



James Marvin Wright Jr.

November 19, 1953 - May 6, 2026

James M. Wright, Jr. of Chestertown, Maryland, passed away on May 6, 2026, surrounded by his family, following a brief illness.

Born in Baltimore on November 19, 1953, to Norma Lee Wright and the late James M. Wright, Sr., Jim spent his early years in Medwick Garth before moving with his family to the Eastern Shore in 1964.

Jim graduated from Chestertown High School in 1971 and went on to obtain a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1975. He attained his Professional Engineer's license from the State of Maryland in February 1980. Jim married Susan Newcomb on May 17, 1980, and they settled in Chestertown, where they raised two daughters, Kristen and Ashley.

Shortly after graduating from college, Jim began working as a civil engineer for Queen Anne's County Department of Public Works. He later worked for Rauch, Walls and Lane, Inc., a private engineering consulting firm. He spent most of his career working with Kent County Government, beginning in August 1991, when he was hired as the first civil engineer in the public works department. He later agreed to take over the buildings and grounds maintenance division in 2010. Jim retired at the end of 2021 after over 30 years of dedicated service to Kent County.

Jim was a member, past president, and past historian of the County Engineers Association of Maryland and received a Meritorious Service Award in 2012. He was also a member of the Chestertown Lions Club for many years and

served in various officer roles, including president.

Jim is survived by his wife of 46 years, Susan; his daughter, Kristen Owen and her husband, Chris; his daughter, Ashley Wright and her partner, Ron Solloway; his mother, Norma Lee Wright; his brother, Bruce Wright and his wife, Kathy; his sister-in-law, Katrina Newcomb; as well as 4 nephews, 1 niece, and their families; and a large extended family of cherished friends. He was predeceased by his father, James M. Wright, Sr.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests making memorial gifts to the charitable cause of your choosing, or to support pancreatic cancer research at the Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center. Please make checks payable to Johns Hopkins University and mail them with a memo indicating that the gift is in memory of James M. Wright, Jr., to the Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center, P.O. Box 49143, Baltimore, MD 21297-9143.

Upcoming Events

Visitation

MAY 14. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

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

Memorial Service

MAY 14. 2:00 PM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall

BG

“ *Our condolences to you Susan and family. We will certainly miss Jim at Downrigging and other events. Bill and Barbara Gorrow*

Barbara Gorrow - Yesterday at 06:50 PM

SV

“ *Rest in peace cousin Jimmy. You will be missed. Your cousin, Susan Villarreal.*

Susan Villarreal - Yesterday at 02:39 PM

BC

“ *Sorry to hear of Jim's passing. I worked with him many years ago in Queen Anne's County. Sympathy to his family & friends.*



Billie Carroll - Yesterday at 02:00 PM

PW

“ *Patti Webb sent a virtual gift in memory of James Marvin Wright Jr.*



Patti Webb - Yesterday at 06:34 AM

PS

“ Patricia And Billy Sutton lit a candle in memory of James Marvin Wright Jr.



Patricia and Billy Sutton - May 08 at 06:57 PM

SM

“ Stacey Morris lit a candle in memory of James Marvin Wright Jr.



Stacey Morris - May 08 at 05:01 PM

KS

“ Ken And Louise Stonesifer lit a candle in memory of James Marvin Wright Jr.



Ken and Louise Stonesifer - May 08 at 04:58 PM

DS

“ Dave And Donell Smith sent a virtual gift in memory of James Marvin Wright Jr.



Dave and Donell Smith - May 08 at 03:20 PM

DS

Susan I am so so sorry to hear this sad news. Sympathy to you, Kristin and Ashley as well as Jim's mother and brothers. I know he will be in your hearts forever.

Dave and Donell Smith - May 08 at 03:23 PM

DH

“ *Denny And Judy Hickman lit a candle in memory of James Marvin Wright Jr.*



Denny and Judy Hickman - May 08 at 11:11 AM

KN

“ *Katrina Newcomb lit a candle in memory of James Marvin Wright Jr.*



Katrina Newcomb - May 08 at 11:07 AM

KN

Thoughts and Prayers are with Susan, Ashley and Kristen. I will sure miss seeing him this summer. Such a great time taking the river packet down the Chester River.

