



## James Gwynn Stearns

May 24, 2018 - November 26, 2018

James Gwynn Stearns, 81, of Clermont, Florida, was born May 24, 1937 in Framingham Massachusetts and died November 26, 2018 in ORMC, Orlando, Florida.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Friday, November 30, 2018 at 5 P.M. at Oakland Presbyterian Church, 218 East Oakland Avenue (Mail: P.O. Box 38) Oakland, Florida 34760

Born to Gilbert and Doris (nee: Gwynn) Stearns, he grew up in Vermont. He served in the U.S. Air Force and the Minnesota Air National Guard. He is a graduate of Winona State College, Winona, Minnesota. In Minneapolis, Minnesota, he started a teaching career which would lead him to Minneola Elementary School, Minneola, Florida for the next 29 years. After teaching the children during the day, he drove boats to the Magic Kingdom at Walt Disney World. His career at Disney lasted 35 years. An avid sport fan, he taught swimming, coached Little League Baseball, Girls' Softball and refereed Basketball. He was an assistant Boy Scout leader and worked at Camp La-No-Che for several summers. As an ordained Elder of the Presbyterian Church, he served in many capacities. He taught Sunday school, sang in the choir, coached Upward Basketball, and volunteered at Lego Camp. He was a member of the Forum Sunday School Class and the Men's Prayer Breakfast.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth Ann, four children: Nancy Stearns Bullen, (Randy), James Gilbert (Renee) Stearns, Frank Joseph (Sharon) Stearns and Sarah Stearns Cerilli (David Sr), 16 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, and a brother John MacLennan Stearns. He leaves cousins, many nieces and nephews, along with a host of friends. He will be missed.

He is predeceased by his parents, Gilbert and Doris Stearns, brother Robert Archer Stearns, and brother Gilbert Sanford Stearns.

In lieu of flowers a memorial to the youth ministry at Oakland Presbyterian Church has been suggested.

# Tribute Wall

WH

“ *My sympathies to the entire Stearns Family. He taught me how to swim down at a summer program at JC Beach in Clermont when I was just a little kid. Then I got the pleasure of working with him at Disney in watercraft for a little while. He was always happy. He seemed to have an inner happiness you couldn't quite put your finger on. I'm sad to know that a good guy like him isn't in this world any longer. We need them now more than ever.*

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**Wayne Harris** - December 02, 2018 at 03:39 PM

RB

“ *Death is the hardest thing we have to deal with in life. I know words can do little to take away the pain you are feeling, so may the God of comfort be with the Stearns family, helping you to cope. Lean on Him in the days to follow, 2 Thessalonians 2:16, 17 and read of his marvelous hope for those who have fallen asleep in death, John 11:41-44. Jesus performed this miracle as a preview for the future, John 5:21. My deepest sympathy.*

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**R Bailey** - November 29, 2018 at 10:49 AM

PO

“ *I am so sorry for your loss losing a loved one in death is never easy. I would like to share something with you that I believe will give you comfort it is found in the Bible at Revelation 21:4 it reads " And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away." This can give you comfort to know that the pain you are feeling is temporary. My deepest condolences to you and your family.*

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**Portia** - November 29, 2018 at 09:19 AM

MP

“ *My thoughts are with the family. Jim was a co-worker and friend to many people. He touched many children and adults with his life.*

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**Mary Page** - November 29, 2018 at 08:06 AM