



James Lloyd Tygum

January 3, 1939 - September 25, 2016

James Lloyd Tygum,

77, of Indianapolis, died September 25, 2016, after a struggle with dementia. He was born at 7:00 a.m. on January 3, 1939 at St. Mary's Hospital in Madison, WI, the only child of the late Lloyd and Thelma (Fortney) Tygum. In 1957 Jim graduated from Madison East High School in Madison, WI. He was active in the sport of curling, where players use special brooms to slide heavy polished granite rocks across ice toward a target. Jim joked that curling was such a slow-moving sport, the spectators sometimes fell asleep and so did the players. Jim was once sent home from school for wearing pink and black together. The next day the principle changed the rule, invited Jim back to school, and overnight the campus was filled with kids wearing pink and black (a popular fad in the 1950s).

He majored in art and philosophy at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and earned an AB degree in electrical engineering from Purdue University in 1972. He was one of the last railway postal workers, delivering mail from trains in Wisconsin and neighboring states. He worked 30 years for the Federal government, three years for the Post office and 27 years as an electronics technician at the Naval Avionics Center in Indianapolis, 1968 to 1995. He painted in oil and watercolor, showed his work in several shows in Madison, and liked to joke that he even managed to sell two paintings. After his February 1980 heart attack, he quit smoking and became an avid exerciser. He developed a "20-30 plan," walking to and from work 20 miles a

week and running 30 miles a week after work and on weekends. He took karate lessons briefly, but quit after being kicked in the shin by a five-year-old child because he was not fast enough to get out of the way. He participated in the Indy Mini-Marathon for many years, and in many Indiana 5K and 10K races; he also finished the 20-mile Syttende Mai ("May 17") run from Madison to Stoughton, Wisconsin, in 1986. He joined CIBA (Central Indiana Bicycling Assn.), rode his bike all over Indiana and participated in the Hilly Hundred. He also biked trails in Wisconsin and took part in GOBA, the Great Ohio Bicycling Adventure, in 1991, with 7,000 other bicyclists, in western Ohio.

In 1996 he received his first pacemaker (to treat atrial fibrillation) and that made it possible for him to begin hiking the Appalachian Trail, in April 1997. He hiked in spring, summer and fall weather in 1997, 1998, and 1999, and finished in 2000, a total of 2,160 official trail miles plus several hundred additional miles hiking to and from trailheads along the 14-state trail from Springer Mountain, Georgia to Mount Katahdin, Maine. He also hiked the Long Trail of Vermont, Isle Royale in the UP of Michigan, and several trails in Indiana and Wisconsin. All this he did while battling heart disease and Type 2 diabetes. In recent years, he developed osteoporosis and other health problems, but always gave his ailments a good fight.

Jim was a member of the Indianapolis Hiking Club, Indiana Geology Club, Circle City Lodge 5-614 of Sons of Norway, and Svea Lodge 253 of the Vasa Order of America. He also belonged to the Appalachian Trail Conservancy and Green Mountain Club of Vermont. He belonged to a Naval Avionics chess club and in the 1970s, played in chess tournaments all over Indianapolis and elsewhere in Indiana.

Jim was a computer enthusiast and after retiring from NAC, turned his house into a network, with 15 interconnected computers, and cameras aimed in all directions from six rooms and the attic. His house hummed with electronic buzzes, beeps, whistles, alarms and sirens. Jim was a quiet, bookish man who especially admired the philosopher Bertrand Russell and Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats by T.S. Eliot. He was known for his wit and clever turns

of phrase and for brewing coffee so strong that no one else would drink it. He drank four pots a day, explaining that with his ADHD, strong black coffee kept him calm. He was a stutterer and joked that a description of him should say that "Jim is a s-s-s-s stutterer."

