



James Willis Cronin

October 4, 1939 - December 29, 2014

James Willis Cronin, age 75 of Cambridge peacefully left this world Monday, December 29, 2014.

He was born in Cambridge on October 4, 1939 to Emil and Grace Williams Cronin. He worked many jobs on the main street of Cambridge in his early years, Kroger, Fred Raymonds, Robert's Clothing, Aggie's Coffee Shop, Stone's Grill, The Gaslight Inn and Elks Lodge. Later he worked for Baroid and Tri State Oil before finally working for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Oil and Gas Division from which he retired in 1999.

He loved people and had a remarkable memory for those he had met along his life's journey. It was rare that he ever forgot a face or a name. He enjoyed bringing a smile to everyone's face and always had a story or joke to share. He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother William Kenneth Cronin, a niece Anita Leep Racin, brother-in-law Ursel Willis Leep and his best friend James Conn.

He is survived by: three children, Karla Ann Rumora and her husband Jed, James Christopher Bruney and wife Melissa, Carrie Johnston and her husband Danny; six grandchildren, Kristi Jenney, Michael McKinney, Hunter and Ryan Bruney, and Allison and Andrew Johnston; two sisters, Hazel Leep and Darlene Meiser and her husband Gary; two brothers, Russell Cronin and wife Sally, and Jon David Cronin; numerous nieces and nephews and cousins. Visitation will be on Friday, January 2, 2015 from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 pm at Bundy-Law. The service will be at Christ United Methodist Church / 2167

North Avenue / Cambridge, Ohio 43725 on Saturday, January 3, 2015 at 11 am. Rev. Wib Bragg will officiate the service with burial to follow in Northwood Cemetery. James' 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

JAN 2. 2:00 PM - 4:00 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>

Visitation

JAN 2. 6:00 PM - 8:00 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>

Service

JAN 3. 11:00 AM (ET)

Christ United Methodist Church
2167 North Avenue
Cambridge, OH 43725
(740) 439-4579

Tribute Wall

KH

“ *Kim HarmonWalters lit a candle in memory of James Willis Cronin*



Kim HarmonWalters - January 15, 2015 at 11:58 AM

KH

Jim Thanks for all the story's that you told of you and my mother [Sylvia Brownfield Harmon] loved those class reunions.

Kim HarmonWalters - January 15, 2015 at 12:06 PM

TC

“ *OMG- I'm so so sad. How could anyone forget Jim Cronin once they met him. He put an immediate smile on my face when I heard his voice coming down the hall at work. I've never met anyone, ever, that could say so many jokes (and most were really funny) in one sitting. I don't know how he did it. Heck, I can't even say one without messing up. My sympathy to your children and family with such a great loss. But, wow, the memories you must have- I'm envious. Boy, heaven has got to be a blast right now. They've got Robin Williams and Jim. God rest your soul, Jim. I will light a candle for you at church on Sunday because you brought such light and joy to everyone you met. Theresa Benedetti Crosby*



Theresa Benedetti Crosby - January 05, 2015 at 02:32 PM

LC

“ Lana Crabtree lit a candle in memory of James Willis Cronin



Lana Crabtree - January 04, 2015 at 10:12 PM

LC

“ Oh how I remember Jim so well...how flirty he was, he always made us ladies blush and made us laugh when he was around. That contagious smile of his, will surely be missed! RIH Jimbo

Lana Crabtree - January 04, 2015 at 10:07 PM

DJ

“ Fly free uncle Jim.... Fly free..... You brought such joy to so many. You will be fondly remembered . You could always make me smile and that was not always an easy job! You were always so kind to my mother and I will always remember and respect you for that! ¥ Dorothy Jones

dorothy jones - January 02, 2015 at 09:54 PM

DJ

“ Dorothy Jones sent a virtual gift in memory of James Willis Cronin



dorothy jones - January 02, 2015 at 09:42 PM

DS

“ *Uncle Jim, your light will live on through family and friends who have loved you. I will miss you.*

Danielle Sconiers - January 02, 2015 at 05:28 PM

SF

“ *Shirley Ford lit a candle in memory of James Willis Cronin*



Shirley Ford - January 02, 2015 at 02:42 PM

SF

I will miss seeing Jim at the Finley Room. You have my deepest sympathy for your loss.

