



## James Messersmith

August 2, 1948 - October 21, 2019

James R. Messersmith of Rock Hall, MD, passed away on October 21, 2019, at his home. He was 71.

He was born in Lancaster, PA, on August 2, 1948, the son of the late George Francis and Catherine Shultz Messersmith.

Jim was a graduate of Palmyra High School and Lebanon Valley College.

Jim worked with Acorn Press Printing in Lancaster, PA, as a supervisor for nearly 20 years. He retired to Rock Hall and opened Hotel Tallulah's on Main Street in 2000.

He enjoyed boating, traveling, tennis and swimming. Jim supported the Fulton Opera House and Pennsylvania Academy of Music in Lancaster, PA, and the Mainstay in Rock Hall, MD.

He is survived by Barry Barr of Rock Hall, MD;, children, Christopher, William, and Sarah Messersmith, sisters: Carol Wissler and Karen Miller and their families.

Services will be held privately.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to The Mainstay P.O. Box 238

Rock Hall, MD 21661.

# Tribute Wall



“ *James Messersmith*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *James Messersmith*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *James Messersmith*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *Dear Barry...just heard our beloved Jim passed away! I am so saddened..please contact me! 610-212-1982  
Xoxo 🥹*

*Bonnie August Bay Boat Works, Northeast MD*

**Bonnie August long time friend** - June 30, 2021 at 08:40 AM



“ *To Our Father,  
I wish that society would have allowed you to be a dad back then. I find it strange that other people always knew you better than what I always needed. Than what we needed. Maybe it was easy for you to live without us. We always loved you and needed you every day.  
Love you Daddy.*

**sarah messersmith** - December 17, 2020 at 01:57 AM

MF

“ *Barry*  
*We are keeping you in our thoughts and prayers. You and Jim*  
*always made us feel welcome. He will be missed.*  
*Mike and Mary Frances*

---

**Mary Frances** - October 26, 2019 at 01:54 PM

SW

“ *Stephen D Watson lit a candle in memory of*  
*James Messersmith*



---

**Stephen D Watson** - October 26, 2019 at 12:21 PM

KM

“ *We all loved you my dear older brother. My life is so much richer*  
*because of you.*  
*You will be so missed.*  
*Karen Messersmith Miller (n'est ce pas).*

---

**Karen Messersmith Miller** - October 25, 2019 at 12:39 PM

SW

“ *Dear Barry, I have thought of you both so many times over the*  
*years. Missed seeing you in restaurant and all the fun we had in*  
*those frozen moments in time. Wanted to contact and visit*  
*sometime. So sorry for your loss. Hope we can have a visit*  
*sometime.*

---

**Stephen Watson** - October 24, 2019 at 10:29 PM



“ *Barry,  
There are no words when your best friend and partner passes. We will remember Jim as a sweet, wickedly funny and civic-minded guy who just like you was always willing to help others. We will be missing him and know that words of condolence are the only thing we can offer in his absence.... Joanne and Jim Rich*

---

**Joanne Rich** - October 24, 2019 at 05:37 PM



“ *Dear Barry,  
  
I am so sorry for your loss of Jim, and I send my heartfelt sympathy. I have so many wonderful memories of our sailing days, and of times we enjoyed at Rock Hall. We lost Paul in 2013, but I know he would share my words. You will remain in my thoughts and prayers.  
~ Jane Pelland*

---

**Jane Pelland** - October 24, 2019 at 01:34 PM



“ *Barry, Bill and I were so very sad to hear of Jim's passing. He always had a smile, kind word and a hug. He will be greatly missed. He would look you in the eye, ask how you were and then really listen. That is rare. Hugs to you!*

---

**Patricia Heinefield** - October 23, 2019 at 04:45 PM



“ *Barry so sorry for ur loss. I will remember the many fun times spent at the Swan Point Inn. So enjoyed knowing him as he always was a fun person to be around. Now he can party with Sandy.*

