



James C Vanek, Jr.

May 19, 1935 - September 24, 2017

James C. Vanek Jr., beloved husband and father returned to the Heavenly Father on September 24, 2017. Born May 19, 1935 and raised in North Judson, IN, Jim married his high school sweetheart Paula Raelene Vanaman on December 28, 1957. Jim was the first person in his family to go to college, earning a bachelor's degree from Indiana University and a master's from Ball State University. He also served in the Army from 1959 to 1963, working on the solid fuel rocket program at White Sands Missile Range. After his honorable discharge, Jim moved his young family to Colorado, where he took a job as a teacher. From there he turned to work with Coats and Clark Inc., the world largest manufacturer of sewing thread, embarking on a successful sales career, traveling roads throughout the Midwest for the next 15 years. Eventually, Jim settled his family in Des Moines, IA, where he completed his career as an examiner with the State of Iowa. He and Raelene retired to the Las Vegas area in 1998 to enjoy warm winters and dry summers. In their 60 years of marriage they raised three sons, Mark, Eric and Kirk, who gave them eight grandchildren.

Jim was preceded in death by his father James, mother Hazel, and brother Jack. He is survived by his wife and sons. Known for his outgoing nature, humor and booming voice, Jim will be missed by all who knew him, especially his immediate, loving family.

A memorial mass will be said at Saints Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church and his ashes will be interred at St. Jacob Cemetery in North Judson. Donations to the Church in his honor in lieu of flowers or cards will be appreciated.

Tribute Wall



“ *thanks for making me the man I am today. way to set the example.* ”

kirk vanek - April 29, 2018 at 07:44 AM