



## James Louis Vitas

January 28, 1949 - August 7, 2025

Hampton- James Louis Vitas, resident of Hampton, New Hampshire and Marco Island, Florida passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family at home in New Hampshire on August 7th, 2025. At 76 years young, Jim selflessly persevered with strength, courage, determination and grace throughout the last year of his life. Jim, who many friends fondly referred to as “Jimmy V” or “Big Jim” was born January 28, 1949 in Haverhill, MA to his parents Bessie and Louie Vitas. Growing up on Webster Street in Haverhill MA, Jim was active in his community as an involved participant of the YMCA where he spent many childhood days with his brother, Ted, as his parents owned and operated the restaurant Tuscororas across the street from the Y. The YMCA always held a special place in his heart where he experienced a deep sense of community while working on his athleticism, public speaking, and learning how to give back to his community. Jim's love for community ran deep as he was the President of the Kiwanis Club in the Haverhill area, an organization focused on improving the world one child and one community at a time. Jim was an altar boy at the Haverhill Greek Church, a cub scout in his local troop, and an involved participant at his public schools, Jim's athletic career included being captain of his bowling team, a catcher for the Pentucket All Stars Little League Baseball Team, a quarterback of his football team in addition to being a dodgeball and basketball teammate. Newspaper articles and scrapbook mementos chronicled his time as a well rounded athlete, including his table tennis match win for all 9-10 year olds as well as his

televised baseball team victory at 11 years old.

After attending Haverhill High for a few years, Jim transferred to boarding school at the young age of 16 where he entered into a program for gifted students, attending the New Hampton School where he graduated high school. Jim then went on to Bates College in Lewiston, Maine earning his Bachelors degree and swimming competitively as well as being on the debate team. During his college summers, Jim was a lifeguard and bartender alongside his brother, Ted at Salisbury Beach MA. Jim loved the ocean and was a true waterman, he later went on many exciting white water rafting trips out West and fishing expeditions to Alaska, Costa Rica, the Bahamas, and upstate NY with his son Zach, and sometimes other family and friends. Jim had a true love for the West and for nature, a love he passed down to his children.

Jim lived by the phrase “always do your best” and was the type of man that led by example. Jim enjoyed an incredible career at the Stephen Gould Corporation, where he went on to co-lead a large sales team in both the New England and Chicago offices with his brother Ted. Jim was deeply respected and admired for his leadership and mentoring styles which embodied compassion, friendship and continued pursuit of success. These traits helped him earn the trust of many and enabled him to influence so many lives. Jim made a lasting impression on all those that were lucky enough to work with him. He was revered for his compassion, kindness and fun-loving disposition throughout his career and into retirement. Jim kept in touch with many of his colleagues well after he left Stephen Gould, a true testament to who he was as an individual.

As Jim grew his business, he welcomed 3 children with his first wife, Maria in Atkinson NH. During this stage of his life, he explored his love for fast cars and fast skiing. Many weekends were spent at Black Mountain and Bretton

Woods enjoying winter activities. Catching that adrenaline rush, Jim flew down the mountain on Sundays at high speeds decked out in the latest ski attire and gear. Back home in Atkinson NH, Jim cruised around town in a Lamborghini, Ferrari or NSX while blasting Barry White music, sometimes top down and roadie in tow. In December 1997, Jim embraced his next chapter as he met Jean, the love of his life. They began their incredible love story and journey of 24 years together. Jim was a proud father of 4 children who loved him with all their heart; adopting Kayla on Fathers Day when she was just 7 years old - a testament to his love for Jean and further solidifying the bonds of family. Jim cherished family above all else.

A young retirement at the age of 62 was a welcomed chapter in life for Jim and Jean where Jim continued to enjoy pursuing his passions and hobbies alongside sharing time with his growing family as he welcomed 3 grandchildren into his life: Ryder, Mason and Farrah. He was referred to as "Papou", the Greek word for grandfather and was deeply loved by them all, teaching them life lessons about compassion, integrity, determination and following their dreams. In retirement, Jim continued his love for the ball game as he played for multiple Marco Island softball leagues including the Nacho Mama's, the Brewery, DaVinci's and many other teams where his news story headlines continued in the local paper and social media. Jim was a well-loved teammate and manager in the softball league. Throughout the past year he attended as many games as he could and helped keep score and also cheered on his beloved friends and teammates. Beyond softball, Jim enjoyed being on the golf course at Haverhill and Abenaqui Country Clubs, taking walks on the beach and kicking back in his recliner chair, looking out on his lanai or the Atlantic Ocean. He cherished Sunday family dinners, was an avid reader, reading hundreds of books, loved romantic dinners out with Jean, a well-written card, and getaways, as well as a good cocktail and cigar at happy hour.

