



James R. Abels

April 14, 1925 - July 20, 2022

James (Jim) R Abels was born in Cambridge, Ohio in 1925. He is preceded in death by Edna Abels (mother), Harry Abels (father) and Howard Abels (brother).

Jim is survived by his wife, Rae J Abels (Greegor), his children: James R Abels II (son), Sandra R Abels (daughter), Jeanette Foster (Abels); son-in-law Jim Foster; and grandchildren: Hallie Hogan (Foster) and her husband Chris Hogan; and Kyle Foster & his wife, Kjira Foster Robinson.

Jim was, above all else, kind. He was a rock steady support to anyone lucky enough to be a part of his life. He was born into a hardworking family of faith during the Great Depression. He has shared many a family story about the variety of ways he & other kids in their neighborhood made money and made their own fun.

Jim was drafted on his birthday in April of 1943 and was allowed to finish the 11th grade before he was shipped out to the Pacific to serve in combat with the Army for 2 years. When drafted, his occupation was listed as "student." He was awarded the Asiatic Pacific Theater Ribbon with 2 Bronze Stars , the Philippine Liberation Ribbon, the Good Conduct Medal, and the Victory Medal World War II.

Jim often said that it was these early experiences with other people, living in hardship, that gave him his perspective on life. He was always certain that he walked with God. He was also very clear that his family was his most important duty and he showered those he loved with the certainty that he was

always there for them.

He married Rae, built a first home in Cambridge with his own hands, then moved his young family to Cleveland to follow the jobs. There, he continued to build relationship through his church family, neighbors, and the men he labored with as a machinist. Jim loved being a prankster and had a sense of humor that bonded people. He took his joy with him to work and then shared the uproarious shenanigans later at the dinner table.

Jim loved his wife, Rae, and they enjoyed trips and activities with their kids, caring for their dog, Clyde, and later welcoming their beloved grandchildren & their partners. He so enjoyed revisiting childhood through the grandchildren and carried on with them with his sense of humor and support.

Jim's family, over the years, knew that he more than earned the high school diploma denied him in 1943. He was a voracious reader, puzzler and had years of experience as a skilled machinist. His son contacted the Board of Education in Cambridge, Ohio and, at 77 years of age, Jim became a graduate of the Cambridge High School Class of 2002. A family friend, herself on a Board of Education, bestowed this degree and he was delighted by the recognition.

Jim will be greatly missed by all those who loved him though we take comfort in knowing he is with his other family from across the ages and is with God to whom he entrusted his life.

Visitation will be at Bundy-Law Funeral Home on Monday, July 25, 2022 from 11 am to 12 pm with the service to begin at 12 pm. Pastor Catrina Hawkins Bowles will officiate with burial to follow in Northwood Cemetery. Military Honors will be performed by the Guernsey County Veterans Council. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Christ Lutheran Church 1101 Steubenville Avenue Cambridge, Ohio 43725. Jim's online tribute wall may be viewed and signed at www.bundy-lawfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Northwood Cemetery

10th Street
Cambridge, OH 43725

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 25. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Bundy-Law Funeral Home
120 North 11th Street
Cambridge, OH 43725
(740) 432-5705
info@bundy-lawfuneralhome.com
<https://www.bundy-lawfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Services

JUL 25. 12:00 PM (ET)

Bundy-Law Funeral Home
120 North 11th Street
Cambridge, OH 43725
(740) 432-5705
info@bundy-lawfuneralhome.com
<https://www.bundy-lawfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall

KA

“ Thank you sir for your service. I was my pleasure to be able to serve you here at the VA Clinic in Cambridge. RIP Kathy

Kathy - July 28, 2022 at 12:39 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of James R. Abels.



July 23, 2022 at 06:37 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of James R. Abels.



July 22, 2022 at 03:34 PM



“ [https://www.bundy-lawfuneralhome.com/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518"; target="_blank">Memorial Trees was purchased for the family of James R. Abels.](https://www.bundy-lawfuneralhome.com/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518)

July 22, 2022 at 09:30 AM



“ *May the love of God surround you and your family during this difficult time,
May you come to know that the love of God is with you always,

May your memories of James R. Abels, give you peace, comfort and strength...

Rest now in the arms of our Lord your mission on earth is complete. I thank you for your service to our Country and my Freedom. You will not be forgotten.
My thoughts
and prayers to the family of

US Army Veteran, James R. Abels, is “A True American Hero” God Bless†

† Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13 †*

Cheryl Skinner, Tri-state Military Museum - July 22, 2022 at 07:26 AM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you Rae and with all your children and grandchildren during this sad time.
May God wrap his arms around Jim and keep him safe in heaven!
Love,
Lew & Mari*



Lew & Mari Foster - July 21, 2022 at 10:47 PM

JF

“ *Jim Abels is my father-in-law.
of the greatest generation role models
I was fortunate enough to know,
who tried to show me the way,
boys who answered call to duty,
he is the last man out,...
covering the rear of his unit.
he is also, singly,
the man whose memory I will honor
as a soul that went to hell and back,
then dedicated his life with the greatest vigor
to gratitude and hard work,
but most of all the love of his family.*

jim foster - July 21, 2022 at 10:02 PM

RG

Beautiful tribute to a beautiful man. Rest in peace Jim. Sending love and hugs to Rae, Jeanette, Sandy and Jimmy :-)

Robin Greegor - July 22, 2022 at 11:18 AM