Shirley Ford - January 02, 2015 at 02:44 PM

JC

“ *Jim was one of a kind. A rare breed. I have never met anyone like him and he never met a stranger. His stories will live on forever. He could keep you laughing for hours. I miss my brother Jim Conn so much and I know Jim missed him too. He was very comforting to us in a very difficult time two years ago when Jim passed away suddenly. They were the very best of friends and had a lot of good times and good memories together. Prayers go to Jim's family and friends. He will be missed, but we know he will be in Heaven telling Jim Conn new stories of his adventures these last two years. RIP Joan Cole and family.*

Joan Cole - January 02, 2015 at 01:30 PM

SY

“ Jim, I'm so sorry I won't be able to be there to send you off on your next adventure. You brought such joy and laughter to all who were fortunate enough to know you, and you will be sorely missed on this earth. The good news is, heaven will be a much happier and joyous place upon your arrival. God speed, Dear friend. Sherry



Sherry Young - January 02, 2015 at 12:58 PM

JA

“ From your old buddy on Brown Heights.....you'll be missed. Love, Julia Mae

Julia Archer - January 02, 2015 at 11:41 AM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of James Willis Cronin.



January 02, 2015 at 10:29 AM

Terry Schoolcraft

“ I will miss your humor and jokes at the Celtic Society



Terry Schoolcraft - January 02, 2015 at 08:46 AM

SL

“ Was always fond of Jim. He could always make me laugh. I don't know how he could remember all of the jokes he told.
Sandra Cowgill Louthan (Kay's cousin)

sandra louthan - January 01, 2015 at 09:13 PM

VF

“ Jim was a very nice and enjoyable gentleman. He was a very dear friend to my friend Rhonda Cronin. I admired him for his kindness to her very much. I am very sorry for the family's loss. Sincerely, Vicki Foster

Vicki Foster - January 01, 2015 at 08:34 PM

JK

“ Uncle Jim, I'll always remember the times you tried to teach me to dance and playing the latest Elvis records on the old 45. I've missed you for years and now I can't tell you to your face. Keep Dad laughing when you see him. Judy Cronin

judy mc kenna - January 01, 2015 at 04:37 PM

PA

“ Deepest Sympathy from the Armbrusters in N.C. Grace your son is now with you. Happy times ahead for the two of you. Paul and Sue

Paul Armbruster - January 01, 2015 at 07:12 AM

CG

“ *RIP Jim! I grew up with you and will miss you and your jokes! and I have so enjoyed the last several years of your Irish coffee!*

xoxoxoxox

God bless all of your family, hugs & prayers!!

Jeff & Carla Grimes

Sam Buckey



Carla Grimes - December 31, 2014 at 05:35 PM

MW

“ *We were friends from the time we were about 12 years old. He will be missed by his family and friends. I pray that God will give his family the strength to get through this sad time and know he's in a better place.*

Marcia Galliher Whitley - December 31, 2014 at 02:23 PM



Dear Cronin Family- I am so sorry to hear about Jim's passing. I saw him recently and he shared many funny stories about growing up in Cambridge and teasing my mother, Jeri. I enjoyed being around him and he will be missed. God Bless you all.

Stephanie Mayfield Talib - January 01, 2015 at 01:00 PM

TJ

“ My condolences to Jim's family. As a young child, I remember Jim working for my father at Aggie's and at the Gaslight. He always was happy and would tease and play with us whenever we were in the restaurant. Looking back, I could not verbalize what it was about him that made him special but now as an adult I realize it was his respect for people no matter how old they were. Of course, his sense of humor came out in all that he did making him fun to be around. I am sure he is now in the company of many "old friends" from Cambridge laughing and having a good time. Rest in peace.

Thalia Nickles Johanssen

Thalia Nickles Johanssen - December 31, 2014 at 01:29 PM

CM

“ Once upon a time, many years ago I met a very happy go lucky man, who laughed and joked, smiled all the time. James Cronin soon introduced me to his wife Vella and a friendship began. Chris and I are so blessed to have been friends with Jim and Vella for the past 40 years. He had such a gift to make people feel good whenever they came in contact with him. I will always remember him in my heart as this wonderful man. Prayers for the family and friends who go on without him. I thank God for blessing our life with Jim Cronin. Chris and Chy Morris

Chy Morris - December 31, 2014 at 10:10 AM

TT

“ I worked with Jim for 10+ years. In tense situations he had a way of making people smile and laugh. He lightened the day.

Tom Tugend - December 31, 2014 at 08:03 AM

VC

“ Virginia (Ingram) Crawford lit a candle in memory of James Willis Cronin



Virginia (Ingram) Crawford - December 31, 2014 at 01:56 AM

VC

It broke my heart when Dad told me of Jim's passing. We have all been truly blessed by Jim and his amazing sense of humor. He was definitely one of the good ones and will be greatly missed.

