



James W. Valliant

August 24, 1926 - July 3, 2017

James Wilmer Valliant of Corsica Neck, Centreville, MD, died peacefully at home on July 3, 2017. He was 90 years old. Mr. Valliant was born on August 24, 1926, to Edwin Stephens Valliant and Genevieve Hall Valliant.

Known as Jimmy, Mr. Valliant grew up in Centreville as the youngest of seven. His father was the president of the family fertilizer company, E.S. Valliant & Sons, and was a well-respected business man. Mr. Valliant graduated from the Centreville High School in 1943 and attended the Virginia Military Institute where his major studies were in chemistry. He served in the Navy on the destroyer USS Vesole in the last days of the Pacific Theater of World War II. Mr. Valliant completed his college education at Dartmouth College in 1949 with a bachelor's degree in geography.

Mr. Valliant's career included working in the family fertilizer business and then teaching math and geography at the Gunston School. At Gunston, he was a natural teacher of manners, arithmetic, algebra and trigonometry, the breadth of the geo-political world, sailing and canoeing, and occasionally, fox trots and waltzes.

Mr. Valliant was an original and lifelong member of the Corsica River Yacht Club, and sailed a Hampton, the Jim-Jon, in races on the Corsica and local regattas as a boy. He served as Commodore in 1966.

Always an avid traveler, Mr. Valliant's first of 29 trips to Europe was in the summer of 1949 with his friend, the late Robert R. Price, Jr. They toured England, France, and Italy by bicycle and train. Classical music and opera were also lifetime passions.

Mr. Valliant married Joann Wennerberg of Winnetka, IL, in 1958 and settled down in Centreville. Moving to woodland property on the Corsica River with his growing family, he also became a passionate gardener of hollies, azaleas and rhododendrons. As in all his interests and relationships, he studied, learned, and cared for his subjects.

A lifetime member of St. Paul's Parish, Centreville, Mr. Valliant served on the vestry several times. He was also a member of the Queen Anne's County Historical Society and was instrumental in the move and restoration of Wright's Chance. Mr. Valliant also was a longtime member of the American Rhododendron Society.

Mr. Valliant is survived by his wife, Joann; three children; and six grandchildren, Bruce J. Valliant and his wife, Mary Ellen, Mary Reed Valliant and John Valliant; and Alexander G. Rogers, Philip G. Valliant, James H. Rogers, Mary Shea Valliant, Benjamin S. Valliant and Patrick Egan Valliant. He is pre-deceased by his siblings.

A memorial service will be held at 11 am on July 20 at St. Paul's Parish, Centreville.

In lieu of flowers, contributions should be made in Mr. Valliant's memory to The Gunston School, PO Box 200, Centreville, MD 21617 or to the Corsica River Foundation, PO Box 344, Centreville, MD 21617.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUL **20**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
301 South Liberty Street
Centreville, MD

Tribute Wall



“ *James W. Valliant*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *James W. Valliant*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *James W. Valliant*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *Mr. Valliant was my courageous advisor and teacher. He and I shared a fondness for puns, and I remember one report card in particular at Gunston that, I knew, would show yet again my ineptitude in all things math. Mr. Valliant softened the blow, however, with these words, "Patty continues to show a "valiant" effort in algebra!" How could that NOT bring a smile to anxious parents and an even more anxious daughter! My fondest thoughts are with you all. Patty Haas Lemon ('78, The Gunston School)*

Patty Lemon - July 24, 2017 at 05:10 PM



“ *Dana And Scott lit a candle in memory of James W. Valliant*



dana and scott - July 24, 2017 at 05:08 AM

BB

“ I have had the great privilege of knowing Jim Valiant,
And most of his family for about the past 25 years!
I really enjoyed talking with him about his many travels, while I kept
him sharp with a haircut, at the
Kent Island Barber Shop! He always left with a smile on his face!
Will miss him greatly! Prayers sent to the entire family!

Brenda Barnes - July 18, 2017 at 07:59 PM

RW

“ Have many fond memories of Jimmy when I worked at E.S. Valliant
& Son many years ago. And since that time, w would always stop
and chat whenever we would meet. He was a super nice person!!

Ruth Ann Walls - July 08, 2017 at 05:19 PM

JC

“ June And David Clark lit a candle in memory
of James W. Valliant



June and David Clark - July 08, 2017 at 12:21 PM

VI

“ Reed and other family and friends!
I didn't have the privilege of knowing your dad 😞 but our
condolences and sympathies are with you all who loved and will
miss him greatly!
God speed!
Val whaley ivins

Val whaley ivins - July 06, 2017 at 08:46 PM