A loving, family-centered man, Jim was partners in youth and adulthood with his beloved younger brother Theodore (Ted) Vitas who predeceased him in 2022. Ted was his best friend and trusted companion throughout their lives together. He leaves behind his cherished and adored wife of 24 years, Jean Marie Vitas, along with his children Charrissa Vitas Crosby and husband Bryan Crosby of Beverly MA, his son, Eleas Zachary Vitas and wife Katie (James) Vitas of Boxford, MA, his son, James Vitas Jr. of New York, NY, and daughter Kayla Vitas and soon-to-be husband Brooks Taylor of Nashville, TN. His grandchildren who were his pride and joy: Ryder James Vitas (12), Mason Eleas Vitas (10) and Farrah Belle Crosby (8) and other close family and friends.

Calling hours will be held at Remick & Gendron Funeral Home at 811 Lafayette Rd Hampton, NH on Tuesday, August 12 from 4:00-7:00pm. A Celebration of Life will be held in New Hampshire this September and in Florida before the end of 2025. In lieu of flowers, Jim's family kindly suggests donations made in his honor to an important cause or community supporting charity of your choice such as your local YMCA, Kiwanis Club or youth sports programming.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG **12**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - Crematory

811 Lafayette Road ·

Hampton, NH 03842

(603) 926-6500

[info@remickgendron.com](mailto:info@remickgendron.com)

<https://www.RemickGendron.com/>

# Tribute Wall

JB

“ Jim was a great guy i met Jim thru Howard at Stephen Gould i was a customer and Jim always treated me like an old friend he called me the kid from Haverhill. Jean and family sorry to hear the passing of Jim may he RIP

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**Joe Blair** - September 07, 2025 at 09:35 PM

SG

“ RIP Jim, the short times I met you, you were a gentleman, wish I got to know you more. SUSAN GRAVES

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**Susan Graves** - August 25, 2025 at 10:27 PM

SA

“ I just learned of Jim's passing. To the entire Vitas family, I offer you my deepest sympathies. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you all at this most difficult time. I send you all my love and hugs.

And to "Butch Legend" rest easy. Thank you for so many great memories as neighbors at the beach.

Love

Sara Eames

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**Sara** - August 20, 2025 at 09:33 PM

TS

“ Jimmy and I were like brothers. I remember the times he would hide in the back seat of the car and come to Plaistow to be with me (Teddy Sanborn) and drink “ Plaistow “ milk. He wouldn’t drink regular milk. My heart goes out to Jean and his family. My prayers are with his family.

Lovingly

Ted Sanborn

I’m living in Florida full time and because of a medical condition I can’t fly home to see the family.

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**Ted Sanborn** - August 14, 2025 at 07:26 PM

JT

“ My deepest sympathies on your loss.

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**James Tzitzon** - August 14, 2025 at 01:21 PM

MP

“ We are so sorry to hear of your family’s loss. Our deepest condolences.

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**Mary and Sean Pyburn** - August 12, 2025 at 01:49 PM

TS

“ Way back in 1989. Jim beat us took a chance on me and hired me as his personal assistant. I had 25 years with him in our work environment and 39 years of friendship if I can say one thing about Jim Vitas, it would be that he was one of the most outstanding human being that I’ve ever met. Kind, caring, understanding, patient loving and most of well a dear dear friend he will be deeply missed by so many of us who appreciated the human being that he is. You always knew where he stood. He was honest real and just the best. I love you, Jimmy and miss you always.



Terri Steadman - August 12, 2025 at 08:47 AM

BM

“ Our deepest condolences go out to the entire Vitas clan. Jimmy was one of a kind and will be deeply missed. Tight lines my friend. Bill and Laure Meyers

Bill And Laure Meyers - August 12, 2025 at 08:31 AM

DK

“ Sorry to learn of Jimmy’s passing. I was a friend from the early Haverhill days into early HHS years. Although, he left HHS for private school, I recall Jimmy coming to several HHS reunions. It was like he never left. He was such a pleasure to talk with him. I could clearly understand his success in the business world. He left a great legacy and I appreciate whomever wrote this wonderful obituary. May Jimmy’s memory be a blessing.

