



James Lewis Skoda

August 1, 1951 - September 5, 2014

James Lewis Skoda, 63, of Las Vegas, and formerly of Point Marion, Pa., passed away peacefully, Friday, September 5, 2014, at his new home in Nevada. Raised in Bobtown, Pa. a son of the late James and Katherine (Onuscheck) Skoda, he was a 1969 graduate of Mapletown High School.

James recently retired from the Fort Martin Power Station in Madsville, WV, where he worked for over 40 years. Following retirement, he fulfilled his life's dream by moving to Las Vegas, where he truly enjoyed every minute. In the days leading up to his passing, he was surrounded by close friends, family, and all of the things he enjoyed most.

He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Doris Marie Skoda; three children, Eric Skoda and partner Jesse Stacey, and Alexandra Keener and husband Matthew, all of Las Vegas, Robert Skoda and wife Crystal, and their three children, Ian, Hailey and Aiden, all of Morgantown, WV; one brother, Michael Skoda of Washington, Pa.; and by his constant companion and loving little Yorkshire Terrier, Bailey. He will truly be missed and remembered as a light hearted, generous and loving man.

In lieu of a memorial service, it was James' wish to simply remember the good times spent with him and laugh.

Obituary provided by the Richard R. Herod Funeral Home, Point Marion.

Tribute Wall

JH

“ *Jim and Vicki Heaton purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of James Lewis Skoda.*



Jim and Vicki Heaton - September 18, 2014 at 09:42 AM



“ *Cheeseboard Complete was purchased for the family of James Lewis Skoda.*



September 18, 2014 at 09:01 AM

ES

“ *There is going to be a lot of things that will remind me of my father. Certain songs, television shows, etc... But the one thing that will remind me the most of him will be when I look in the mirror. Looking at photos from the past I can see a lot of him in me. In addition to the looks, I have a lot of his sense of humor as well. Everytime I come up with a smart ass comment at work I will have a little more of my Dad paving the way. One thing that I need to do more like him is to chill out and relax and quit letting little things bother me. He was so care free and go with the flow and I admire him for that. I miss you Dad! Although I did get over to see you guys as much as I could and I forgot your birthday this year I always thought of you. Love you always.*

eric skoda - September 13, 2014 at 03:36 PM

DO

“ Jim what can I say. Thank you for 40 years of perfect love. I remember the night we fell in love. I was at your cousin's wedding. I didn't want to be there; I was going through some things and was sad. You walked over and said, "you look like you lost your best friend." You put out your big strong hand out and asked me to dance. That night we both knew we found our soul mates. We danced through life together from that day. I will love you till my last breath. Wait for me and save a dance for me. Love you Doris

Doris - September 13, 2014 at 11:09 AM

ES

Mom that was so sweet. Love you both.

eric skoda - September 13, 2014 at 12:02 PM

KR

“ My beloved Jim. 1/3 of a great trio (possibly the ring leader). I always joked that you are like my dad but I can cuss and be ornery with you. But more than that, you are my best friend. You brightened my life. Love to you, Doris, Ali, Matt, Eric, Bob and family.

Kris - September 13, 2014 at 12:30 AM

ES

He probably was the ring leader. -Eric

eric skoda - September 13, 2014 at 03:28 PM

MP

“ Friday around 7:00pm my daughter Tiffany called and told me Jim passed away. He gave me a good deal on the Hyundai Accent I'm driving now when he retired. He then fulfilled his dream and moved to Vegas. He spent his final days with his close friends and his family. I took every chance I could to talk and joke with my friends in the storeroom, especially Jimmy James. We would talk about the Penguins, storeroom/maintenance, the white deer in Point Marion to the sights in Vegas. His leadership and friendship was better than excellent for the short time I knew him, for me that was 36 years and 5 months. Life is full of pain and suffering and it is over too soon. When I get in my Accent I will think about him. He always made me laugh and helped me keep the job moving at the Fort. No matter how dirty, cold, hot and crappy the job was I left the storeroom with a smile on my face. He knew where every item in the storeroom was and a lot of the time he knew the 6 digit stock number. When he put something in stock he took the time and wrote the stock number very neatly. This eliminated any confusion and made all of our jobs easier. Jimmy was the type of person you gravitated to, you could trust, count on and so much more. Even with the explosion of 1978 and the flood in 1985 we had so many good times and so few bad. People like Jimmy are hard to replace. This is hard for me to write, I hope it makes the grieving process easier for all of us. God Bless him, his family and friends. Amen.

