holly, Cooper, Alex, and Annabel of whom we all are proud. Dan has gone on to be a beloved Catholic priest with an adoring parish in Virginia. Our mother, Florence O'Kieffe Beeman, herself a pillar of the Tulsa Community through her many years as a professional social worker at Family and Children's Service is still strong at 98 years of age. All of Jim's family—my brother's wife, children, daughters-in-law, grandchildren, mother, my sister, Adele, her husband Steve Freedman, and my husband, Frank A. Farris, as well as many others from the Beeman and O'Kieffe families—can look back on Jim's life with enormous pride. We are saddened to have lost our friend, brother, father, grandfather, brother-in-law and father-in-law, but we know the world is a better place for Jim's life. He will be deeply mourned and remembered.

June 24 at 9:57 AM



Tribute Wall

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Frank A. Farris posted:

Please accept my sincere condolences on the loss of Jim. I am grateful to have known him as a quiet leader of a fine family. Our contribution to the scholarship fund is on the way. What a generous way for the family to celebrate his long record of supporting Union High.

June 24 at 9:39 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring James by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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