



John O. James

March 14, 2019

John O. James, 92, of Spencer Avenue, Lancaster, PA, died at Hamilton Arms Center on Thursday, March 14, 2019. Born in Enterprise, West Virginia, he was the husband of Doris (Robinson) James, Retired District Judge Lancaster Township. They celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on October 9th. He was the son of the late W. Bryan and Ethel Wharton James.

John graduated from Shinnston High School in 1944, Bethany College in 1945, Franklin and Marshall College, and the University of Pennsylvania with a Certificate from the United States Navy V-12 College Training Program in 1946, and Fairmont State College with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics and Physics in 1948. He was a former member of St. Paul's United Methodist Church and is currently a member at Hamilton Park United Church of Christ.

From 1946-1947, he taught Algebra and Geometry at Washington Irving High School in Clarksburg, West Virginia, and from 1953-1954, he taught a Mine Welfare Course and was a member of the Scientific and Professional Command. He was chosen from the ranks to teach at Fort Eustis, VA.

John joined the Hamilton Watch Company in 1954, as an ordinance engineer. He served with the United States Navy in World War II and with the United States Army during the Korean Conflict from 1952-1954, where he served as Sergeant and as a Mathematical Research Assistant of the Scientific and Professional Program. He was instrumental in developing a USA Ballistics Program for the HAM TECH contract with the U.S. Government.

He started his career as a Mathematics Teacher with the Harrison County Board of Education in Clarksburg, West Virginia. He then worked as a Manager with the Standard Supply Company and was followed by his entry into the Army Korean Conflict.

Most of John's career was spent with Hamilton Watch Company, where he retired as

Director of Engineering and Vice President of Engineering and Programs of the U.S. Government. He spent most of his time with the Military Products Division. From June 1970-December 1971, John played a major role in a law suit of Hamilton versus the U.S. Government. He was the key Hamilton witness and acted as Hamilton's technical expert during proceedings. Over twenty thousand pages of testimony were recorded during the litigation and Hamilton was awarded a \$2.3 million dollar settlement. He participated in the development of the Pulsar Watch, the world's first liquid crystal (Liquid Display) Watch. He also worked on the Star Wars Program and the Iron Dome Program.

He was a member of the Wheatland Lions Club and served as First Vice President and was active with the Boy Scouts of America from 1965-1969, served as a campaign member of the American Heart Association from 1966-1968 and was active in the political and civic areas. He served for many years as a Board Member of the former Osteopathic Hospital.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his children, Bradley R., husband of Anne Belarmino James, Arlington, VA and Jocelyn L. James, MD, San Antonio, TX, cousin, Joan Tetrick and cousin, James Tetrick, both of Winchester, VA and his great niece, Holly Hanby Earle, Scottsdale, AZ and great nephew, Patrick Hanby, Scottsdale, AZ and other great nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by a brother, G. Warren James, a sister, Billie A. Marsh, and a niece, Geri Kay Hamby.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend John's Funeral Service at Hamilton Park United Church of Christ, 1210 Maple Ave., Lancaster, PA 17603 on Saturday, March 30, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. with The Rev. Elizabeth Nocheck and The Rev. Dr. David R. Bushnell officiating. The family will receive friends at the Church following the service in the Maugan's Chapel.

Interment with Military Honors will take place on Tuesday, April 2, 2019 at 11:30 a.m. at Fort Indiantown Gap National Cemetery. The funeral procession will leave from The Groffs Family Funeral & Cremation Services, Inc., 528 W. Orange Street, Lancaster, PA 17603 on Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to Hamilton Park United Church of Christ, 1210 Maple Ave., Lancaster, PA 17603 or the American Parkinson Disease Association, 135 Parkinson Ave., Staten Island, NY 10305 in his memory.

Previous Events

Service

MAR 30. 2:00 PM (ET)

Hamilton Park United Church of Christ
1210 Maple Ave
Lancaster, PA 17603

Funeral Procession

APR 2. 10:00 AM (ET)

The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc
528 W Orange St.
Lancaster, PA 17603
(717) 394-5300
admin@thegroffs.com
<https://thegroffs.com/>

Graveside

APR 2. 11:30 AM (ET)

Indiantown Gap National Cemetery
Annville, PA 17003

Tribute Wall



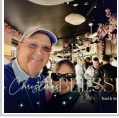
“ *John O. James*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM

GS

“ *Bradley: It has been many years too many. I never met your father but, to say the least, he had a full life. I am very sorry for your loss and wanted you to know I am thinking about you. May your memories and time together speed your healing in the coming months. Please offer my condolences to your mother and sister. Sincerely Gary Sample glsample@windstream.net*

GARY SAMPLE - March 29, 2019 at 06:37 PM



Thanks so much Gary. Just sent you a email from my email.

Brad James - April 11, 2019 at 04:43 PM

LO

“ *My name is Linda Hartley O'Neal. My parents were John and Katheryn McGinnis Hartley. They were friends of John and Doris from their youth in the Shinnston area. While both of my parents have passed, they often spoke fondly of John and Doris and the fun times they had together. Please accept my condolences on your loss.*

Linda O'Neal, Athens GA onealsinga@ gmail.com

Linda ONeal - March 26, 2019 at 01:47 PM



Thank you so much Linda! I just sent you an email with pictures and more if you have time. God Bless you for sharing this ! Brad & Annie

Brad James - April 11, 2019 at 04:50 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of John O. James.*



March 26, 2019 at 09:13 AM



“ *Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of John O. James.*



March 25, 2019 at 12:37 AM

DD

“ *Justice James and Family- My thoughts are with you in this time of loss. Diane Dombach*

diane dombach - March 24, 2019 at 08:38 AM

GL

*Doris, Brad, Jocelyn; John was a special person in every way, a wonderful friend and neighbor to all. He left the world a better place through his work and kindness. We will miss him and we send our condolences to the entire family.
Gary and Toni*

Gary and Toni Levinson - March 24, 2019 at 11:51 AM

BJ

Thank you Toni and Gary! You have been wonderful friends and neighbor to my parents for 20+ years. We owe you a wealth of gratitude for all the help you have given them. God Bless you both! Brad James & Ann Belarmino-James

Brad James - March 24, 2019 at 06:07 PM

DS

*Justice James
Please know my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.. So very sorry for your loss.
Love
Donna Speece*

DONNA L SPEECE - March 26, 2019 at 12:02 PM

KG

*I am an engineer who worked for John for many years at Hamilton Technology. He was a great person and a great person to work for. A wooden toy soldier John made for me as a gift when my son was born in 1988 is still sitting in his room today.
John will be missed.*

Ken Giurlando

Ken Giurlando - April 02, 2019 at 07:14 PM