



James "Jim" Martin Luff

January 9, 1944 - May 2, 2025

James "Jim" Martin Luff of Chestertown, MD, went home to be with the Lord on May 2, 2025, under the care of Compass Regional Hospice. He was 81. Jim was born in Greensboro, MD, on January 9, 1944, the only child of the late James Alan and Patsy Ruth Esham Luff. He was a 1962 graduate of North Carolina High School and a 1992 graduate of Washington College. He went on to earn his MBA from Wilmington University in 1996.

Jim married Suzanne Thornton with whom he had a daughter Tina. He married Joyce Bedwell with whom he had a son Ryan. On June 12, 1998, he remarried to Victoria E. Homan.

Jim was a patient and long-suffering husband to Victoria. A proud father to Tina and Ryan (Heidi); grandfather to Adrian, Dylan, and Hannah; and a great grandfather to Blake, Damien, and Zoe.

During their marriage, Jim and Victoria called Kent Island home from 1998 until Jim's retirement in 2012. They then moved to Sarasota, FL, returning to Chestertown in 2014.

Jim worked for McCrone, Inc. from 1964-1991 and from 2000 to 2005. He owned and operated James M. Luff Surveying and Engineering from 1991 until 1997. He also worked with Greenhorne & O'Mara, Inc. and ATCS until his retirement in 2012. One to never sit still, he continued as a private consultant for former clients well into his retirement.

Jim believed that service to humanity was the best work of life. He was a member of the Chestertown Jaycees, and in 1977, he was recognized as a

JCI Senator. He loved the Senate and held many leadership roles, including State President, Region III Vice President, and National President in 1982, to name a few. He also served as President for Upper Shore Aging.

In his retirement, Jim belonged to the Chestertown Lions Club. Jim's true passion lay in economic development, and he served as president for both the Kent County and Queen Anne's County chambers of commerce. He served on both the Economic Development Commission of Kent and Queen Anne's counties. He was a Past Business Leader of the Year in 2007 in Queen Anne's County. Jim loved his community and only ever wanted to bring the most benefit he could to all its citizens through his work with these various organizations.

Jim was an avid fitness enthusiast and loved spending time at the Kent Athletic Club, Club One, and the YMCA of Kent County throughout his life. In later years, tales from the gym became more about social visits than actual fitness goals, but Jim was a sociable guy. He loved Friday night happy hour and over the years could be found at Andy's, the Sarasota Happy Hour Crew, JR's Past-Time Pub, and more recently at Zelda's.

Jim was an avid reader, loved music and traveling, and was a fierce friend. Admittedly not an "animal person," Jim tolerated his first dog Wellington to please Victoria and later relented to welcoming a rescue dog named Fiona and an inherited cat named Charlie. Jim melted when their most recent dog Watcyn came into their lives. They were together every day until Jim's passing.

A celebration of his life will be held on Sunday, June 1, 2025, at 2 p.m. at Fellows, Helfenbein, and Newnam Funeral Home in Chestertown, MD, with a reception to follow. www.fhnfuneralhome.com

Private interment will be in Greensboro Cemetery at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to either Compass Regional Hospice, the Animal Care Shelter of Kent County, or the gift of your time to any one of many community organizations that seek to make our world a better place for all.

Previous Events

celebration of life

JUN 1. 2:00 PM (ET)

Fellows, Helfenbein, and Newnam Funeral Home
130 Speer Road
Chestertown, MD 21620
<http://www.fhnfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall



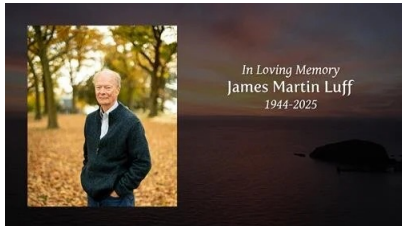
“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of James "Jim" Martin Luff*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - June 01, 2025 at 02:45 PM



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of James "Jim" Martin Luff*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - May 27, 2025 at 09:31 AM



“ *Glenda Heinefield Kelly lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Martin Luff*



Glenda Heinefield Kelly - May 31, 2025 at 11:54 AM

CH

“ 1 file added to the album Sarasota



Christina - May 30, 2025 at 01:22 PM

JM

“ *JessieandBob Merritt lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Martin Luff*



JessieandBob Merritt - May 14, 2025 at 03:25 PM

ML

“ *Over 50 years ago, Mr. Luff gave up hours of his "free" time to coach the first little league football--the Jets; we we're not exactly the best team around, but he always tried to make us feel like winners.*

Rest in Peace coach.

Mark L.

MARK WALKER LICHTENBERGER - May 13, 2025 at 11:32 AM

PS

“ *Phil Spring purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of James "Jim" Martin Luff.*



Phil Spring - May 08, 2025 at 04:39 PM

E(

“ *Ellen (Tonto) lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Martin Luff*



Ellen (Tonto) - May 06, 2025 at 03:43 PM

FL

“ *We are very sorry for your loss. Keeping all of you in our thoughts and prayers.*



Frankie and Cathy Legg - May 06, 2025 at 07:36 AM

JN

“ *Joyce Nicholson lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Martin Luff*



Joyce Nicholson - May 06, 2025 at 04:41 AM

LG

“ *Lisa Kendall Good lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Martin Luff*



Lisa Kendall Good - May 06, 2025 at 03:33 AM

DW

“ *Debbie Wiest lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Martin Luff*



Debbie Wiest - May 05, 2025 at 11:26 PM

JH

“ *Joseph Holliday lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Martin Luff*



Joseph Holliday - May 05, 2025 at 01:27 PM

PH

“ *Peggy Hammer lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Martin Luff*



Peggy Hammer - May 05, 2025 at 09:37 AM

GP

“ Gene And Lynda Palmatary lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Martin Luff



Gene and Lynda Palmatary - May 05, 2025 at 09:36 AM

EP

“ Our deepest condolences to all who knew and loved Jim. We always enjoyed his and Victoria's company at the Navy tailgaters. With love, Emil and Angela

Emil and Angela Petruncio - May 05, 2025 at 08:58 AM



“ A grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of James "Jim" Martin Luff.

May 05, 2025 at 08:55 AM