



James Lee Greenhoe

September 2, 1936 - March 29, 2025

James L. Greenhoe, aged 88, passed away peacefully Saturday morning, March 29, 2025 at his home on Sapphire Lake in Holland, Michigan.

James was born September 2nd, 1936, in Grand Rapids, Michigan. There he later attended Union High School where he participated in multiple team sports including cross country, track, swimming, and was part of a competitive rifle team. And on that rifle team in particular is where he demonstrated an exceptionally sharp eye and steady hand, earning more than two dozen gold medals. After high school he continued to put that skill to good use in the United States Army. Besides those resulting years of honorable service to his country, an even greater result was that during his army service he met one Mary Lou Kreps, who soon became his wife Mary Lou Greenhoe ... and at his departure from this life, his wife of 63 years.

Not only was he a valued team member in sports and military service, James had a very keen analytic mind. After high school he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. After army service, he was hired by Dresser Industries, which later became Lift-Tech International, in Muskegon as an engineer. It was a job that he not only loved and worked at until retirement, but where he demonstrated notable adaptability and a deep interest in learning by switching to computer programming once that, at the time novel, option was available.

As a husband, James worked hard to maintain a beautiful home for his wife, Mary. As a father, James worked hard to make childhood special for his children, Susan and Daniel, even building them a beautiful red tree house with a rope ladder. As a grandfather, James worked hard to make a family cottage on Derby Lake a place of fun and laughter for his two grandchildren, Jonathan and Katie. In fact just six days before his death, he was to be found playing cards with those now high school aged grandchildren, and other family members.

Perhaps more than anything, James' life was characterized by extraordinary kindness. He cared about everyone, and asked how they were. In a world marred by selfishness, James exhibited the uncanny trait of putting the interests of others before his own. In the same world filled with greed, James exhibited an abundance of generosity. He was one whose own happiness seemed to be predicated on the happiness of others, which was helped along by his great sense of humor.

James was preceded in death by his older sister, Jaqueline Greenhoe, who died in infancy and who in Heaven he no doubt by now has met for the first time; and in-laws, Caryle and Melvin Nofzinger, Darla and Glen McGinley, and Heidi Kreps. James is survived by Mary Greenhoe, his wife until death they did part; his daughter, Susan (Greenhoe) Ledesma, and son-in-law, Christopher Ledesma; his son, Daniel Greenhoe, and daughter-in-law, Apple Greenhoe; his grandchildren, Jonathan Greenhoe and Katie Greenhoe; and brother-in-law, Lauren Kreps.

A celebration of life service will be held at Oak Crest Church of God, 1540 Leonard Ave, Muskegon, MI 49442, on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, with visitation from 9:30-10:30 am followed by the funeral service at 11:00 am. Luncheon to follow. Memorial donations in James' memory may be made to Oak Crest

Church of God. Arrangements are by Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home in Holland. Condolences may be left online at www.langelandsterenberg.com.

Cemetery Details

Fort Custer National Cemetery

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 8. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Oak Crest Church of God
1540 Leonard Ave.
Muskegon, MI 49442

Celebration of Life Service

APR 8. 11:00 AM (ET)

Oak Crest Church of God
1540 Leonard Ave.
Muskegon, MI 49442

Tribute Wall

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“ Today is a sad day, this morning we lost a wonderful man. A man of strong faith a man of vision and dreams. Through his eyes reflects life time with family and friends. He closed his eyes with a question in mind, Lord did I do well here on Earth. The Lord answered on this day March 29th 2025 I reward you with the blessings of bringing you home. Rest in peace my father-in-law Jim Greenhoe. Christopher Ledesma (son-in Law)

Christopher Ledesma - April 05, 2025 at 09:09 AM

MG

“ Jim and Mary are some of our longest and best friends. We have so many wonderful memories of times we spent together at his cottage on Derby Lake and at their home. Whether sharing a meal, playing cards, or just visiting, Jim was so fun to be around. Our Grand kids played with his at the lake and we shared such wonderful times hiking in nature around the area of his cottage as well as kayaking in the lake. He will be remembered for his love for Jesus, and now is joyfully in his Presence. We will see him again and share in the joy of being Home with our Savior and Lord.

Mike and Kathy Gilleece - April 03, 2025 at 09:26 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of James Lee Greenhoe.

April 02, 2025 at 10:15 AM



“ *Tender Tribute was purchased for the family of James Lee Greenhoe.*



April 02, 2025 at 10:15 AM



“ *Jim was a very faithful member of Calvary during my decades of pastoral ministry. He was bright and curious, often asking questions on a variety of topics. He virtually never missed a service.*

Bill Rudd - April 02, 2025 at 09:58 AM



“ *Jim & Linda Lewis purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of James Lee Greenhoe.*



Jim & Linda Lewis - April 01, 2025 at 07:18 PM