



Mr. Don James "Jim" Bacher

December 3, 1945 - May 21, 2025

San José del Cabo, BCS, México – Mr. Don James “Jim” Bacher, age 79, passed away on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, in Utica, NY with his loving family by his side. It brought him great comfort to hear the Serenity Prayer and his favorite song, “Desperado” by the Eagles one last time before departing.

Born in Fresno, CA, on December 3, 1945, Jim was the son of the late Donald James Bacher and Nona Jeanne DeJarnatt. His maternal grandparents, the late Benjamin Joseph "BJ" DeJarnatt and Hazel Bright, played a significant role in his upbringing. His grandfather was a prominent figure in his life, who he often went to for advice and always spoke fondly of. Jim was raised in Belvedere and attended the Southern California Military Academy in Long Beach. Jim later graduated from Redwood High School in Larkspur. Immediately following high school, Jim joined the United States Army as a medical corpsman, primarily stationed at Fort Polk, LA. He later attended California State University - Fresno, where he studied marketing for several years.

Jim was blessed to share a union with the late Nancy Loraine Wilcox, from which came his first-born daughter, Stephanie Jeanne “Stevie”, with whom he shared a lifelong bond. He was fortunate to find love again with Linda Jean Keeth, a relationship that brought the joy of his two youngest daughters, Jessica Jeanne and Jamie Jeanne. Jim and Linda met in Mill Valley,

California, where they worked next door to each other. Eventually, he asked her to dinner—and as they say, the rest was history. They loved spending time together dining out, boating, rollerblading, and bike riding. Linda's love for Jim led her to move to San José del Cabo, Mexico with him, where they built a life together and raised their daughters. There, they continued enjoying their favorite activities, along with long family road trips, rides in the dune buggy, dining or coffee at "Mi Ensalada", camping adventures, and going to the off-road desert races.

Jim was a lifelong salesman, from his first job selling hot dogs at baseball games to electronics in the family business to yachts, medical insurance, and eventually real estate. He retired from selling real estate through his own business, Bacher Realty Advisors in Cabo, Mexico.

Jim encouraged his daughters to live life to the fullest and with no regrets. Often referring to himself as the "Bionic Man," who had broken nearly every bone in his body throughout his life, Jim was a true daredevil who had a passion for speed and adventure, whether behind the wheel of a car, on a motorcycle, or out on the water on a boat. With his sharp wit and fearless nature, Jim might as well have come with a warning label. Despite his many pursuits, he always hoped never to hurt anyone else in the process. He was a founder of the Alcoholics Anonymous chapter known as "Eye of the Hurricane" in Cabo, México, which was a big part of his life. He showed up every evening, no matter what, even if he was the only sponsor present, always ready to help the next member in need. Many of his sponsees credit their new lives to his unwavering support and sponsorship. He himself was about 40 years sober.

A few years ago, Jim moved to New York Mills, NY to be closer to his daughters, Jessica and Jamie, and to take life a little easier. He enjoyed watching football, Formula 1, or CSI / NCIS on TV, attending Utica Comets

games, and visiting the Utica/Rome or Weedsport Speedways. He shared a special moment with his daughters when they took him to a 49ers vs. Eagles game on his 78th birthday—and he was ecstatic when the 49ers (his favorite team!) won. When sports weren't keeping him entertained, Jim could often be found listening to music, enjoying a plate of meatloaf or some black licorice, and trying new restaurants in the area. Some of his favorites included Rosie's Oriskany Diner and Joey's 307. His daughters felt honored to care for him in his final years, and Jim was deeply proud of his children.

Jim believed in a higher power and lived by the Serenity Prayer, which he recited daily throughout his life: "God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference."

Jim is survived by his forever friend, Linda Jean Keeth; his daughters, Jessica (Jonathan) Fiore, Jamie Bacher, Stephanie (Michael) Sutton, and Melissa Allyn Mills; grandchildren, Michael James, and Samantha Jeanne Sutton, Jordan Robert, Ryan Joseph, and Alyssa Allyn Mills; great-grandchildren, Eli James Chapin, and Emma Jeanne Chapin; niece, Carla June Walters and her children, Patrick, Jimena, and Bianca Walters. He was blessed with many friends and touched many lives across Mexico, Canada, and the United States. He was predeceased by his only brother, Larry J. "Lorenzo" Walters.

The family wishes to extend their gratitude to Laura and Kathy from the VA for their attentive care over the past couple of years, as well as to his friend Amal, and to the staff at St. Luke's Rehabilitation Home and Wynn Hospital.

In honoring Jim's wishes, his family will honor and commemorate his life privately at a later date. In lieu of floral offerings, please share a memory and

pay it forward in a way that you see fit in Jim's honor.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave.

Tribute Wall

AJ

“ Jim was my rock until I was able to create a rock of my own inner self. He taught me by example, everything about grown up life. We met shortly after i arrived in Cabo. He always had time for me and my dramas of growing up and not understanding the disease. His patience was unfathomable, I could never grasp how he could just grin and give maybe a word or two. He taught me just by being. It could be exasperating at times, that was finesse, his style. Always the most exhilarating stories. He was serene. He had attained peace, so many want that. Linda and the girls were his life, and AA. He would share how he had found it. Serenity. I have had the amazing privilege of having had you as a friend, my only truly friend who was never selfish. You always wanted the best for your friends and family. The world is a much better place because of you and I will always keep trying to live by your example.

Angeles Jones - May 26, 2025 at 09:57 AM

MK

“ He was always a great friend and fellow group member to me. We shared many good experiences and laughs together. He had a very special sense of humor. Above all, we shared our Recovery, our profession, and the love for our children. Thanks to him, I got the condominium at the mansion where my kids grew up — he helped me when I was very young. Another testament to the gifts of Recovery and of having a beautiful family. May God hold him in His glory.

marco Klein - May 24, 2025 at 11:54 PM

TT

“ I am so sorry to hear this news. Jim was a great friend and avid music supporter. Also a hilariously funny man. We had some fun days together. I will miss him. My thoughts and prayers go out to the family for their loss.

Terry Townson - May 24, 2025 at 09:29 PM

JS

“ Well, Jim is a Cabo Legend, he was the first gringo I met when I came to Baja, he was so funny speaking slang words in Spanish, so, my first English practice was with him, laß time I saw him, I visit his house in San José del Cabo to support with some networking issues, now he is in a better place, a big hug to his family and friends.

Juan Saucedo - May 24, 2025 at 03:35 PM

EB

“ When I was 30 days into the program, I was looking for an AA group in San José. Driving to Cabo for meetings had become risky with the traffic and the rush to make it on time. I called the Eye of the Hurricane, and Jim was the one who answered. He gave me the meeting info, and that’s how I started attending. I still remember—it was a Saturday, and nobody opened the meeting that day! But I came back the next day. I’m really glad Jim picked up the phone when I called.

Jim loved to eat. I remember one day I was test-driving a Polaris Ranger, went to a meeting, and afterward took Jim shotgun for a ride. There’s a picture somewhere of him sticking his tongue out, loving the ride on the way to his favorite Chinese spot.

Jim, along with Tony (RIP), were my pillars at the Eye for a good while. I had so many meaningful meetings with just him, Tony, or Nacho. If it weren’t for them, I honestly don’t know where I’d be.

Grateful to have met Jim. May he rest in peace.

Edgar Burgos - May 24, 2025 at 02:53 PM

CS

“ 🙏 Fly very high my dear friend! I will always remember you with the best advice to move forward and be greatly successful! Rest in peace friend!

claudia Sánchez - May 24, 2025 at 01:20 PM