



Mr. James Edward Payne

October 26, 1942 - October 5, 2023

UTICA – James Edward Payne, aged 80, departed this life on Thursday, October 5, 2023.

James was born in Utica on October 26, 1942. James attended Utica Free Academy, and was a member of the UFA track team. Dealing with the many challenges that marked his early life, he displayed an inner fortitude that allowed him to succeed. After high school James became an upholsterer by trade and was employed for many years at Steats and Miller

In 1966, James was drafted into the Army but chose to volunteer the draft and enlist in the United States Marine Corps. He started recruit training at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina, where his shooting skills earned him the title of rifle expert and was placed on the regimental rifle team where the team competed against other military teams. After being stationed at Treasure Island in California, James was deployed to Vietnam as an artillery specialist with the 26th Marines under command of Captain William H. Dabney. James part of the 1968 Tet Offensive's Battle of Khe Sanh on Hill 881S always saying they were the ones who started it. James earned the following medals and decorations: The Purple Heart, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Presidential Unit Citation, and the Good Conduct Medal. James was one of the few survivors of the 77-day battle, which later became the subject of historical books like "Khe

Sanh: Siege in the Clouds" and "Valley of Decision: The Siege of Khe Sanh." James took pride in the knowledge that he and his fellow 881 marines would be remembered for generations to come.

James was an avid outdoorsman and would find solace in being alone. James was also a regular competitor at Utica Rome Speedway drag races and always prided himself on knowing how to "shave the lights" It was there he met his wife Candace "Candy" Cariglio. They were blessed with two children. Throughout their marriage Candace was always there for James. James was also a competitive muzzleloader competing across New York State and won many first place medals using his flint-lock rifles named "Stonewall" and "Death Wind." He was truly a good father, protector and provider. To James his family was most important and the values he taught his children and grandchildren will always be remembered.

James was very knowledgeable and held a deep interest in American History. His favorite subjects were the Civil War and World War II, particularly marines in the Pacific. His knowledge and passion for the subjects were evident to all who knew him. James loved trout fishing on the Lansing Kill and partridge and duck hunting at Chepatchet and the Mohawk. When his daughter Jamie was young, she always told her dad before he left to only "shoot the boy ducks." James did his best.

Left to cherish his memory are his devoted wife, Candace; his son, Jeremy Payne and his wife, Kimberly Wilson; his daughter, Jamie, for whom he had a special bond and her husband, Christopher Wilczek; and his beloved grandchildren, Dahlia Ann, and Daniel James Wilczek. He is additionally survived by several siblings. James was predeceased by his older brother, Stephen D. Payne, who passed away in March 10, 2022, with whom he shared a special bond since childhood.

In keeping with James' request, all services are held privately, but family and friends are welcome to share a prayer of comfort for his family.

Tribute Wall

RW

“ Jim and I spent time together on Hill 881S. He in 105's and I in 81's. We would help each other with fire mission. Years afterwards he contacted me and said he had some pictures he wanted to share and did so. They are now some of my most treasured possessions. Although never meeting after our return, Jim was always a pleasant memory for me. God bless his family and memories.

Randy Wahoske - November 11, 2023 at 09:59 AM

JP

Thank you so much 🙏 and thank you for your service, sir.

jeremy payne - March 19, 2024 at 03:15 PM



“ Rest in Peace in Gods Kingdom James, and please God, bless his family.

Bob Carnahan 881S Semper Fi.

