

James A. Urie - Obituary

James Urie of St. Johnsbury passed away on May 6, 2012, after a two-month battle with cancer, with his family by his side. He was 68.

James Urie was born on April 26, 1944, in Passumpsic, Vt., one of six children born to Arthur and Georgia (Rollins) Urie. He attended school in Barnet and graduated from St. Johnsbury Trade School.

Jim surveyed for the State of Vermont in the early 1960s and later went to work for Fairbanks Scales. He began in maintenance, moving onto sheet metal. In 2010 he retired from Fairbanks Scales after 46 years.

He married Georgia Brown after high school and together they raised three boys. They divorced in 1982. Norma Ruggles became his companion in the late '80s until her death 1992. A few years later, Jim married Elizabeth Wheeler. They enjoyed 14 years together before her death in 2010.

In his younger years, he spent many good times with his friends snowmobiling, hunting and dancing on Saturday nights. Jim enjoyed spending time outdoors, whether it was gardening or long walks with his family and pets, Sam, Buddy and Molly. Jim's garden was always fruitful and beautiful, supplying his family with fresh vegetables. He also enjoyed stream and pond fishing with his wife, Elizabeth. He loved to travel with Elizabeth and enjoyed their trips to California, Arizona, Indiana and Maine. Playing cards with family and attending family reunions were also special times in his life. There have been many Urie family reunions over the years with his five siblings and all of their children. Jim also loved to spend time watching his grandchildren play sports. He almost never missed Lauren and Collin's sporting events or school concerts. This past Christmas he had the pleasure of traveling to California and thoroughly enjoyed his time with his son, Dennis and his family. He didn't see Dennis, Carmen, Matthew and Taylor as much as he would have liked, so this trip meant the world to him.

In the last few years Jim was active as President of the Passumpsic Cemetery and also helped out with Passumpsic Baptist Church fundraisers and the Mustard Seed Soup Kitchen.

Survivors include his three sons and their families: Doug and Michelle Urie of Waterford, Dennis and Carmen Urie of Sylmar, Calif., Dale and Kelly Urie of St. Johnsbury; and grandchildren: John Urie and fianc  Jessica of San Antonio, Texas, Matthew and Taylor Urie of Sylmar, Calif., Lauren Urie and Collin Urie of St. Johnsbury, Rebecca and Cody Warren of Waterford; brother George Urie of Waterford; sisters: Janet Goodwin of Lyndonville, Betty Bunnell of Barnet and Susan Bean of Dalton, N.H.; Elizabeth's eight children and many wonderful nieces and nephews.

Jim was predeceased by a brother, Bernard Urie, companion Norma Ruggles, sisters-in-law Marilyn Urie and Pauline Urie, brothers-in-law Ken Bunnell, Allan Bean and Ray Goodwin and his loving wife, Elizabeth.

At Jim's request, there will be no visiting hours.

A graveside service will take place on Sunday, May 20, 2012, at 1 p.m. at the Passumpsic Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to: Kingdom Animal Shelter, 1644 Memorial Drive, P.O. Box 462, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819.

Online condolences may be shared privately with the family at www.Saylesfh.com.

Sayles Funeral Home in St. Johnsbury is assisting the family with the arrangements.