



James Richard Link

April 24, 1937 - July 28, 2022

James Richard Link

Jim was the kind of guy that would often say, "I had everything I ever wanted."

Jim was born in an apple shack in Omak, WA on April 24th, 1937. He was the first son of Alfred M. and Mary E. Link. He had an older sister Marilyn (Clinton) Anderson, deceased, and leaves a younger brother David (Donna) Link of Helena, MT. He passed away at home with family by his side on July 28th, 2022.

Jim is survived by his wife of 63 years Mary L. (Walisch) Link, daughter Terri A. Link, son Allen R. Link (Leesa), daughter Laura J. Marchand (Mitch), and preceded in death by infant son Steven R. Link. He was also blessed to be Papa to 8 grandchildren: Audrey (Andrew) Stout, Joshua (Aileen) Link, Kasey James, Miranda (Sean) Stille, Karrah (Kurt) Nygard, Austin Romerein, Zachary Link, Jacob Link, as well as 11 great grandchildren: Lexi, Peyton, Kali, Belle, Kash, Abby, Dax, Isla, Austin, Megan, and Jordan. He will be remembered fondly for his never-ending supply of M&M's, ice-cream time, his apple tree, pontoon boat rides, papa jokes, toad-in-the-holes, papa juice, the dirt pile, soda pop in the garage, and his assortment of stray cats, to name only a few.

A short time after his birth the family moved to Elmer City, WA. He went to school in Coulee Dam graduating in the Class of 55. Jim was a proud “Beaver”. He liked to tell people he went to a Dam school in a Dam town. The friendships with his fellow classmates lasted his lifetime and he enjoyed his role as class social organizer for reunions, monthly lunches, and keeping tabs on everyone.

Following graduation Jim and his buddies spent time as apple thinners in Mr. Morgan’s orchard and were known for composing the “world famous” apple thinners song. (Don’t ask, you really don’t want to know). But that job didn’t provide enough gas money for his car so he volunteered for the draft and served in the Army (not a big money maker either). Jim then began a 35 year career as a telephone lineman with Pacific Northwest Bell and ended as an instructor in the Seattle Training Center for Qwest. He enjoyed meeting up with fellow retirees for monthly breakfasts at Bob’s Café. Jim served many terms as President of the local chapter of the company’s service organization, Pioneers of America and for a few years was president of the Telephone Workers of America Union.

But most of all he loved to fly. Using his VA benefits he took lessons and proudly built the first airplane he flew. Over the years it was his pleasure to fly friends and family all over the Columbia Basin. His favorite trips were flying over Steamboat Rock and then cruising down the Columbia River for a birds-eye view of Grand Coulee Dam. When he was no longer able to fly he proudly turned over “his wings” to his son and grandson. He was instrumental in organizing the local Experimental Aircraft Association, Chapter 355 and served for many years as the president.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Moses Lake Presbyterian Church, 1142 West Ivy Avenue at 1 p.m. on August 19th. Jim’s favorite dessert will be served following the celebration.

Please consider making a donation in Jim's name to the Young Eagles,
E.A.A., P.O. Box 3086, Oshkosh, WI 54903-3086

Cemetery Details

Guarding Angels Cemetery

2595 Road L N.E.
Moses Lake, WA 98837
(509) 765-7848

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

AUG 19. 1:00 PM (PT)

Moses Lake Presbyterian Church
1142 W. Ivy
Moses Lake, WA

Tribute Wall



“ *Dave, Mary, & family... Our sincerest condolences... We loved Jim... He was a great guy and a wonderful friend... We miss him, and look forward to a happy reunion someday...* ”

Gregory Cochran & Family - September 02, 2022 at 10:45 PM



“ *Gregory Cochran & Family lit a candle in memory of James Richard Link* ”



Gregory Cochran & Family - September 02, 2022 at 10:38 PM



“ *Laura, I am so sorry for the loss of your father. Know my prayers are with you.* ”
NikieAnn Mandelas Smith

NikieAnn - August 19, 2022 at 09:58 AM



“ *So very sorry to hear of Jim's passing, but so grateful he has a new home in glory. Just imagine what a flight that was!! Our families have been intertwined for over 60 years! My very first memory of Jim and Mary were when I was 6 years old and we were neighbors. Their daughters were my candlelighters 50 years ago at my first marriage. Jim will surely be missed. He was a joker and storyteller! Praying for the family during this difficult time.* ”
Love - Caroline Teas Barnhart & Tom Barnhart

Caroline Barnhart - August 09, 2022 at 01:18 PM

VB

“ Allen and Family, I am so sorry for your loss. I remember your father as such a kind man. What a legacy he leaves.

Vicki S Brumet - August 07, 2022 at 10:21 AM

NI

“ I am so sorry for your loss Laura, I know how hard it is. May the Love of God bring you comfort in this very difficult time.
NikieAnn Mandelas Smith

NikieAnn - August 05, 2022 at 11:50 PM

PL

“ My deepest sympathy to his family. Jim had been a neighbor, and have known him for years, a wonderful man.

*Pat Ledbetter
Moses Lake, Wa.*

Patricia Ledbetter - August 05, 2022 at 11:46 PM

LK

“ Mary, i am so sad to hear of Jims passing. It truly saddens me to think i will never see that smiling face come into my office again. I think one of his hardest accomplishments was taking me out to the PUD yard and teaching me how to climb a power pole, it's not every female who can she is a certified pole climber. What a wonderful man he was.

your friend at the Auditors office, Lori Kinzel

Lori Kinzel - August 05, 2022 at 03:19 PM

KM

*Mary,
Cliff and I send condolences to the family. Jim will be missed. So sorry
to hear about his passing.*

Kay Morgan - August 08, 2022 at 03:49 PM

JK

*Mary, So sorry about Jim's passing. He was a great guy, friend, and
coworker. He will be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with you.
Jim Knutson-August 19*

Jim Knutson - August 19, 2022 at 02:29 PM