



James A. Runkel

June 3, 1931 - September 4, 2021

James A. Runkel, Sr.,

Kinston, North Carolina: James (Jim) Allen Runkel, Sr. passed peacefully from this earth on Saturday, September 4, 2021, at the age of 90 years. In his final hours he was attended by three of his children, Sharon, Stephanie, and Bill, and his son-in-law Bryan Eaves. Jim was born in Geneva, Indiana on June 3, 1931, as the second child of 11 of Harold and Dottie May (Morgan) Runkel, who preceded him in death.

Jim grew up in Indiana during the Great Depression, which shaped his life and world view. A veteran of the U.S. Air Force and the Korean War, he enlisted in 1949 and retired in 1969 at the rank of Senior Master Sergeant. He met his future wife, Margaret (Margo) G. Runkel, early in his Air Force career, which took them and their family to numerous bases across the United States and, for a short period, to the Republic of the Philippines. Jim had two subsequent careers, working for Kroger at their Indianapolis bakery and at National Starch in Indianapolis.

A popular man, he made friends wherever he went, especially through his love of cards. His final retirement occurred in 1999 and he and Margo remained in their Indianapolis home and wintered in Florida, enjoying the company of her niece, Elizabeth Hudson, and her husband, Jack. Jim relished time with family and friends and indulging in his love of gardening. Jim and Margo made their final retirement home in North Carolina with their daughter Stephanie and her husband Bryan, who attended them lovingly throughout

their remaining years while providing them great care and companionship. Jim and Margo, who preceded him in death, were the parents of six children: Sharon Bonnett, Stephanie (Bryan) Eaves, James A. Runkel, Jr., who preceded him in death (Karen Kunkler), William (Joan) Runkel, Edward (Rebecca) Runkel, and Kenneth (Constance) Runkel. He and Margo were blessed with 15 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren. Jim, along with Margo, embraced the study abroad program, hosting five students from four different countries. He has seven surviving siblings, his sisters, Joann Bolke, Gloria Anderson, and Maxine Farris, and his brothers, George (Pat, deceased) Runkel, Richard Runkel, David (Lynn) Runkel, and Robert (Leah) Runkel. He was preceded in death by his brother Gerald ("Sonny") Runkel and his sisters, Norma and Wilma.

A Funeral Mass will take place at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 7243 E. 10th St., Indianapolis on Friday, September 10, 2021, at 11 am. Visitation will take place one hour prior to Mass, beginning at 10 am.

As a child of the Great Depression, food security was an important issue for Jim. He gave generously to his local food banks and his family asks that, in lieu of flowers, you please support your local food banks.

Cemetery Details

Washington Park East

10612 E. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46229

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **10**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Holy Spirit Catholic Church
7243 East 10th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46219

Mass of Christian Burial

SEP **10**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Holy Spirit Catholic Church
7243 East 10th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46219

Tribute Wall

BM

“ *Beanie and Barb Mayotte really loved Jim and Margo, They were at ElBeulah Senior Living and everyone that played cards enjoyed him so much! Best green beans and tomatoes ever. We spoke to him a lot by phone a lot but spoke with him last by Raleigh N.C.. we will miss him dearly. Our prayers are with all of the family*

Byron Barb Mayotte - September 09, 2021 at 06:53 PM

BM

above is comment

Byron Barb Mayotte - September 09, 2021 at 07:05 PM

TS

Jim and Margot were like family to my family. I always enjoyed going to their pig roast. My brother Jim and Jim jr were best friends throughout their lives until his death. Rest easy now Jim as you are with the love of your life and your son. So sorry for your families loss. Theresa Smith

theresa smith - September 09, 2021 at 09:51 PM

TS

So sorry for your loss. I enjoyed going to Margot and Jim's hog roast every year. My brother Jim and Jim Jr were best friends throughout out their lives. Now you have joined the love of your life, Margot and your son. Rest in piece.

theresa smith - September 09, 2021 at 09:55 PM

BM

Jim was a great guy. Everyone at El Beulah loved him. Bless you all and you are in our prayers. Janice Franklin Director at El Beulah

Byron Barb Mayotte - September 10, 2021 at 10:10 AM

BM

Prior comment was from Janice Franklin not Barb and Beanie so sorry.

Byron Barb Mayotte - September 10, 2021 at 10:14 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of James A. Runkel.* ”



September 09, 2021 at 08:51 AM



“ *Love and prayers from the Montgomery Family.* ”

Brad Montgomery - September 08, 2021 at 09:35 PM