



James Alan Van Ry

March 6, 1959 - January 7, 2026

James A. Van Ry of Douglas, Michigan, passed away unexpectedly at home on Wednesday, January 7th, 2026, following a brief illness and heart failure.

He follows his mother to heaven who died Thanksgiving morning, 2025.

Jim attended Holland Public Schools and graduated from Holland High School. He loved music, art and he played guitar. Jim excelled at woodworking and was a great handyman. He possessed a good eye for design and mechanical knowledge. Also, he attended Hope College while he focused on his artwork.

During his life he was employed by Baker Furniture; Douglas Super Value Store; Kohl's, as Floor Care Manager; Dollar General in Saugatuck; and All-Surface Coatings Care Co., doing floor care for Gentex and Saugatuck-Douglas Library.

Jim was a kind-hearted, deep-thinking man, very sociable and loyal to family and friends. He was a devoted, loving son, brother, and friend and will be greatly missed.

Jim is survived by his two sisters, Susan Huey, of Florida, and Laura, of Holland, Michigan; an uncle, Michael Eastman; and several cousins and their

families, many friends, co-workers, and his kind landlords.

A private graveside service will be planned for sometime this spring.

Gifts in Jim's memory may be given to Saugatuck-Douglas District Library or Harbor Humane Society. Arrangements are by Langeland-Sterenberg Funeral Home, 315 East 16th Street, Holland, MI 49423. To leave condolences online, please visit www.langelandsterenberg.com.

Cemetery Details

Pilgrim Home Cemetery

370 E. 16th St.
Holland, MI 49423

Tribute Wall

RI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Richard - March 06 at 09:25 PM

RI

At The Red Dock, summer 2023. Miss you buddy.

Richard - March 06 at 09:27 PM

HW

“ Heather Westrate lit a candle in memory of James Alan Van Ry



Heather Westrate - January 19 at 06:28 PM

RJ

“ It has been years since I saw Jim around often, but I will miss knowing I could run into him. Always a good guy, a good friend, an interesting person to talk with, and a genuine person with a good heart. Jim showed up to support local musicians and artists. I wish I had known more about his art and music. My sincere sympathy to his family.

Reka Jellema - January 16 at 02:30 PM

CT

Condolences to Sue and Laura who lost a great brother! I'll remember Jim as a congenial and affable person - from child to adult. With love

Catherine Tharin - April 12 at 07:16 PM

KB

“ I am so very sorry to hear of jim's sudden passing. We graduated together and remained in contact through Facebook.

Kimberly Ann Bos - January 15 at 02:21 PM

FL

I will miss seeing Jim around town.

Fred Lamb - January 15 at 06:34 PM

HW

*It is with great sadness to hear of Jim's passing.
Jim was a long time friend..He was a special part of "our close knit group" growing up..
He also added a special touch of kindness, laughter & his love for music we all enjoyed & shared with him.
He will be greatly missed & I will especially miss his friendship.
May peace be with him-*

Heather Westrate - January 19 at 06:23 PM

CM

As we all get close to becoming friends to the end in the blue skies and Lake Mich water we lose those special people. Jim was onE of the most drama free laid back guy I knew, Many concerts with Jim and Silver Lake fun in the sun days, with miss you buddy....RIP JIMMY.

Craig Murphy - January 23 at 12:41 PM

TN

I was at a secondhand store yesterday looking for antique books and I saw 3 Boy Scouts manuals before me. They appeared to be in excellent condition so out of curiosity I opened the manual and saw a date 1967. I thought maybe I know the owner of the manuals and then I saw the name Jim VanRy. I went to elementary school with Jim and actually attended some of his Cub Scout den meetings. Then I got a strange feeling. These well cared for manuals were not here last week. Why would Jim get rid of them after all these years? Well, now I know why. Very sad...

Todd Nykerk - March 31 at 08:01 AM