---

**Diane Carey** - October 23, 2019 at 12:22 PM

JE

“ *Jo Ann Edwards lit a candle in memory of James Messersmith*



---

**Jo Ann Edwards** - October 23, 2019 at 11:46 AM

LB

“ *Lisa Burman lit a candle in memory of James Messersmith*



---

**Lisa Burman** - October 23, 2019 at 09:23 AM

LH

“ *So many good memories back in the 90's of Jim and Barry - the days of America's Cup Cafe, Oyster Court, the very beginnings of The Mainstay and FallFest - just being together on Main Street during that exciting time for Rock Hall. Jim and Barry and their business were integral to the revitalization of the Main Street creative business community. I will always remember Jim as a kind, good man with a fabulous sense of humor. We will miss you so much, Jim.*

---

**Lynn Hilfiker** - October 23, 2019 at 09:05 AM

TO

“ Nice, Funny, Genorous, Welcoming. He and Barry are Rock Hall mainstays. They welcomed us with open arms when we opened our little business. What a smart man...and one of the inventors of the Big Dip. And smart .....wow he was a smart guy. We are all better for having this man in our lives. My hart breaks for all of his family .

Tom - October 22, 2019 at 06:40 PM

MB

“ Jim was always smiling. He and Barry made my daughter and her friends stay in Rock Hall very special. He was the best host ever! Cheryl and i will miss him.

Meade Breese - October 22, 2019 at 06:09 PM

VR

“ Valerie Reihl lit a candle in memory of James Messersmith



Valerie Reihl - October 22, 2019 at 03:55 PM

JJ

“ Jimmy Johnson lit a candle in memory of James Messersmith



Jimmy Johnson - October 22, 2019 at 03:19 PM

BM

“ *Jim will be sadly missed remembering all our little chats on Main Street over the years. Rest In Peace*

**Bobbie Maristch** - October 22, 2019 at 01:29 PM

JJ

*We are very saddened by Jim's passing. He was truly a kind and genuine person. Condolences to Barry and Family. Jane & Rich Jacobs*

**jane j** - October 22, 2019 at 08:22 PM

BM

“ *Bobbie Maristch lit a candle in memory of James Messersmith*



**Bobbie Maristch** - October 22, 2019 at 01:23 PM

DE

“ *Donna Edwards lit a candle in memory of James Messersmith*



**Donna Edwards** - October 22, 2019 at 01:14 PM

SR

“ *Jim always had a Great Smile and a Friendly Greeting whenever we would meet. He will be sorely missed and our condolences go to all of his family. Sue & John Rutkowski*

**Susan Rutkowski** - October 22, 2019 at 11:03 AM

JJ

“ Jim was an exceptional man.I met him & Barry in 1996 as they were regulars at the Americas Cup Cafe,such a nice man with always a friendly smile and wanting to know how your day was going.He will be missed by me.RIP Jim

Julie & Jamie - October 22, 2019 at 10:52 AM

PG

“ Pat Grussing lit a candle in memory of James Messersmith



Pat Grussing - October 22, 2019 at 09:36 AM

TF

“ The Ruehrmund Family lit a candle in memory of James Messersmith



The Ruehrmund Family - October 22, 2019 at 09:35 AM

TF

Barry, we are at a loss for words. Please let us know if we can help. We send love and hugs. M, M & M

The Ruehrmund Family - October 23, 2019 at 04:29 AM

NH

“ *NANCY HUBBARD lit a candle in memory of James Messersmith*



NANCY HUBBARD - October 22, 2019 at 07:28 AM

LC

“ *Barry: I am so sorry we have lost such a dear friend. Lori Campbell*

Lori Campbell - October 22, 2019 at 06:21 AM

PG

*Many years and many smiles!  
So sorry!*

*Pat Gelb*

Pat Gelb - October 22, 2019 at 02:35 PM



“ *Barry,  
What can we say....we loved Jim. We will so miss him. If there is anything we can do for you please let us know. Love you Tracey and Kevin*



Tracey Middleton - October 21, 2019 at 08:50 PM

NH

“ *Nancy Hubberd lit a candle in memory of James Messersmith*



nancy hubberd - October 21, 2019 at 05:11 PM

RM

*Barry so sorry for your loss. I remember all the good times, Myron and I had with you guys. My thoughts are with you. Ron Mccracken*

---

**Ron Mccracken** - October 27, 2019 at 08:43 PM

RM

*Sor-I meant my thoughts are with you. Ron Mccracken*

---

**Ron Mccracken** - October 27, 2019 at 08:56 PM