



# In Loving Memory

## **James (Jim) W. Bell**

### July 10, 1940 – February 2, 2025

Every human being's life is a story, a unique story that nobody ever lived before and no one will ever live again. This is Jim's story.

James Wilson (Jim) Bell was born in and raised in the Okmulgee OK area, and died peacefully at his home in Longmont, Co on February 2, 2025. He was proud of his Oklahoma heritage but loved the Rocky Mountains.

He is survived by his wife: JoAnn, Daughters Trish (Glenn) Craggs, Marcia (Scott) Golden; Grandkids: Jennifer (Jasen) Magel, Matthew (Cecile) Craggs, David (Jessica) Golden. Great Grands: Serena Golden, Xavier Golden, Ethan Craggs, Devyn Golden, Max Craggs; He is also survived by a Nephew Jon (Mandy) Mays.

He was preceded in death by his father Tom, mother Anna, sister Sandra (Charlie) Mays and wives Paula and Kathie.

Jim received his bachelor's degree from Philips University in Enid, OK, preaching at several churches in eastern Oklahoma. Further studies took him to T.C.U. in Texas and C.U. in Boulder, CO.

He served in the Navy from 1965-1967, receiving an honorable discharge for chronic seasickness.

He was a probation officer for the State of Colorado for 35 years, retiring in 1996. He also served on the Governor's Commute Board working with prisoners ready for parole.

Among his many interests and collections were marbles, matchbooks, Avon, guns, leatherworking: making belts, purses, billfolds, wine making, shot glasses, a 64 T-Bird and photography, to name a few. He received his first camera when he was 10 and had one in his hand ever since. Building his own dark room, he was able to print color along with black and white photos and in later years tinted B&W prints.

Jim and Jo traveled extensively in their trailer to all 49 states and traveled the world with "Best Buds" Lee and Joanie and many others.

During his lifetime he belonged to many organizations: St. Vrain Photographic Society, Hix 'n Chix Square Dance Club, Ghost Town Club of Colorado, Longmont, Chorale, Boulder County Fair Photo Exhibit, Superintendent, Buell Theater, Denver, Candlelight Theater, Johnstown, Colorado.

Square dancing was a favorite pastime for them; traveling to many states for festivals. They were given the "Pioneer Award" for their support.

We thank Tammy and her staff from TRU hospice Care for their loving, tender care of Jim.

Donations can be made in his name to Alzheimer's Association, 455 Sherman St., Denver, Colorado. Or OUR Center, 220 Collyer Street, Longmont, Colorado.

Jim will be remembered for his caring attitude, his willingness to help and his great smile. He will be missed.