Katrina Newcomb - May 08 at 11:13 AM



“ *Marian Wyble lit a candle in memory of James Marvin Wright Jr.*



Marian Wyble - May 08 at 09:24 AM

SE

“ Thoughts and Prayers to Susan and family.
Spencer and Barbara Everett

Spencer and Barbara Everett - May 08 at 09:21 AM

CK

“ From the entire Maintenance division we are sorry for your loss. Jim played an integral role in forging a Maintenance team that worked together with a goal of mutual respect for each team member. Encouraged to do their best in all they did employees began to appreciate each divisions abilities, slowly merging into one well oiled machine. Jim treated us all with dignity and respect and will surely be missed. May his family be blessed with the memories of all the lives he touched. We pray for peace for you in this time of sorrow. Kent County Maintenance

Cathy Kelmartin - May 08 at 08:57 AM

KR

“ Kent County Parks & Recreation lit a candle in memory of James Marvin Wright Jr.



Kent County Parks & Recreation - May 08 at 08:55 AM

HH

“ Harriette Hall lit a candle in memory of James Marvin Wright Jr.



Harriette Hall - May 08 at 08:45 AM

CK

“ Words cannot express how sorry I am for your loss. Jim and I worked side by side for a long time and became friends during that time. I was amazed by his humble intelligence and his ability to organize projects for the County from start to finish. We had a lot of laughs and formed a strong working relationship. My heart goes out to Susan and his entire family. May God bless you with peace, contentment and beautiful memories. Cathy & Kevin Kelmartin

Cathy Kelmartin - May 08 at 08:44 AM

MC

“ Jim Rest In Peace Ole Buddy! Enjoyed The Time We Worked Together At Public Works. Thoughts And Prayers To The Family!



Marion L. Chance - May 08 at 08:38 AM

HJ

“ My condolences and hugs to Kristen and Ashley and family, love, Holly

Holly Johnson - May 08 at 08:15 AM

KW

“ Kent County Public Works lit a candle in memory of James Marvin Wright Jr.



Kent County Public Works - May 08 at 08:12 AM

VQ

“ Thoughts and prayers to Susan and all of the family. He will greatly be missed. We will miss his visits back to Public Works! The County Public Works Roads Division

Vickie Quinn - May 08 at 08:12 AM

VQ

Kent County Public Works

Vickie Quinn - May 08 at 08:12 AM

VQ

“ Thoughts and prayers go out to Susan and family. Jim will surely be missed! Vickie & Danny Quinn

Vickie Quinn - May 08 at 08:09 AM

SW

“ Sharon Wingo lit a candle in memory of James Marvin Wright Jr.



sharon wingo - May 07 at 11:42 PM

SW

“ My Thoughts & Prayers are with Jim's family & friends. Sharon Smith, Wingo.

sharon wingo - May 07 at 11:42 PM

W'

“ With Love, CHS Class of '71 purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of James Marvin Wright Jr..



With Love, CHS Class of '71 - May 07 at 09:21 PM

MM

“ Mandy Markos lit a candle in memory of James Marvin Wright Jr.



Mandy Markos - May 07 at 09:21 PM

CL

“ Susan and family, I am very sorry for your loss.



Cathy Atwell Legg - May 07 at 07:50 PM

BA

“ Barbara Mills Allen lit a candle in memory of James Marvin Wright Jr.



Barbara Mills Allen - May 07 at 07:22 PM

BA

“ Thoughts and Prayers go out to Susan and the family at this difficult time. So very, very sorry for your loss.

Barbara Mills Allen - May 07 at 07:22 PM

LF

“ Liz Fleetwood lit a candle in memory of James Marvin Wright Jr.



Liz Fleetwood - May 07 at 06:13 PM