Jim had two "trail names." On the Appalachian Trail, he was known as Jimmy One Note and later, a family friend dubbed him Trekker. He relished his hiking adventures and the fascinating people he met along the way. Jim's farewell messages to family and friends might be "Happy Trails" and "What's a hiker without oatmeal?" His epitaph might be a remark he blurted out recently: "Mission completed."

He is survived by his wife of 37 years, C. Jean Tygum (married June 16, 1979) and their daughter, Emily Elizabeth Tygum; his first wife, Pamala Mueller, of Carmel (married 1964-1973), and their daughter, Great (Kevin) Johnson of Hillsboro, and son, Olin Garth Tygum, of Waynetown; granddaughters Alicia Mister of Waynetown, and Sarah (Thomas) Broderick, of West Chester, Ohio; two great-grandsons, Isak Michael Broderick and Jakob Levi Broderick, also of West Chester, Ohio; his brother-in-law, Steven Christiansen, of Las Vegas, Nevada; and by many friends and relatives in Indiana, Wisconsin and elsewhere.

Visitation and funeral will take place from 2 to 4 PM on Thursday, September 29, 2016, at Shirley Brothers Irving Hill Chapel, 5377 E. Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46219.

The family suggests that memorial donations be made to the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, 799 Washington St., Harpers Ferry, WV 25425-0807.

Website: appalachiantrail.org

Cemetery Details

Roselawn Memorial Park Cemetery

705 Femrite Drive
Monona, WI 53716

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **29**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Shirley Brothers Irving Hill Chapel
5377 E. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46219
(317) 357-1181
info@shirleybrothers.com
<https://www.shirleybrothers.com>

Funeral Service

SEP **29**. 4:00 PM (ET)

Shirley Brothers Irving Hill Chapel
5377 E. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46219
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info@shirleybrothers.com
<https://www.shirleybrothers.com>

Tribute Wall

GP

“ To Jimmy's Family: I was sorry to learn of Jim's passing. I was a good friend of Jimmy's from Grade school, junior high, East high school and UW-Madison. We were also in Boy Scouts together in troop 26. Between my Junior and senior years at UW I worked with his Dad delivering Beer and Liquor. It was a good, fun summer job. Having spent that much time with Jim I have many good memories of him.

I am so pleased he received a degree from Purdue. I was part of his frustration where he only needed 3 more math credits to receive his degree, but just could not get that last course. He described it as, " as you walk out into the lake it may get deeper as you go, but it is not a problem. But when you take that step where the water goes over your head you are done. He went in over his head with that last 3 credit math course.

Jim was on my Curling rink in high school. We had lots of fun and won a trophy that is still in the East High trophy case. We traveled to bonspiels in Wausau, Portage and Poynette. It was in Poynette where we won the trophy and were honored in front of the senior high students in an auditorium program.

When were in college Jimmy/s dad had a real fast Studebaker. We spent many weekend nights speeding around, not getting into trouble or doing any harm. Just having fun as neither of had a girl friend. Jim did take me into my first bar for the purpose of buying a beer. He showed me how easy it was!!!

I really liked Jim and I am sorry I will never be able to talk to him again.

If you have any questions you may email me at Plannergary@Sustainablegary.com.

Sincerely,

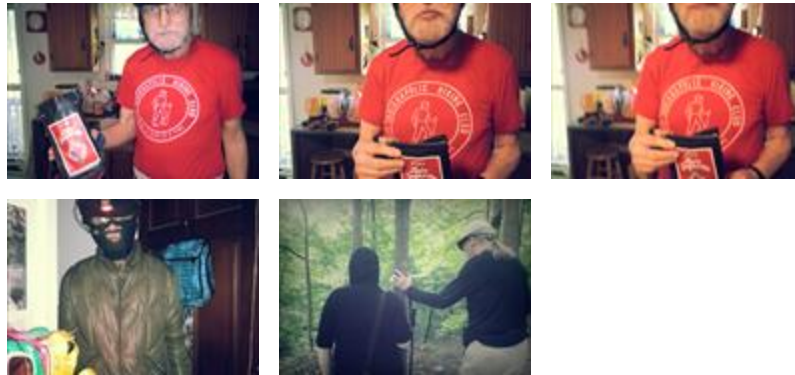
Gary Peterson

you are done."

