



## James Wilson Waddell Jr.

October 21, 1939 - December 23, 2020

James Wilson Waddell Jr, age 81, passed away unexpectedly of pancreatitis on Wednesday, Dec 23, 2020 at NOVANT Health Haymarket Medical Center, Haymarket, VA

He was born on October 21, 1939 in Fauquier County, VA to the late James Wilson and Fannie Marshall (Wines) Waddell.

Survivors include his high school sweetheart/loving wife of 61 years Gene Carol Moore Waddell of Nokesville, VA; two sons: Stephen Waddell and wife Laurel; Jack Waddell and wife Dorothy all of Suffolk, VA; two grandchildren: Taylor Waddell of VA Beach, VA and Anna Waddell of Suffolk, Va. and one sister: Barbara Gray and husband William Gray of Winchester, Va.

He lived on many dairy farms in The Plains, Manassas and Gainesville areas in his younger days. He was a graduate of Osbourn High School in Manassas, VA and a proud member of the great class of '59. During his high school years he was co captain of the JV football team and also played 1st base on the varsity baseball team. He was also a student school bus driver in the 11th and 12th grades (an unheard of thing now).

James served in the US Army and was a proud veteran. While in the service he was on the sharpshooter rifle team at Fort Lewis, Washington. After military service he worked many years building houses, and as a superintendent for Richmarr Construction Co and after that he was always being promoted to the boss instantly on any new job. He had his own home improvement business, Quality Home Improvements, for years finally doing part time work being semi retired.

He was most proud of his sons and he could always be found in the stands cheering them and his nieces on, or on the golf course, showing his style, or mowing the grass on slow speed.

Burial of his ashes will be at Middleburg Memorial Cemetery, Middleburg, VA. The family

will have a Celebration of James' Life once COVID restrictions are lifted. In lieu of flowers please donate to the Haymarket Food Pantry, if you desire.

Condolences may be sent to: <http://www.piercefh.com>

# Comments

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Dear Gene,

How often through the years have we said-"time sure does go by fast". Time does go by fast, however when you are having fun time does not seem to matter. You and James were a part of our wedding party at Sudley Methodist Church on Route 234 in 1960 and the following year we were part of your wedding party when you and James married at Gainesville Methodist Church on Route 55. Sometime that winter we went ice skating on the reflecting pool in D.C. (do not think that is allowed anymore). We lived the life we were intended to live and and enjoyed our moment-well, maybe a few bumps in the road but nothing we were afraid to tackle and keep on going. James always had that little grin that seemed to say he knew something and was not going to tell such as the night 4 girls painted "Class of 59" on the old bus shop building -in the dark-one street light and the moon. James and his buddies drove up cause he knew all along what was supposed to happen and he never would tell me how he knew so much.

Did we not see our children grow and turn into good adults-have grandchildren that we may have bragged on now and then-well, yes we did and had a good time or two on the way. You and James worked on those class reunions every year since we had the big 25th and continued working on through our 60th.

There is so much for which to be thankful and yet there must be a time to grieve. Our prayers are with you as you go through a very difficult time. James will be missed by all.

Our Love,

Phillip & Nancy

**Phillip & Nancy Harrover** - January 13 at 07:14 PM

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Miss you Jimmy.

Karl & Beth Anne

**Beth Anne** - January 13 at 06:36 PM

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“ We were very lucky to have known Jimmy through Tom Shultz. Tom and my husband Joe have known each other for over 30 years and when it came time for some needed remodeling work at our home, Tom was the only contractor we knew we could trust to do a quality job. Tom and David and Jimmy did a fantastic job with a kitchen remodel, master bedroom remodel and the transformation of two bathrooms into spa like retreats. Jimmy was always so kind and friendly and did such great work with Tom. Jimmy shared his love of golf with my husband Joe and the two of them talked together often about their golf games and their passion for the sport. Jimmy was always a gentleman. We enjoyed having him in our home and knew we could trust him and Tom to do anything we needed done. We will certainly miss seeing his smiling face. Our deepest condolences to his wife, Gene, and to his family.

Joe and Joyce Hill

**Joyce Hill** - January 08 at 09:04 AM

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“ Jimmy was a great guy. He and Gene would come and support our local churches, and could always be found in the crowd when our bluegrass band played at the church fundraisers. I enjoyed playing golf with him and Bob Diehr "back in the day".

