



David Edwin James

June 7, 1947 - May 14, 2020

Mineral Point - David Edwin James, age 72, of Mineral Point, went home to Jesus on Thursday May 14, 2020 at Edenbrook of Platteville.

David was born June 7, 1947, the oldest of 3 sons to Bob and Mae (Roethlisberger) James. While pregnant with David, Mae contracted German measles which affected David's mental ability. Although David's mentality peaked at about the age of a 3 year old this did not stop David from living a wonderful life.

He lived and helped farm with his parents and brothers until the cows and machinery were sold in 1994. David was an incredibly strong man with a beautiful and kind soul. David's passion in life was people. He wanted to know everyone's name. That was his go to question any time he met anyone. "What's your name?" He loved to shake people's hands and give people hugs. Any time David was out and about and if his hands were empty he was trying to shake the hand of every person he met. David also liked to give kisses on the cheek. His niece and nephew learned to use this as a weapon as David was known to give especially wet kisses. David also loved to help out until Parkinson's disease took away his physical ability. No matter what you were doing David would tell you "I help" and help he did.

David was one of the earliest clients of Hodan Community Services and loved

everything about going to “school” as he lovingly referred to it. Any time David saw a Hodan bus he would tell you “my bus”. David helped to introduce Chris, who worked with him at Hodan, to his brother Tom.

David loved to stand outside his house listening to the radio and waving to people that drove by. He was a local landmark to those that drove between Mineral Point and Darlington on Hwy 23. David was also known for his signature bib overalls. David loved to go for a ride in the car and would often ask if he could have a cheeseburger and root beer. David had some favorite answers to questions like how old are you? His answer “52” no matter what the actual answer was.

David had a special bond with his niece and nephew and loved spending time with them. When they were younger and growing up on the farm he was the best playmate. He was bigger and stronger and loved to pull the kids in the wagon or sled. The three of them went on many adventures on the farm, not all of them necessarily approved by an adult. David also loved to help Chris. From holding the rope for the horses to picking asparagus in the road ditch.

David is survived by his brother Tom (Christina) James of Mineral Point; niece Staci (Matt) Sauer of Mineral Point; and nephew Jeremiah James of Combined Locks, WI; and two great-nephews Aiden and Landen Sauer. He is further survived by several cousins, friends and neighbors.

David was preceded in death by his parents Bob and Mae James and his brother Donald James.

The family would like to thank the Hodan Community Services for providing a place where David and his abilities could really soar. Edenbrook of Platteville for their great care these last four months and Staci James-Sauer for providing such loving care for David the last four years. Also thank you to all

of David's caregivers along the way.

David will be fondly remembered and sadly missed by many family and friends.

Memorials for David can be sent to Hodan Community Services.

A graveside memorial service is planned for Memorial Day weekend at the Waldwick Cemetery in Waldwick.

Cemetery Details

Waldwick Cemetery

Tribute Wall



“ *David Edwin James*

November 15, 2022 at 06:49 AM



“ *David was my friend over the last 6 years. He made me laugh and gave me lots of hugs. I loved to hear him banter and joke with his brother, Tom, who took great care of him, along with his niece, Staci. My thoughts and prayers are with his family. David was such a happy, fun soul. I know he is smiling down on us and having a cheeseburger and root beer.*

Reagan Collins - May 19, 2020 at 10:43 AM



“ *Donna Toay lit a candle in memory of David Edwin James*



Donna Toay - May 17, 2020 at 11:33 PM



“ *I will miss David. Years ago when I used to drive a lot on hwy 23, David would always wave. My kids always enjoyed waving to him. In recent years, I have enjoyed seeing him at the Faith Lutheran church services. He was always so friendly. He had a great heart. Rest In Peace, David*

Donna Toay - May 17, 2020 at 11:29 PM

AK

“ Many years back from working at the hodan center. I remember David always come up to me and saying hello. And he always was happy and a joyful fella.



angella kujawa - May 17, 2020 at 08:25 PM

JL

“ I remember many things about David. But the most special was every time I'd see him I'd tell him whose daughter I was and he'd say "Jerry Stone, Jerry Stone." My dad was very good friends with the James' family.

David also had to give me a hug when he saw me and was always waving as we drove by on Highway 23. He was a special man who will be very missed. Rest In Peace, David.

Janet Lawinger - May 17, 2020 at 06:00 PM

LS

Many years ago we would buy milk from the James right out of the bulk tank and he would come to the milk house to greet who ever was along and shake our hands.... he was such a good guy... always a friendly greeting from David...RIP David

Larry Schmitz - May 17, 2020 at 07:43 PM

JL

He did that with us too. Always a brisk walk.

Janet Lawinger - May 17, 2020 at 07:57 PM



“ *I always enjoyed David showing me his treasures that he stored in his pockets and would sometimes give him something he didn't have.*

Ed James - May 16, 2020 at 05:25 PM



“ *My parent, Ordean and Marion Olson lived neighbors to the James family for many years. David was always a delight to visit with. You have my sympathy. Marilyn (Olson) Johns*

Marilyn (Olson) Johns - May 16, 2020 at 01:41 PM