Virginia (Ingram) Crawford - December 31, 2014 at 02:00 AM

JC

“ Uncle Jim,
You can rest peacefully knowing the world was a much happier place with you in it. We can see you now in heaven, everyone gathered around you listening to the wonderful stories that you tell. Noone tells a story better than our Uncle Jim. You will live in our hearts forever....keep them laughing up there! We love you!
<3 Jen Cronin

Jen Cronin - December 30, 2014 at 10:03 PM

PM

I shared in Jim's life every day since may. He came into my life at a time I was very lonely as I lost my spouse of 54 years.i fell head over heels with him & loved his family too.i will never forget him the rest of my days and will love him always

peggy moose - December 30, 2014 at 11:20 PM

BA

I can't imagine a world without Jim Cronin. We were parts of a large extended Family. Back when I used to visit with him and Vella, he would fill me in on the lives of all the people we knew in Cambridge. He was better than any newspaper or T V.He will be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with .

Becky Bruney Allevato - December 31, 2014 at 11:49 AM

KP

I went to grade school with Jim from third grade on and lived a couple of doors from his house. His dad diagnosed my mumps. He always came to pay respects when a member of my family passed.....father, brother, mother....he always showed up. He was like family. It's not going to be the same now. Rest easy my old friend.

Kay Boyd Powers - December 31, 2014 at 03:16 PM

JH

I was fortunate enough to work with Jim for many years. He was a man of many talents, many stories, many jokes and many friends. I've missed him at work and I'm sure he will sorely missed by his family and friends.

Joe Hoerst - January 01, 2015 at 01:22 PM

PE

Jim It's been over a month since you left & I still cry because your gone..I still miss you every minute of every day..I always told you God sent you to me & I prayed we would have at least 10 years together & you said you had your doubts..I guess you knew something I didn't..I am so thankful we had 7 months together..I look forward to seeing you again someday..you were truly a great man & we had some really good times together..I was blessed to have had your love

Peggy - February 04, 2015 at 12:39 AM

TS

“ so sorry to hear of Jim's passingyou is one nice guyand will be missed

Tim scott - December 30, 2014 at 09:13 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James Willis Cronin.*



December 30, 2014 at 07:19 PM



“ *Jim always used to tell my mom, Pam Cesner that he was my dad. Used make me laugh every time! So sorry for the family's loss. RIP Mr.Jim*

Marianne Cesner Johnson - December 30, 2014 at 07:12 PM



“ *We were sorry to hear of Jim's death. He was a friend to everyone; we've known him for many years. His laugh and smile will be missed.*



Bob & Debbie Gray

Debbie Gray - December 30, 2014 at 07:08 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James Willis Cronin.*



December 30, 2014 at 06:27 PM

DJ

“ *Darrell Ingram Jr. lit a candle in memory of James Willis Cronin*



Darrell Ingram Jr. - December 30, 2014 at 06:18 PM

DH

“ *He will be missed, always laughing and joking. RIP Jim.*



Diane Hutton - December 30, 2014 at 06:09 PM

MA

Ed & I were classmates with Jim. We were so sorry to hear that he has passed away. Please accept our deepest sympathies and know that we will be thinking of everyone there in this time of sorrow. Ed & Marilyn Archer (Florida)

Marilyn Archer - December 30, 2014 at 09:05 PM

KH

Jim's death shocks me with sadness. The thing is, I can't imagine my memories and experiences of Cambridge High School without my dear friend, Jim Cronin. I'm sure all of us 1957 grads of CHS remember our class mates with affection and fondness, yet, I'll bet each and every one of us will agree that there was no one quite like Jim Cronin. Our friendship included lots of fun while working together at Kroger's grocery while we were students, or flirting with our homeroom teacher, or learning to sail on Seneca Lake. Jim was like another Son and Brother to my family, and his parents, his entire family, were as kind and gracious to me as if I were one of their own. We'll always remember him as a great story teller, intelligent, always ready with a joke-- simply a wonderful, sensitive, caring, authentic human being. Raise high the roof beams, you carpenters of Heaven, my friend is coming by! --Kay Hardesty, Chattanooga, Tennessee

Kay Hardesty - December 31, 2014 at 03:47 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Willis Cronin.*



December 30, 2014 at 05:27 PM

PF

“ *Pauline Fillippis lit a candle in memory of James Willis Cronin*



Pauline Fillippis - December 30, 2014 at 05:15 PM

PF

Rest in peace, may your memory be eternal.heaven has a real special soul, you will be missed.

Pauline Fillippis - December 30, 2014 at 05:17 PM

SC

“ *Sally Cronin lit a candle in memory of James Willis Cronin*



sally cronin - December 30, 2014 at 04:39 PM

SC

“ *To one very special person in my life and the life of my kids. RIP my friend. We love you.*

sally cronin - December 30, 2014 at 04:16 PM

KR

“ *Uncle Jim: I trust the piece of my heart you took with you didn't slow your journey. As the countenance of the Lord warms your face; I pray the wind will be soft on your back. As you reunite with those gone before you; the Lord will be thrilled as you make all of heaven laugh! I will miss you dearly untill we meet again. Love you much!*

Kevin Robinson - December 30, 2014 at 04:08 PM