Bob Carnahan - November 10, 2023 at 02:15 PM

JP

thank you sir.

jeremy payne - March 19, 2024 at 03:16 PM

KD

“ So sorry for your loss.... i haven't seen you all in such a long time. It brings me back to Jeramy and Randy playing ball together and the girls playing together. Sending you all prayers and love. R.I P. Jimmy



kim duff - October 11, 2023 at 10:59 PM

CP

*Thank you so much for your kind words. It means a lot when someone remembers. We have fond memories of those days.
Candy, Jeremy and Jamie*

Candace Payne - October 13, 2023 at 08:53 AM

DL

*“ To Jim’s family and friends.....
Very sad to hear of Jimmy’s passing. As cousins connected to the Lynch family, we seldom crossed paths, but as I learned of his bravery during Khe Sanh, and being a Vietnam veteran myself, I have a special respect and honor toward him and what he experienced. He certainly has my attention.
May God hold him near and provide strength to your family.
Dave Laurey*

Dave Laurey - October 11, 2023 at 05:39 PM

CP

Thank you Dave for your kind words. Jim has mentioned your name many times over the years. Thank you for your service. Candy, Jeremy and Jamie

candace payne - October 12, 2023 at 09:42 AM

DA

Thank you.....God Bless

Dave - October 12, 2023 at 10:58 AM

JW

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Jamie E. Payne Wilczek - October 09, 2023 at 09:11 PM

KB

“ *Jeremy. I did not have the pleasure of meeting your dad he was a true veteran . You spoke of him often to me . I'm very sorry for your loss . Prayers to you and your family.*

Kebin Boyer - October 09, 2023 at 07:06 PM

JP

Kevin, thank you so much for the kind words.

jeremy payne - October 11, 2023 at 02:59 PM

CM

“ *I'm stricken with grief reading this obituary. He was always nice to me with my few interactions as a child. I remember the newspaper writing about his war heroics being written about. In the back of my mind I thought about him often and how proud I was to have the little interaction I did with a true to life American hero. There's no doubt that there will be much grief for him. Rest in peace Mr. Payne. My heart goes out to all his family and friends.*

Christopher Mazzatti - October 09, 2023 at 03:46 PM

JP

Thank you so much Chris, me and my family appreciate the kind thoughts.

jeremy payne - October 11, 2023 at 02:59 PM

MB

“ *You are in my prayers Jim. Hoping you are without pain and now have Peace. Rest in Peace Jim Payne!!!*

Mary Lou Bojdak - October 09, 2023 at 03:38 PM

CP

Thank you my dear cousin for everything you have done for me over the years. We have been through quite a bit together. Great memories to cherish. Candy, Jeremy and Jamie

candace payne - October 12, 2023 at 09:34 AM

RZ

“*Jim, thank you for all the advice and story's you shared with me over the years. You, Candy, Jeremy and Jamie were like my second family growing up. I'll always cherish those days. Rest easy.*

Rick Zalocha - October 09, 2023 at 03:25 PM

MA

Hey Jim, may you rest in peace you shared alot of great stories with us it was an awesome pleasure knowing you our condolences prayers to the family. 🙏🙏 Marty and Janet Agosto from Florida.

Marty and Janet Agosto - October 10, 2023 at 06:32 PM

JT

To Candy, Jeremy and Jamie: We remember when you "guys" moved next door to us in 1987 and we all became good friends. My dad, who was in the Army in the late forties and early fifties, enjoyed the many visits from Jim where they would discuss many "worldly" topics. My father would always look forward to Jim stopping over the house. Although, we were too young for the Vietnam engagement, my brothers and I learned about the Battle of Khe Sanh from a book Jim gave to my dad to read. When I read it, Jim's name was displayed in the book and all I could remember is how courageous and brave Jim must have been. Besides my dad, my brothers and I always enjoyed his company too. We would talk about a lot of things and he always asked us how life was treating us. He was a very compassionate man. Jim, while you're up there watching us, please say hello to our mom and dad. Rest in peace. Joe Timpano, on behalf of his brothers, Gary, Dicky, Mike and Rob.

Joe Timpano - October 11, 2023 at 11:14 AM

CP

Thank you Joe and family, we appreciate your condolences and fond memories. We will never forget you and your family and how nice they were to us.

Candace Payne - October 11, 2023 at 02:57 PM

JP

Thank you Rick, aka Ricky Desire, aka Ricky St. Vincent. My mom said you made her cry for with your kind words. Thanks again..

jeremy payne - October 11, 2023 at 03:02 PM