**Charlie Perryman** - January 07 at 05:08 PM

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“Jimmy” and I paired up together in order to complete a building project some 23 years ago. That first project together morphed into 2, 3, 5 and then continued right up to December 21, 2020. Nobody knows how many jobs we actually worked on together throughout the years. The tie between Jimmy and I began years before we worked together because two of his high school classmates ended up having a large presence in my life -- my dad, Richard Shultz and my mentor and boss of 15 years, Phillip Harrover. Jimmy's character matched with mine. He was hard working and was concerned with quality, honesty and loyalty. He was also first and foremost, a family man.

He was always willing to lend a hand at Gainesville United Methodist Church when I had a project there. He and his wife Gene were married at the old church building on Route 55 years ago. They were members there and Jimmy lived at the dairy farm behind the church with his parents. He remembered using the tractor to plow snow out of the church parking lot when needed. Gene said they had a late wedding day because it had snowed and his dad cleaned the parking lot so guests could actually attend. They even went back for another photo on the church steps right before the building was demolished. We shared many lunches and conversations about how to fix the world, family matters, weather predictions and daily news. We tried many new building supplies and tools as they came on the market, trying to perfect our skills in our constant quest for “building” perfection. He enjoyed learning about new things and was always willing to give something a trial run.

Jimmy always greeted you with a smile and had a great sense of humor. He never said no when we had a project to do for someone in need and gave his time freely. He brought confidence, encouragement and willingness into any home where we worked. Jimmy was also always available to help his sons out if given the chance. He loved them very much and just enjoyed being in their company. Jimmy was a true friend and a real blessing to me. He will be missed deeply but fondly remembered -- always.

Tom Shultz

Tom Shultz - January 06 at 09:43 PM

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



**R. Thomas Shultz Jr** - January 06 at 09:35 PM



“ Tom, Jimmy, and David on a work project.

**Tom Shultz** - January 06 at 09:39 PM

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“ James and Gene were our neighbors for more than 40/50 years. He was a wonderful neighbor, kind and generous, always available to help. He took care of the whole street. He will be so missed by all. Gene, we hope you will let us know if there is anything special we can do to help you. He always took care of everyone on snow days, a memory we all share. Our love to the whole family.

Darcey and Judy

**Judy** - January 06 at 07:58 PM

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“ A great family father and friend to all of us at Brentsville High school that supported all of us on the football field and basketball court. I truly respected and love this family. I whole heart hurts for Mrs Waddell Steve and Jack I have so many memories I will always have. Love the Waddell family!

**Darren Browett** - January 05 at 06:23 PM

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“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



**Gordon Johnson** - January 05 at 12:10 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



**randy Tinsman** - January 04 at 08:41 PM



“ My brother Melvin, myself and my great friend Jimmy. We were playing golf in Front Royal, Va. in 2003. We always had a good time and didn't matter what we shot. We all worked together for about 12 to 15 years. We have known each other for 44 years. Jimmy is a good man and his wife Gene is a good woman. A great friend gone much too soon. I'm still having trouble believing he has passed. He will always be in my heart. Your friend, Randy.

**randy Tinsman** - January 04 at 09:00 PM



“ One of our traditional get together with James, Gene, Phillip and Nancy was to attend the NOVEC annual meeting. I would always call each of them before the meeting to invite them to have dinner with me. I knew it was a joke but they always thought it was funny. We would have dinner and then go into the auditorium to wait on the drawing of the prizes. We never won anything even though we would come close on getting our number drawn. Anyway James called me on Oct. 24, 2020 to tell me he had finally a \$100.00 gift certificate. He just had to rub in that he had won something. I will truly miss him as he was the finest, nicest, best friend I could ever have in my life. He was the true meaning of a "Southern Gentleman" with a wonderful sense of humor. He could make you laugh and he was just a genuine, all-around fine friend and class mate that I will cherish forever. It was my honor to have called him my friend. Billy Michael

**Billy Michael** - January 04 at 06:12 PM

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“ In 1959, our graduating class at Osbourn High School voted James "best looking boy" in the class. Throughout the many subsequent decades, James lived up to this legacy by continuing to be the "best looking boy" in our class. This is the reason we always put him in the front row of our Class of '59 reunion pictures and, also because he remained so physically fit that he could "squat down." James could not only "squat down," enabling those in rows behind him to be visible in the picture, but he could bounce right back up onto his feet quickly to assist other "squatters" about to fall on their faces. James was always as nice on the inside as he looked on the outside.