Mark Prah - September 12, 2014 at 09:14 PM

BB

“ Sorry to hear about Jim. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Barb Baker

Barbara Baker - September 11, 2014 at 02:49 PM

“ The website says “Click here to share a memory of James.”

Where can you even begin?

The Three Stooges and Monty Python references.

The way “Jim” looks scribbled at the bottom of a humorous and slightly inappropriate Hallmark card.

The way he always said “Whatchucalla” and “Excuse my French.”

The way he knew what his dog Bailey wanted by the way she barked. (Usually she wanted a walk to the park or a drink out of the bathroom sink.)

There are many great memories of Jim throughout the years. One that immediately comes to mind is when he called the house to talk to my dad and I didn't recognize his voice over the phone. I was about 6 or 7 and I said “May I ask who is calling?” and he said “Woodrow Wilson.” I believed him and shouted “Daaaaad! Woodrow Wilson's on the phone!” That story still gets brought up often.

He was certainly one of the kindest and most generous people you could ever hope to meet. He always treated us like family. He came up to the house every Christmas with his cards in tow, and we would send him back to Point Marion with a plate full of fudge and cookies. He had a penchant for trivia, and several years we got him a calendar with a word of the day or fact of the day. There were a couple occasions where the word of the day gave him some new, additional vocabulary fuel to pick on my dad, who worked with Jim for many, many years.

He introduced us to a comedy called “Father Ted,” which we still quote often. He influenced my love of Pink Floyd sometime around the start of high school - they're still one of my favorite bands to this day. He brought us some Ghost Pepper sauce back from Vegas

once. Because of that generous gift, I was able to see an 18 year old man cry and repeatedly yell "I made a mistake." I know Jim would be proud to know that incident is truly one of the most hilarious moments of my life. I'm laughing pretty good as I'm typing all these out. Which is perfect, because Jim always, always, always liked to make us laugh.

Jim, thanks for being such a good friend to my dad. You made the Fort much more bearable for him. And thank you for always picking on my mom. It never got old. Thanks for all the sweet gifts, witty remarks and, most of all, the laughs. The Nieman family will keep you in our hearts forever!

With love and prayers,

*The Nieman Family
Jeff, Yvonne, Rachel and Jeffry*

Rachel - September 11, 2014 at 02:45 PM

ES

*Well said Rachel!
- Woodrow Wilson Jr. Na Eric !!*

eric skoda - September 11, 2014 at 07:06 PM

TP

“ I always heard the name Jim Skoda growing up since him and my dad worked together at the Fort. I finally got to put a face to the name when I started with the company in 2006. The whole time I knew Jim he talked about 2 things: 1) Moving to Vegas 2) the Pittsburgh Penguins. He knew everything there was to know about his job and was a wealth of knowledge. Even though I worked at Hatfield we worked closely with Fort Martin, I can't even begin to count the times that I heard "I'm not sure, Jim would know" and Jim always did know the answer. He was always helpful, funny and a joy to be around.

Prayers to his family

Tiffany Prah

Tiffany Prah - September 10, 2014 at 09:52 AM

SM

“ I am so very sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. May God bless and comfort you in your time of loss.

Scott Maxwell



Scott Maxwell - September 10, 2014 at 07:49 AM

RS

“ My father. What can I say. He was the sun of our universe. And that brings me to a quote by the poet Hafiz. "The sun never says you owe me. With a love like that, the whole sky lights up". Not to the word but sums up my dad to a T. I will miss but never forget him. Love you dad. -Robert Skoda

Robert Skoda - September 09, 2014 at 09:49 AM

RK

“ *Skoda family,
So sorry to hear of your loss. Praying for all of you. God bless
Robin Rosnick Kletcho*

Robin Kletcho - September 08, 2014 at 06:08 PM

DH

“ *I am so sorry to hear about Jim. I worked with him for many years
and will miss him. May God bless you and your family. Love n
Prayers Bill n Debbie Hudak*

Debra HUdak - September 08, 2014 at 03:02 PM

RO

“ *So sorry to hear of Jim's passing. Jim was a great co worker and
friend and any time we would pass at work, I always knew there
would be a good laugh involved. Keeping you all in our prayers.
Randy Opas (Ydnar)*