David Katz  
Boynton Beach, Florida

David Katz - August 11, 2025 at 10:29 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Louis Vitas.



August 11, 2025 at 08:53 PM



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

August 11, 2025 at 08:53 PM



“ Chris, Diane, George, and Jim Miliotes purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of James Louis Vitas.



**Chris, Diane, George, and Jim Miliotes** - August 11, 2025 at 07:00 PM



“ Chuck and Mary Ellen Carpenter purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of James Louis Vitas.



**Chuck and Mary Ellen Carpenter** - August 11, 2025 at 05:42 PM

CC

“ Chuck and Mary Ellen Carpenter planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Louis Vitas.

Chuck and Mary Ellen Carpenter - August 11, 2025 at 05:42 PM

KK

“ My heart breaks to hear of Jimmy's passing! Much love and prayers to Jean and family. I knew Jimmy from the Y, as I trained him on and off for short periods... as he wanted stretching to keep in shape for playing ball. I always enjoyed working with him and chatting with him when I would see him there other times. He's such an amazingly kind, gentle guy and he was so well liked. Heart felt sympathy to all his family and friends. Rest peacefully Jimmy!!

Kathy Kurtz - August 11, 2025 at 05:36 PM

RR

So sad Ronnie Rossetti here. I remember the good old days on the beach as life guard buddies. He was in my wedding and I was in his. He will be greatly missed

ron rossetti - August 11, 2025 at 11:38 PM

RR

he was the best

ron rossetti - August 11, 2025 at 11:39 PM

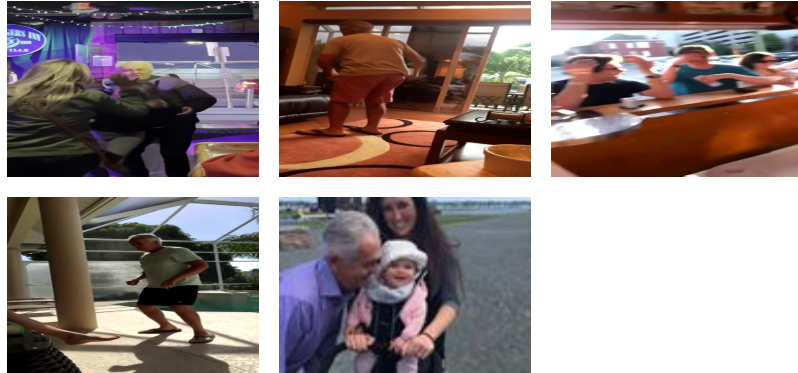
TS

My heart goes out to Jean and his family. Jimmy and I were cousins( more like the brother I never had. We would do some crazy things together. I'm sure he would be sorely missed.  
Love to all.  
Ted ( Zumbie) Sanborn

Ted Sanborn - August 14, 2025 at 07:31 PM



“ 345 files added to the album LifeTributes



Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - August 11, 2025 at 03:04 PM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of James Louis Vitas.



August 11, 2025 at 01:37 PM



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

August 11, 2025 at 01:37 PM



“ Love always Myles and Andrew Vaz purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of James Louis Vitas.



Love always Myles and Andrew Vaz - August 11, 2025 at 01:32 PM

LV

“ Love always Myles and Andrew Vaz planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Louis Vitas.

Love always Myles and Andrew Vaz - August 11, 2025 at 01:32 PM

DD

“ Dariusz and Alison Domanski purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of James Louis Vitas.



Dariusz and Alison Domanski - August 11, 2025 at 01:15 PM



“ Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of James Louis Vitas.



August 11, 2025 at 01:10 PM



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

August 11, 2025 at 01:10 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of James Louis Vitas.



August 11, 2025 at 11:49 AM



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

August 11, 2025 at 11:49 AM



“ I am proud to have been a part of the NE family at Stephen Gould. Jim was such a gentleman and I am ever so grateful for all the wonderful memories. He was a great leader, mentor and friend. His life was an inspiration and such a positive example to all who were blessed to be a part of it. He will be missed. Sincerely, Clare Summers



Clare Summers - August 11, 2025 at 11:45 AM



“ Clare Summers, Ed, Maryann,Larisa Oldano purchased the Pretty Please for the family of James Louis Vitas.



Clare Summers, Ed, Maryann,Larisa Oldano - August 11, 2025 at 11:32 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Louis Vitas.



August 11, 2025 at 10:26 AM



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

August 11, 2025 at 10:26 AM



“ Forever Our Angel Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Louis Vitas.