Gary Peterson - October 10, 2016 at 04:40 PM

Emily Tygum

“ 13 files added to the album Emily's random cellphone pictures



Emily Tygum - October 09, 2016 at 09:36 PM

DV

“ I meet Jim on the Appalachian Trail in New York with my two son's who simply enjoyed his company. He was always a good sport and very funny adding to the conversation with little quotes and phrases which made them laugh out loud. The next day when we walked up the trail long before he left the shelter thinking this guy will not pass us going up the first mountain (we were wrong) he later flew by us with no problem. I was 44 and my sons were 15 & 13. He was 17 years older then me. We stayed with Jim at many shelters and we left the trail in 2000. Jim continued on. About 6 years later Jim and his wife were on a trip to Wisconsin. We are from Wisconsin. I was driving down the road and I thought I recognized this fellow who had a particular gait about him. His fanny pack on his side. I pulled over and asked where he was headed and we both were amazed. We talked and later decided that he needed to come back so we planned a trip to Sylvania in Michigan for a few days. I ended up breaking the wood canoe so Jim decided to walk to the truck which was about 3 miles..He got lost, but later found his way back and in the dark. He always seemed to find his way. We will miss Jim and all his wit. Take Care - Take Naps - Dave Vondra

dave vondra - October 08, 2016 at 08:03 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Video Album



Shirley Brothers Mortuaries & Crematory - September 30, 2016 at 09:28 AM



“ We will miss our dear, beloved friend Jim. He was such a good man and so interesting-- he could talk on most every subject. We had so many good times with Jim. When he and Charlane would come to Wisconsin to visit, he would show us how to use our computers, do conversions from an old computer to a new one, and entertain us with his many computer stories. He would play jokes on me, such as taking a picture of me sleeping in my recliner, snoring with my mouth open, and making that picture my screen saver, to my horror! Jim and Charlane would vacation with us at our farm in Tennessee and Jim would go hiking with Ted and my brother on the "old cow paths," as my cousin put it. Jim was such a good sport and actually quite an athlete in his hiking and biking abilities. We would entertain us with his stories about hiking the Appalachian Trail--a major accomplishment in anyone's life. We are so saddened by his death and will miss him.

Judy Poull

Judy Poull - September 29, 2016 at 11:04 AM

JP

“ Judy and Ted Poull purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of James Lloyd Tygum.



Judy and Ted Poull - September 29, 2016 at 10:14 AM

TP

“ On a hike with Jim, me, and Judy's brother in North Carolina, Jim (aka Trekker or Jimmy One Note) was experimenting with his new GPS. At the start of the hike, Jim announced that "we are now 4' from our truck." About 15 minutes into the hike, we became separated from Jim. The trail linked up with a very wide, well-traveled and maintained trail. Judy's brother and I set out on a maddening pace to find Jim. We started to notice people on the trail with canes and some in wheelchairs. The trail was a circle with a parking lot for buses and their passengers could get out and walk. Oh yes, we did find Jim. He was on a bench, fiddling with his GPS, and announcing "we are lost." Fifteen minutes later we were all back at the truck by following the people in wheelchairs!
Ted Poull

Ted Poull - September 29, 2016 at 09:44 AM

EJ

“ *Dear Jean and Emily,
We are deeply saddened by the passing of your husband and father
Jim.*

He was such an intelligent, witty, artistic, and inspiring man.

*We remember Jim helping with "technical" problems dealing with
computers and projectors; we will remember fondly his "mission
control" in Irvington.*

*Jim will be missed by all his friends in Svea Lodge 253, and the
Sons of Norway.*

Hugs,

Joella and Ed Hultgren

Ed and Joella - September 27, 2016 at 11:08 AM