



## James A Vandermark

July 14, 1938 - February 12, 2024

James “Jim” Allen Vandermark, 85 of Beecher, IL, passed away Monday, February 12, 2024. He was born July 14, 1938, in Lawrenceville, IL to Blaine & Marian (Greenlee) Vandermark. Jim earned his Bachelor of Science in Teaching and Biology from Colorado State University and then his Master of Science in Geology from Indiana University. He taught Science and Biology within the Beecher School District for 35 years. Jim is survived by his wife Wilma (Schuldt) Vandermark, with whom he shared a lifelong passion for teaching and outdoor adventures. He is preceded in death by his sister Janet (Richard) Ely and survived by his sisters Anita Huston and Marjorie Kay Dorton. He is also survived by his son Douglas (Kristine) Vandermark, daughter Amy (Clifford) Wilson; five grandchildren, Wade (Jessica) Wilson, Bethany (Nathan) Harrmann, James (Caitlin) Vandermark, Rebecca (Michael) Wilson, Kara (Brian) Ociepka; six great-grandchildren, Aubrey, Adelynn, and Wesley Harrmann, Charlotte Ociepka, and Oliver and Axel Vandermark. His memory will live on in the hearts of all those who loved him. In lieu of flowers, it was Jim’s wish to have research donations to the American Diabetes Association made in his name.

Services were private.

# Tribute Wall

DV

“ I was very sorry to hear of my cousin Jim's passing. We shared some very interesting conversations over the years. He and I both enjoyed researching our geneology. Wish we could have done more.

My heart goes out to dear Wilma, Doug and Amy. I'm sure his extended family misses him greatly.

I will follow up with a donation to the ADA. Clearly diabetes runs in the Gilliatt/ maternal side of our family. God bless. May he rest in peace.

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**Donna Vandermark** - February 26, 2024 at 01:17 PM

JB

“ "Mr. V" was one of my favorite teachers. I will never forget his telling me "Stop being so negative about yourself." A man who had more faith in me than I did. A memory I'll forever treasure. Rest in peace Mr. V.



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**Jeanne Bewsey-Wokurka** - February 21, 2024 at 01:18 AM

CS

“ He was a wonderful friend and companion. We shared lots of laughs and long conversations ! Will miss him. Charles Schutte

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**Charles Robert Schutte** - February 20, 2024 at 03:41 PM

CF

“ Our sympathy to the family on the passing of Uncle Jim. I remember my trip to Missouri having never canoed before. Getting sunburned and overturning in the rapids.

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**Cindy Fuchs** - February 19, 2024 at 05:27 PM

JG

“ I am so very sorry for your loss. I loved having him for a teacher.

Jill (Merzdorf) Grzonka - February 19, 2024 at 04:27 PM

MC

“ My deepest sympathy to Jim's family. I have many fond memories teaching with him and Wilma. With a smile, I remember Jim and Brian sharing a few Rusty Nails at the Princess and Wilma and I had to cut them off. He was such a kind and wonderful man.

Mary Cann - February 19, 2024 at 01:55 PM

PM

“ Jim was a warm and helpful friend. Prayers of comfort. Treasure your memories of this good teacher and man.

Penny Mosley - February 18, 2024 at 09:30 PM

PH

“ I have always felt fortunate in having known Jim Vandermark and am sorry to hear that he has passed from this earth. He was an educator and a gentleman of the highest caliber and a role model for the students of Beecher High School and for us all. Blessings to his family at this difficult time.

Patricia Hahto - February 17, 2024 at 08:32 PM

AM

“ Mr V was a great teacher! But before that he was a great family friend! Many outdoor adventures with him and our dad. Most memorable trip was the 3 day bike adventure from Beecher to Turkey Run State Park! Canoe trips. And the infamous “suck rock”. I hope you and dad are planning your next adventure! Peace and love to all the Vandermarks!

Alison Melton - February 17, 2024 at 08:24 PM

NB

“ Sorry to hear of Jim's passing. We were co-workers but more than that, we were friend. Neil Bedeker

Neil Bedeker - February 17, 2024 at 04:41 PM

KH

“ My deepest sympathies to the family. I loved having Mr. Vandermark as a teacher. Thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Karen Hiatt - February 17, 2024 at 03:19 PM



so sorry to hear. he was my teacher many moons ago

Nancy Burgess-Redepenning - February 17, 2024 at 06:05 PM

LG

“ So sorry to hear of the passing of Jim. He was a superb teacher and a truly good man. My condolences and prayers to Wilma and his family.

Linda Goedke

Linda Goedke - February 17, 2024 at 03:11 PM

RP

“ My sincere condolences go out to Wilma & the family. Jim was a fine gentleman & dedicated teacher- may he rest in peace !!!

Rick Preston - February 17, 2024 at 02:54 PM

JB

“ My thoughts and prayers are with Wilma, Doug, Amy and all the family! ❤️🙏

Janice Braun - February 17, 2024 at 01:38 PM