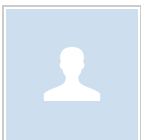


August 11, 2025 at 10:22 AM



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

August 11, 2025 at 10:22 AM



“ Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of James Louis Vitas.



August 11, 2025 at 09:52 AM

DS

“ I knew Jim many years ago when we were both members of Pentucket Kiwanis Club in Haverhill. We had many great times back then. He was a great guy and I was so sorry to read of his passing.

Douglas Stone - August 11, 2025 at 08:37 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of James Louis Vitas.



August 10, 2025 at 05:32 PM



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

August 10, 2025 at 05:32 PM

PC

“ Pat Curran purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of James Louis Vitas.



Pat Curran - August 10, 2025 at 12:39 PM

PC

“ Pat Curran planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Louis Vitas.

Pat Curran - August 10, 2025 at 12:39 PM

WF

“ With love and sympathy, the Kupka Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of James Louis Vitas.



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**With love and sympathy, the Kupka Family** - August 10, 2025  
at 12:32 PM

WF

“ With love and sympathy, the Kupka Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Louis Vitas.

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**With love and sympathy, the Kupka Family** - August 10, 2025 at 12:32 PM



“ A grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of James Louis Vitas.

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August 10, 2025 at 10:48 AM

DN

“ Soo glad to know this great person, even if only for a few years. A mentor to all of how to live a God, family and friend centered life. Thanks Jimmy!

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**Dick Nemmers** - August 10, 2025 at 10:20 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James Louis Vitas.*



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August 10, 2025 at 09:41 AM



“ *With Love, The Vitas/Corrao/Dyer Family purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of James Louis Vitas.*



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**With Love, The Vitas/Corrao/Dyer Family** - August 10, 2025 at 09:23 AM



“ *With Love, The Vitas/Corrao/Dyer Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Louis Vitas.*

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**With Love, The Vitas/Corrao/Dyer Family** - August 10, 2025 at 09:23 AM



“ *A true gentleman and a pleasure to know and call a friend!  
May your memory be a blessing to all who knew you!  
Fondly Sandy Spitaletto*

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**Sandy Spitaletto** - August 09, 2025 at 07:38 PM



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

August 09, 2025 at 06:38 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of James Louis Vitas.



August 09, 2025 at 05:43 PM



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

August 09, 2025 at 05:43 PM



“ GRIFFIN FAMILY purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of James Louis Vitas.



**GRIFFIN FAMILY** - August 09, 2025 at 04:57 PM



“ GRIFFIN FAMILY planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Louis Vitas.

**GRIFFIN FAMILY** - August 09, 2025 at 04:57 PM

TK

“ What is there left to say that hasn't already been said. Jimmy had a joyful spirit that made life fun, and the unique gift of making you smile. He will be sorely missed but his memories will continue to make me smile. Couldn't ask for a better cousin and friend. The lasting impact he had on my life is cherished and will never be forgotten. Jimmy, heaven will be a better place because of you.

Ted Karcasinas - August 09, 2025 at 04:26 PM

RI

A kind and compassionate man, fine athlete and generous competitor. RIP Jimmy V.  
Doc Ron Irwin

Ron Irwin - August 10, 2025 at 08:37 AM

RI

I first met Jimmy when he joined SGC in 1973. We shared many good times at each other's house, skiing and growing our knowledge of the business. He personified the word "class". He set a standard for all of us. Rick

Rick - August 10, 2025 at 06:05 PM

FK

“ From Ted and Janet Karcasinas purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of James Louis Vitas.



From Ted and Janet Karcasinas - August 09, 2025 at 04:05 PM

FK

“ From Ted and Janet Karcasinas planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Louis Vitas.

From Ted and Janet Karcasinas - August 09, 2025 at 04:05 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Louis Vitas.*



August 09, 2025 at 03:47 PM



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

August 09, 2025 at 03:47 PM



“ *Jean and family, my heart and prayers go out to you at this difficult time. Remember all the wonderful times with Jimmy to get you through your grief.*



*With caring thoughts, Kelly Bunker*

**kelly bunker** - August 09, 2025 at 03:47 PM



“ *3 files added to the tribute wall*



**George Karipis** - August 09, 2025 at 03:37 PM

JG

“ *Jimmy & Jo'Ann Grieco purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of James Louis Vitas.*



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**Jimmy & Jo'Ann Grieco** - August 09, 2025 at 12:55 PM