



Dr. James E. Parsons

November 10, 1939 - February 12, 2022

Dr. James E. Parsons, age 82, of Bloomsburg, passed away on Saturday, February 12, 2022, at his home.

He was born on Friday, November 10, 1939, in Lima, Ohio, a son of the late Virgil L. and Dorothy (Sandy) Parsons. He resided in Bloomsburg since 1982, and previously lived in Akron, OH.

Dr. Parsons was a graduate of the Lima Senior High School in 1957 and received his Bachelor of Science degree from The Ohio State University in 1961. He went on to earn his Master's of Science degree in 1973 and his Ph.D. degree in 1977 both from The Ohio State University.

He was a member of the faculty at Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania from 1982 until retiring in 2005, serving as a Professor of Biological & Allied Health Sciences. Dr. Parsons was an avid traveler and a gourmet cook, and he enjoyed spending time with his family and friends.

At the request of the deceased there will be no viewing, or memorial service.

The Allen Funeral Home, Inc., 745 Market at Eighth streets, Bloomsburg is honored to be serving the Parsons family.

Memorial contributions in his name are suggested to: James E. Parsons Microbiology Scholarship Fund, c/o The Ohio State University Foundation, 1480 West Lane Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43221- 3938.

Tribute Wall

CO

“ Jim was my mothers neighbor and fellow faculty member on campus with her for 20 plus years. Jim was the best person and had the best sense of humor. He was there for us when my mother past away and had been such a wonderful support. He traveled extensively and had the best trip stories when he came back. Jim was proud of his students and absolutely loved his license plate "GERMS" and always made sure to renew it. I am sadden to have heard the news of his passing. He was just a fun/joyous person to be around. My deepest condolences to his family and friends.

Christine Orlando (formerly Coulmas)
Bloomsburg, PA

Christine Orlando - April 13 at 01:57 PM

NG

“ Jim drove a black Pontiac with a vanity license plate that read "GERMS." It was a gift from his microbiology students years ago, and Jim kept renewing the plate. Jim loved teaching and loved microbiology. He was definitely a one-of-a-kind guy, with an irreverent sense of humor (hence the license plate) and a twinkle in his eye. Jim's license plate faced the road, and it made me smile every time I drove past his house on my way to campus.

Ned Greene
Catawissa, PA

Ned Greene - February 27 at 11:13 AM

GM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Gracie Millender - February 26 at 02:12 PM

GM

“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

Gracie Millgraender - February 26 at 10:21 AM

GM

“ We first met Jim on a trip to Africa about 15 years ago. We had so much fun together that when we unexpectedly saw Jim at the airport the following year when we were heading out for the same trip to Viet Nam, we decided that we would take at least one trip a year together. During our travels, Jim’s spiciness resulted in some interesting encounters: While we were on a crowded tour in Tibet, an elderly woman in traditional dress surreptitiously pinched Jim on the buns, and responded to his shock with an impish, sexy smile. We rode elephants and camels, sipped fermented mare’s milk, raced across the Gobi dessert in SUV’s, bargained for handwoven rugs in Morocco, and attended cooking classes in Bali, Viet Nam, and India. We frequently traveled on Jim’s birthday, and we always tried to find someplace special to celebrate. The meal at the Blue Elephant Restaurant in Thailand topped them all, and the Ebony and Ivory dessert was “to die for.” Jim’s quest for good food led to some interesting side trips: He arranged for a “street food” tour in Japan, but instead of being treated to unusual delicacies, our guide turned out to be a truck driver who didn’t know the first thing about gourmet food. After eating our way through several mediocre dishes, we finally just gave up and finished the tour on our own. Every trip we made with Jim included one or more side-trips to look for beads so that he would have a ready supply for making jewelry when he returned home. Jim had a multitude of friends, and his suitcase was always bulging with presents for them when he returned home from his travels. That guy LOVED to shop !!! Jim was one of the most interesting, fun-loving, generous, thoughtful people we ever knew, and we sorely miss him. We want to end this tribute with a Hunter S. Thompson quote that Jim was fond of: “Life is not a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a well preserved body, but rather to skid in broadside, thoroughly used up, totally worn out, and loudly proclaiming, ‘Wow what a ride!’” And that was Jim, our great friend

..... Gracie Millender & Marty Brotemarkle, Rock Hill, SC

Gracie Millender - February 26 at 09:03 AM

JG

“ My wife Pat & I first met Doc Parsons back in the mid 80's when he joined the Board of Trustees for the Bloomberg Theatre Ensemble, where I worked. He was so enthusiastic about learning, and sharing his knowledge and experiences. What a cook! After losing touch for a while, I reconnected with him at the cinema showings of the Metropolitan Opera; he said he knew nothing about opera but just loved the music and spectacle, and wanted to know more about them whether they were old classics or new modern works. Thanks, Doc, for being a bright spot in the Bloomsburg community.

James Goode

James Goode - February 18 at 11:31 AM

DP

“ My cousin was an incredibly kind and generous man with a wicked sense of humor and a side of ornery, which may have been inherited from his mom and dad. He was the perfect travel companion in our “three amigos” trips together (Jim, my sister Carol and myself). He was curious about everything, willing to try anything and endlessly patient and understanding of his cousins sometimes crazy tourist choices, including, but not limited to, a duck boat tour of the Hudson River, Zombie Night in Savannah, a multiple day search of the City of Charleston for Carolina Gold Rice only to finally find it directly across the street from our hotel, getting soaked in Philly during our indoor/outdoor tour of a prison in a downpour, etc. He will be missed every day but we have a lifetime of special memories to be opened and treasured every day.

DEBORAH PARSONS - February 17 at 09:30 PM

SA

“ Jimmy, I met you through my husband, Barry Archer. You, Barry, Vaughn and Howard were quite the foursome. I have been so blessed to have you in my life. May you rest in peace. I'll miss you and your cards. To say nothing of the beautiful earrings. I will always treasure them. Thank You.
Suzanne Archer

Suzanne Archer - February 17 at 10:24 AM

SS

“ Your wry sense of humor; your kindness to elderly others—walking beside them in the grocery store, reading labels, gathering their groceries into the basket; your generosity to friends in the many beaded ornaments you created with the individual in mind and presented as gifts; the many specially painted Easter Eggs from across the ocean you gave to others as spring approached; the stories from your travels shared with the spice of your humor; and not least the many gourmet snacks you created and shared at more dinner parties than I can count—all these memories...linger leaving a wake of lovely joys. Thank you, Jim.

Sharon G Solloway - February 17 at 08:34 AM