



# James R Demmy

MAY 25, 1947 - MAR 19, 2020



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## **James R Demmy**

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**J**ames Robert Demmy was born May 25, 1947 in Ephrata, PA. He served in the US Army, in military intelligence (1968-1971) during the Vietnam War. He attended the Indiana University of Pennsylvania at Punxsutawney campus (where he met his future wife, Ronalda Buff) and transferred to the University of Pittsburgh to finish his studies to become a Pharmacist. He began his career at Shadyside Hospital in Pittsburgh then moved to Somerset Hospital also in Pennsylvania. Jim & Ronnie were married in 1973 and welcomed the birth of their son, Jeff, in July of 1974. Jim and his family took an extended vacation during the summer of 1984 to St. Pete where he took his Florida boards and learned weeks later that he passed with flying colors enabling him to practice Pharmacy in Florida. After a return trip of one week's duration, Jim had several job offers, put a contract on a house and had school arranged for his son. The Demmys moved to Florida in 1984 where he began work at Clearwater Community Hospital until they closed. He then transferred to Northside Hospital and served as Director of Pharmacy for many years. When he semi-retired from Northside, Jim continued to work for HCA Supply Chain in Largo and then remotely from his home.

Jim loved to golf, spending many hours at Mangrove Golf Course, where he eventually took up rangering on Saturdays. He was a Masters Tournament ticket holder for 20 years. In addition to golf, he was a huge hockey fan and used to coach his son's team in Somerset back in the 70s & 80s. He roller-bladed to stay in shape, even to work and back.

He followed his wife's love for dogs – owning 7 Shelties over the years.

Jim will be lovingly remembered by his family and friends including son Jeff and partner Maggie Partridge; sister Jane and husband Don Lesher; niece Suzanne Shirk and husband Jimmy Frazier; nephew Steven Shirk; great niece Kayla; cousin Tom Hernley and wife Louise; cousin Sue Hernley; The Fitzgerald Family; The Bartley



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Family; The Palmer/Stevenson Family.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial gift can be made to: The First Tee of St. Petersburg, 3790 22nd Ave/S. St. Petersburg, FL 33711 or [www.thefirstteestpetersburg.org](http://www.thefirstteestpetersburg.org)

Please check back at this website for details on the memorial service to be held at a future date.



## Tribute Wall

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KM

**Kathy Mitchell** posted:

I'm very late in offering condolences, as I just found out that Jim had passed. My first hospital pharmacy tech position was at Clearwater Community Hospital. It was and will remain my favorite tech position of all the tech positions I've had. We had a great group of people in that pharmacy and Jim was the greatest of all. He was always calm, rational, knowledgeable, helpful, and had a great sense of humor. The best working days were days when he was there. With him, the days were the smoothest and most productive. I miss that hospital and working with him and the other techs. Best experience ever. Such a kind and generous soul. RIP, my friend Jim Demmy.

January 18 at 1:29 PM

MR

**Mark Rosenfeld** posted:

I met Jim over 20 years ago, when I was hired at Clearwater Community Hospital. We became good friends, almost immediately. Jim, from day 1, made me feel welcome and, although I only realize it now, he became my mentor and the person I could go to for any reason professional or personal. I followed him to NSH where we worked together for 12 years, till I left to go to COE. He also began doing COE when I realized that it was a perfect job for him and convinced him to try it. Over the years we maintained our friendship, going to CE presentations, Rays baseball games and on many other occasions. One of the things I remember about Jim is how he always jumped in when orders got our-of-hand (whether it was his assignment or not) to keep the pharmacy orders timely and to the floors so that meds were available when needed. He was an athlete and, when I met him, was playing and officiating roller hockey games. Everyone knew Jim as the guy you could see roller skating to and from work. He also officiated youth soccer games and was the Saturday morning ranger at his favorite golf course, in St Pete. Jim was one of the finest persons I've ever known. His experience in Viet Nam was the impetus behind him going to pharmacy school and the value and enjoyment he had for living. I already miss him and know that he is in a "Better Place" now.

