



James V. Samuelson

November 3, 1950 - November 21, 2016

James V. Samuelson, 66, of Old Bridge, NJ passed away peacefully on Monday, November 21, 2016 at Centra State Medical Center in Freehold after a courageous fight with a hard fought illness.

Jim was born in Plainfield, NJ on November 3, 1950 to Ruth (Pearson) Samuelson and the late A. Vincent Samuelson. He grew up in Fanwood and graduated from the Scotch Plains Fanwood High School (SPFHS) in 1969. He lived in Elizabeth while attending Union County College and received an Associate of Arts Degree in 1972 and then attended Kean University where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English/Communications in 1976. He later moved to Old Bridge where he resided for nearly 40 years.

Jim was a dedicated and recognized railroader with a career spanning 41 years. He got his start working as a Control Tower Operator and then as Assistant Chief Train Dispatcher for the Central Railroad of NJ. This was followed by the position of Movement Director / Train Dispatcher at Conrail. Jim played a critical part in the formation and start-up of NJ Transit with the transfer of Conrail's commuter operations over to NJ Transit, serving as Chief Train Dispatcher for the NJ Commuter Region. His career at NJ Transit would offer him many roles, first as Chief Train Dispatcher, then as Trainmaster Newark Division, Trainmaster – Capital Projects, Manager - Operating Rules, Director System Operations, Line Superintendent NJCL / ACL, General Superintendent Newark Division, Deputy General Manager Transportation, General Superintendent System Operations, General Superintendent New

York Penn Station and finally retiring as Deputy General Manager Safety and Training in November 2010. He often said “every day on a railroad is an adventure.”

He was also a very active member of the Cross of Glory Lutheran Church in Aberdeen where he served as the Congregation Council President on the Church Council for many years. Jim also volunteered his time as Chairman of both the Property and Finance Committees and was a member of the Nursery School’s Board of Directors. He also enjoyed assisting his son Jeremy put together the church’s Annual Christmas Tree Lighting & Carol Sing every December. Jim loved his church dearly and enjoyed tending to its beauty. Surviving are his loving wife Linda “Annie” Samuelson of 32 years; two children: his daughter Lindsey A. Samuelson and her partner Erin Gerow of Bloomfield, NJ, his son Jeremy V. Samuelson and his girlfriend Taryn Leary of Old Bridge; his mother: Ruth P. Samuelson of Woodinville, Washington; two brothers: John L. Samuelson and his wife Linda of Colorado Springs, Colorado, Jeffrey L. Samuelson and his wife Marti of Woodinville, Washington; one sister: Janet A. Achilich and her husband Steven of Baiting Hollow, New York; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and extended family and friends who will miss him dearly.

A Memorial Service celebrating his life will be held at 1:00 PM, Saturday, December 3, 2016 at Cross of Glory Lutheran Church, 95 Cambridge Drive in Aberdeen, NJ 07747. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that Memorial Donations be made in his name to the Cross of Glory Lutheran Church Jim Samuelson Memorial Fund.

Tribute Wall



“ *James V. Samuelson*

October 05, 2023 at 11:16 AM



“ *Karen (Ramskow) Marion lit a candle in memory of James V. Samuelson*



Karen (Ramskow) Marion - November 28, 2016 at 04:14 PM



I graduated with Jim from SPFHS, but only knew him in passing in the hallways at school.

My sincerest sympathy and prayers to the Samuelson Family.

Karen (Ramskow) Marion - November 28, 2016 at 04:16 PM



I MET SAM THROUGH MY BROTHER ROGER. I REMEMBER ALL THE GUYS...WHAT A GREAT BUNCH. SAM, HAD SHOULDER LENGTH BRIGHT RED HAIR & MY BROTHER HAD HAIR BACK THEN...HE WAS A GREAT GUY & GOOD FRIEND. WE R ALL GOING TO MISS U SAM...RIP...UR BACK WITH ROGER AGAIN. TAKE CARE OF EACH OTHER.

ADRIENNE ZAMORSKI MCDONALD

ADRIENNE ZAMORSKI MCDONALD - November 28, 2016 at 08:51 PM

KP

Dear Linda,

You and I were co-workers for many years. Your husband Jim - a gentle man and kind spirit will live on in the hearts of you and your children. Thinking of you and wishing you peace in knowing Jim is at rest and someday you will meet again in a better place.

Deepest Sympathy

Kathy Petrillo

Kathy Petrillo - November 29, 2016 at 07:24 AM

PM

To the Samuelson family,

I am so sorry to hear of Jim's passing. I got to know Jim when I did some work for NJ Transit. He was a great guy and was always thinking of others.

My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Patricia Moran

Patricia Moran - November 29, 2016 at 07:57 PM

DA

“*Jim was one of the first railroaders I met after hiring out at Red Bank. He immediately offered some encouraging words, a firm handshake and a quick smile, and it meant a lot to me as a kid just on the property. May his happy memories be with the community at this sad time. God Bless!*

*~Dave Abeles
NJ TRANSIT Rail Ops*

David Abeles - November 28, 2016 at 01:02 PM

JC

“ *My Deepest Condolences to the Samuelson Family at this very Sad Time. I was a pleasure to have known and work with Jim in the Later ConRail Years. God Bless Buddy.*



Joe Constantine - November 28, 2016 at 11:57 AM