



Robert J. "Jim" Farrell Jr.

May 24, 1948 - July 15, 2023

North Hampton - Robert James "Jim" Farrell Jr., 75, of North Hampton, passed away peacefully at his home on Saturday, July 15, 2023. He was born May 24, 1948, to the late Robert and Winifred (Neilson) Farrell. Jim shared over 52 years of marriage with his middle school sweetheart Joan (Gregon) before her passing in 2021.

Born and raised in Woburn, MA, Jim attended Woburn schools and graduated from Woburn High School in 1965. His father gifted him a '62 Chevy convertible as a graduation present that he drove until it stopped running and kept for the next 40 years.

He met Joan at an adjacent lakeside rental on Lake Winnepesaukee when they were 11 years old. The young couple married in 1969, the same year Jim graduated from Tufts University with an electrical engineering degree, and settled in Sudbury, MA, to raise their family. In 1984, he bought a lake house on Little Sebego Lake in Gray, Maine and visited it every summer since.

Jim owned and operated the family business, North Woburn Machine Company Inc, and was a volunteer with the local Kiwanis club. Jim and Joan moved to North Hampton, NH following his retirement in 2005. In his retirement years, Jim enjoyed spending time restoring his cherished '62 Chevy. Above all, family was most important to Jim. He will be remembered

for his unwavering support and dedication to his children and grandchildren.

Surviving family members include his son Greg Farrell and wife Amanda Keyes of York ME, and daughter Jane Salvaggio and husband Marco of Kensington, NH and grandchildren Angelo, Cameron, Sally, Lucy, and Evelyn, and his mutt Indy, a rescue dog from Indiana.

In addition to his wife and parents, he is also predeceased by his sister Sally Smith, who passed tragically only months after marrying her husband, Gig.

Visiting hours will be from 5-7 PM on Thursday, July 20, 2023, at the Remick & Gendron Funeral Home-Crematory, 811 Lafayette Road, Hampton. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the cerebral palsy foundation.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **20**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - Crematory

811 Lafayette Road ·

Hampton, NH 03842

(603) 926-6500

info@remickgendron.com

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

Tribute Wall

JJ

“ I last saw Jim in 2016 on the front lawn of my family home in Woburn prior to it's sale. We talked about the past and present. The address was 19 Nichols St, on the same street as the North Woburn Machine shop. As a kid, I frequently visited your grandfather and later your dad in the office when riding by on my bike and later when driving by in my car. I will never forget the smell of oil and constant sounds of machinery banging, pounding, and cutting metal. My mother and father, Dorothy and Elmore Hakanson, were best friends with your grandparents, my "Aunt Winnie" and "Uncle Bob". I grew up with your dad and Sally, and have lots of memories playing on the Farrell property. Although Jimmy was 4 years older than me, I could keep up. Will never forget all the "skunk cabbage" in the back woods, as I always managed to step on it. I was at your parents wedding, and I want to say you had a lovely mother. I know it broke your dad's heart when Joan died. I'm sure you don't remember this, but I watched you grow up (Greg and Jane) when you visited your grandparents, and of course saw many pictures of important events. I was kept up to date on your lives until the death of your grandmother in 1998. Your grandparents loved you very much and were very proud of you both. I shared in happy times and tragedies. I know the last several years have been exceptionally difficult for your family and now you are faced with the loss of your dad. Please know that my thoughts are with you all. Lean on each other and be kind and supportive. I am flooded with memories, both happy and sad.....If you ever want to reconnect, you can reach me through my brother, Eric. Love to all, Jan Hakanson Jepson

Jan Hakanson Jepson - July 20, 2023 at 08:13 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Robert J. "Jim" Farrell Jr..

July 20, 2023 at 06:08 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Robert J. "Jim" Farrell Jr..



July 20, 2023 at 06:08 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Robert J. "Jim" Farrell Jr..



July 19, 2023 at 08:35 PM

“ Jimmy was my favorite cousin. He was the closest thing I ever had to a brother and we had a special bond. We grew up sharing the same grandmother and playing in the gardens and orchard around her house in Woburn, MA. It was a vast place offering all sorts of adventures and scrapes to get ourselves into.

The sledding on the old road into the orchard was terrific. Starting at the top, we could thrust the toboggan off on the ice and streak down to the bottom of the orchard far, far amongst the trees— falling off giggling so hard that we couldn't stand up. In icy springs, we would go “clean out” the leaves and rearrange the rocks under a stone bridge that our grandfather build over the Abbajona River. It took hours! We would come back to the house muddy and frozen with lots of muck in our boots. His Mom (my Aunt Winnifred), would laugh, warm us up, make cocoa, and provide dry clothes.

Climbing the multi-tier rock gardens and picking flowers was a spring pass time. One Mother's Day we managed to pick every flower and every lilac in the garden, coming inside arms full, yelling “Happy Mum's Day!” I still don't know whether the Mums were delighted or shocked at how much we had denuded the yard.

Our derring-do spirit when together could have led to trouble. At the roofline of our grandfather's three storey garage, a huge cherry tree hung out over the orchard. Kids in the neighborhood had tied a long, thick rope to it and took turns jumping out over the abyss while letting themselves swing down, yodeling like Tarzan. Of course, we took part. And survived. But we made a mistake when over 30 years later, we told the story in front of our mothers at one of Aunt Winnie's dinner parties. The scolding was intense even then! At that point Jim turned to me and said: “ I was terrified! Weren't you??” I said, “Gee, I thought you'd tried it before.” “Nope— didn't dare,” he replied. That was us: egging each other on.

When we were about 16, and Jimmy had gotten his license, able to drive the car he had restored with his father, we took a ride. When

we stopped he told me: "I've met a girl and she's the most gorgeous girl I've ever seen. Those eyes..." That was Joan, the love of his life! They met and he instantly "knew." They had many years together sharing their greatest joy: raising Greg and Jane! The birth and lives of their two children and the grandchildren to follow were always their greatest achievement.

Jim was my hero, taking time to talk to me during hard times. But he was also a hero to his whole family. When his sister Sally died, Jim's Dad (my Uncle Bob) fell apart with grief. He never recovered. Jim gave up his new engineering job and took over North Woburn Machine, supporting both his parents and his new family. He took on this responsibility for years never once complaining about how it changed his vision of his life's work. Family was everything. He was their rock.

So here is a man— the finest, most honorable man I know— leaving us and passing on to whatever comes next. I salute him. I trust his reward will be great. There will never be another like him. And I'm so honored to have been part of his family. Goodby my Friend. I will always miss you! You were the Best!

*With love and heartfelt sympathy to
Greg and Jane and their beautiful Families,
Janet Spaulding*

Janet Spaulding - July 19, 2023 at 08:15 PM

CP

“ We first got to know Jim and Joan well when they stayed at our house for the days leading up to, and including Amanda and Greg's wedding. Birds, dogs, and some invited guest and relatives made for a festive time. There was much prep for the wedding, including 175 whoopee pies. Jim and Joan pitched in, helping with the baking and filling.

During the next couple of years we made some visits to Little Sebago, which included a tour on Jim's new pontoon boat.

The next big event was Sally's birth in Northhampton, Mass. We gathered there for the birth and celebration - the first grandchild for either couple. Two years later it was another birth -Lucy- at York Hospital. We were all there, and everyone was excited about the expanding family.

Jim was a sweet and caring man. His quiet and unassuming manner did not disguise his genuine love and affection for his wife Joan and the rest of his family.

Claudette and Tom

Claudette Purington - July 18, 2023 at 04:06 PM