March 30 at 1:25 PM



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**Reetesh Jaiswal** posted:

Jim Demmy was a great guy. I really enjoyed working with him at Northside Hospital. He was a great mentor, He was very knowledgeable not only pharmacy related matter but also economy, investment. As a new graduate he taught me a lot. Even after I left Northside Hospital we kept in touch. We met outside me outside work several times. I consulted Jim before I made any big financial decisions, he has been to my house and approved of the purchase. He will be greatly missed. RJ

March 30 at 11:49 AM



**Julie Gull** March 31 at 7:02 AM

Jim was the best guy to know and he love his family and friends,great since of humor. He will be greatly missed. Julie gull



**Gladys Moon** posted:

Please accept my condolence on the passing of Jim. We were co-workers at Clearwater Community. He was a joy to work with--funny, smart, and always willing to do what was needed to support the team and our goals. He was a kind, good man that I am glad that I got to know.

March 29 at 4:19 PM



**Arlene Thompson** lit a candle in honor of James.



March 29 at 8:08 AM



**Denise @ Office Of Dr. Beecum** lit a candle in honor of James.



March 29 at 6:55 AM



**Dr S Beecum** lit a candle in honor of James.



March 29 at 6:53 AM



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**Rick Kriebel** posted:

Jimmy, was a great childhood friend as we grew up in Adamstown. Shared a great week one summer as tent mates at Boy Scout camp. Quite a few memories from marching band as well during Cocalico years. Jim and I were also mates on Cocalico's inaugural tennis team. We played doubles that year; not stand outs but it is a grand memory...as life often casts, we were not in touch since graduation...Randy Stubbs, Jimmy Demmy, and I were often together at our church in Adamstown and the three of us loved playing cowboys and army. My sympathy to each because I'm sure his genuine spirit impacted you each.

March 28 at 7:45 AM



**Lo Pham** posted:

Jim Demmy was a wise, intelligent, funny and compassionate role model for me as a pharmacist as well as a human being ! He really taught me so much every day that I had the honor to work with him at NSH and even later when we worked remotely from home but could still IM each other. He had unlimited knowledge about pharmacy and actually about every subject you can think of since he never stop reading . We had endless discussions about work, life, finances , experiences, travel .. every chance we got since I felt like I always want to learn more from him. Those chats were both challenging and entertaining! Since Jim spent some time during the war in my mother country Vietnam, we also had a special bond talking about his perspective and my own life there growing up. We also attended together many fun CE dinners with David R, Liz M, Andy H partly for the CE lectures themselves but also just to get together outside of work. I feel so grateful that I got to see him one last time a few months ago after New Year when I went back to FL. I always like to get "our old NSH gang" together and he always made sure to come even if he had to work late on those evenings. He looked really good then and made me feel so optimistic about his outcome . We touched base just a few days via email before I got the heartbreaking news that I still cannot accept ! I wrote one last email to him the day after hoping he could still read it from above! Mr Jim, RIP with your beloved Ronnie! 🙏❤️🌹😭Lo-An

March 27 at 5:51 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Lori Lynn** posted:

It really broke my heart to hear we lost Jim. I met him in 2006 when I sat down next to him at a computer at Northside as a brand new pharmacist. I learned so much from him over the years that I worked there, about both pharmacy and life. He was a huge advocate for work life balance. He knew how to diffuse a situation and always said that you can't let work stress you out. He would share the books he was reading with me as we both sat there for hours processing orders. He would mess with the physicians and vice versa. I still remember him clear as day telling a more difficult one that wrote all kinds of crazy orders..."we don't have it, we're not getting it" and hung up. He put a fart machine next to the window and when the nurses came up he would pretend he didn't see them, lift a cheek, and push the button. We would laugh and laugh and laugh. He always came out of pocket to buy something nice for all the pharmacists and techs for Pharmacists Week. I left Northside in 2008 but kept in contact with him vis Skype since we still worked for HCA. He would "pop" up sometimes and say hi. A bunch of the old Northside crew from those days still gets together from time to time. I missed the one just a few months ago. Now I wish I hadn't. You will always hold a special place in my heart Jim Demmy

March 27 at 5:02 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring James by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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