Randy Opas - September 08, 2014 at 12:21 PM

JV

“ *Doris and family: Just wanted to say how deeply sorry Larry and I
were to hear of Jim's passing. I graduated with him and have only
the fondest of memories. He was a very kind, funny and
compassionate friend. Keeping the family in our prayers. Larry and
Judy Hixenbaugh Vincie*

Judy Vincie - September 08, 2014 at 09:51 AM

TY

“ I will cherish every moment I spent with Jimmy over the years, both at work and away. My favorite times is when we used to work afternoon shifts and several of us would go to Jim's house and party and watch the 3 stooges, lmao. They were Jim's favorite. Thanks for putting up with us Doris. I love you too. Please know Angie and I are praying for you and yours. You know I lost Carrie after 36 years. It is tough but your family is loving and strong and you will get through it together
Much love and thinking of you all!!

Tom Yoke - September 08, 2014 at 09:24 AM

JH

“ James my friend.....you left us too soon!

I have known you for more years than I am willing to admit. I remember when you started out as summer help and worked with us in the Electrical Crew. You fit right in with us. I remember the time you went home without your pants. I laughed until I cried. Your wit and one liners were unmatched by anyone! May you rest in peace.

Jim Hebb - September 07, 2014 at 02:35 PM



“ Please remember that he's always with you...

"Death is nothing at all"

Death is nothing at all, I have only slipped away into the next room, I am I and you are you. Whatever we were to each other, that we are still. Call me by my old familiar name. Speak to me in the easy way you always used. Put no difference into your tone. Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow. Laugh as we always laughed, at the little jokes we always enjoyed together. Play, smile, think of me, pray for me. Let my name be ever the household word that it always was. Let it be spoken without effort, without the ghost of a shadow in it. Life means all that it ever meant, It is the same as it ever was, there is absolute unbroken continuity. What is death but a negligible accident? Why should I be out of mind because I am out of sight? I am waiting for you for an interval, somewhere very near, just around the corner. All is well. Nothing is past; nothing is lost. One brief moment and all will be as it was before. How we shall laugh at the trouble of parting when we meet again!

Author: Henry Scott-Holland

*I wish Jim eternal rest and peace to Doris, Ali, Eric, Bob, and Matt.
May God help you through his absence.*

All our Love, Andy, Tina, & Holly

Andrew Keener - September 07, 2014 at 11:30 AM

DE

“ Oh Skooter....I miss you so. Our hearts are broken and we send your family prayers. Knowing you was a gift for us to treasure always. You had a new joke to tell us every Friday. Sometimes you would mess up the punch line which made us laugh even harder! It was a privilege and an honor to have been such a small part of your life, my friend. We are happy you made your way to Vegas, but are shocked to have lost you so soon. Keep them laughing.....The Guerriero Family

Dee - September 07, 2014 at 10:05 AM

LI

“ Jim was one of a kind, his ability to act so innocent and then zing you with those one liners and everyone would laugh.....the fun we had messing with Teds mind, he was my work brother, we shared stories of our kids, our hope and dreams, so glad he and Doris made it to Vegas, he came in one Christmas and said hey I finally got Doris something she really wants for Christmas, of course I said what is it, well he said its a automatic garage door opener....I was impressed.....until I realized they didn't have a garage.....his response, well thats next years gift....Jim you were a great friend, leaving to soon but I know you have them rolling with laughter in heaven.....I just hope when you got to the pearly gates, he didn't say I worship the quicksand you walk on...cause you know what that means...now before you all think thats mean, that was another of Jims one liners....I miss knowing you arent a phone call away, rest easy my friend. Love to all the family at this time.

Linda - September 07, 2014 at 09:34 AM

MA

“ I'll never forget your stories, your spicy food, your love of hockey, or how happy you were to be in Las Vegas. All of the jokes, the poker nights, and times you would beat us all at pool... The vacations, Monty Python, and Pink Floyd... Your calm presence, your wit, and the way people were drawn to you... Thank you for bringing a laughter and light into our lives that will remain in our hearts forever.



Mat - September 07, 2014 at 09:09 AM

CH

So sorry for your lost.....Praying for you and your family.....

Sincerely,

Cheryl Heaton

cheryl heaton - September 18, 2014 at 08:58 AM