Old friendships, like well-worn, broken-in shoes, are just so comfortable. Wayne and I feel truly blessed to have had James and Gene as friends for all these many years. We, like so many others, are devastated over the loss of James. Someone so special will continue to live on in our hearts and memories.

Gene, our deepest sympathies and condolences to you and your family. Please know we love you and are here whenever you need us. We hope it will ease your pain to know so many of us are sharing it.

Wayne and Ginger Firth

**Ginger Firth** - January 04 at 02:18 PM

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“ Gene , Frank and I are so sorry to hear of the passing of James our thoughts and prayers are with you and the boys. We will miss him as we know you will. You two were together for over 60 years what a wonderful tribute to both of you.

**Frank & Mary Moore** - January 04 at 12:32 PM

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“ Dave Stanley lit a candle in memory of James Wilson Waddell Jr.



**Dave Stanley** - January 03 at 04:03 PM

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“ Dave and I were very saddened to hear of Jamie's sudden passing. He and Gene were Dave's classmates for many years. Dave and Jamie played football and baseball together at Osbourn High School. Dave remembers Jamie as being a strong muscular truly nice guy.

Jamie and Gene are two of the special classmates that opened their home for "The Class of '59" reunion for several years.

Dave is fighting stage 4 Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma and we are thankful for everyday we have together. His classmates are like family to him and he is always so sad to hear that someone has passed away. Jamie was one of the very special ones.

Our love and heartfelt sympathy go out to Gene and the rest of the family.

Dave and Diane Stanley

**Dave Stanley** - January 03 at 04:02 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



**Wayne Martin** - January 03 at 01:14 PM

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“ Being a family of 4 girls, James was the brother I never had. Gene's name was spelled as a boys name as she was named after our father Eugene and I believe our parents may have wanted a boy. Our family moved to Gainesville while we were teenagers and that's when we met James and we went to Osborn High School. James and Babe (as we called her) were high school sweethearts. James was the guy we called when we needed help. He killed a snake in my bedroom and helped get my parents car out of a ditch when I was driving it, and never told them. He had a dry humor, but could make you laugh. He was a little muscular guy with a big heart. We were both the same age, but I always reminded him that he was 2 months older than me. In his picture he is in his Army uniform, that he could still get into, when he went to my granddaughter Sara's elementary school just 6 or 7 years ago for Veteran's Day. He will be missed, but never forgotten.

Bettie Pell

**Bettie Pell** - January 03 at 12:32 PM

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“ J. Wayne And Bettie Martin lit a candle in memory of James Wilson Waddell Jr.



**J. Wayne and Bettie Martin** - January 03 at 11:33 AM



“ Wayne was so distraught after talking with Jean Waddell and learning that his childhood friend from the fifth grade throughout their lifetimes quickly jumped the boundaries of earth into heaven. Wayne is strong, but has such sorrow about losing James. As most of you know, Wayne battles the issues of Parkinson's Disease, as well as heart disease. He just received a pacemaker for the irregular heart rhythm and still enjoys the everyday things of being normal. His strength gives me hope, and we now share our strength with Jean, as she must find her path to continue her life, which is what James would want her to do. Our love to all of your family from Wayne and Bettie Martin, [bettiemartin79@gmail.com](mailto:bettiemartin79@gmail.com)

**J. Wayne and Bettie Martin** - January 03 at 11:42 AM



“ Bob & I are so shocked and very heart broken over the loss of our dear friend James. Gene and James have been our best friends for over 30 years they are family to us and our family.always there to support our kids and grand kids in all the sports,plus weddings, vacations together,boy what stories we could tell.he will be missed so much ! RIP James gone but never forgotten ! Love to Gene,Jack & Steve

**Ruth Diehr** - January 04 at 07:46 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



**Arne E Jacobson** - January 02 at 10:31 PM