



James "Jim" Molmen

November 5, 1926 - October 28, 2019

James "Jim" Molmen, 92, of Glendive, Montana, passed away on October 28, 2019, at the Eastern Montana Veterans Home in Glendive. A Memorial Service will be held on Monday, November 4, at 10:00 A.M. at Our Savior Lutheran Church, Glendive with Pastor Greg Lucido officiating. The service will be followed by interment with military honors at Dawson Memorial Cemetery. Arrangements have been entrusted to Silha Funeral Home, Glendive.

Jim was born November 5, 1926 in Pekin, North Dakota, the son of Harold and Anne (Enebo) Molmen. He was raised in Pekin and educated in Pekin and Tolna. During this period, he remembered working with his father, using their horse team to help build the earthen dam near Tolna. He finished high school through the GED program while working at a defense plant in San Francisco, California, a place he recalled as "a little different from Pekin". Returning to North Dakota, he went into the hatchery business. He moved to Glendive as part of his employment with the Star-Hi Hatchery company and once in Glendive, he met Viola Schock, who attended Our Savior Lutheran Church with her family. During the Korean Conflict he joined the Army, training as a paratrooper and radio operator. He remembered helping pour the foundations of Our Savior's new church building on the morning he left for the army. While he was home on leave, he and Viola were married, and she soon joined him in Georgia where he was stationed at the time.

When he was discharged they returned to Glendive, and Jim again worked in

the hatchery business. When changes in the poultry business threatened the future of independent hatchery companies just as Jim and Vi's growing family argued for greater income stability, he went to work on the Northern Pacific Railroad. With a variety of part-time jobs and businesses on the side, he stayed with the railroad until he retired in 1989.

As if working for the railroad and simultaneously holding a couple of part-time jobs wasn't enough, in the early '60s Jim and Vi bought a small farm just outside of Glendive. They felt it was a good place to raise children – probably because it kept the kids too busy and too tired to get into trouble. The farm also gave Jim the opportunity to follow his childhood love of horses, and he raised draft horses and trained them. Many people may remember his Clydesdale teams and the wagons he built for them; they made frequent appearances in area parades and gave hayrides at church and school activities.

Jim also loved building and woodworking. He built a boat when he was 10, and he built every house the family lived in while the children were growing. His children's own houses are now full of beautiful chests, bookcases, cabinetry, grandfather clocks, and rocking horses that he made for them. One of his major joys in retirement was when his woodworking friends would come to his shop, and together they would spend hours looking for just the right piece of oak or cherry for this or that project. He loved helping his kids with their own houses and projects, as well. He enjoyed playing cards, even if he wasn't winning (though he really did prefer to win.)

Vi passed away in 1996, and Jim married Gertrude Carlson in 1998. She preceded him in death as well, in 2016. He appreciated the kindness and love shown by her children and their families during his life with Gert and after her passing.

In recent years, Jim resided at the Eastern Montana Veterans Home, and he valued the friends he made there and the many friends and relatives who visited him.

Jim was preceded in death by his sisters Ethel (Molmen) Halvorson and Hazel

(Molmen) Nerison.

He is survived by his children Randy & Marcy (Molvik) Molmen, Dave & Karen (Jensen) Molmen, Steve & Deb (Waters) Molmen and Rosanne (Molmen) & Rusty Lohof, 13 grandchildren Beth Molmen, Chris & Dani (Kuntz) Molmen, Brittany (Molmen) & Dan Young, Brianna Molmen, Blake Molmen, Brock Molmen, Bailee Molmen, Luke & Kelcie (Wood) Lohof, and Abbie Lohof and her fiancé Brady Richardson, and one great-grandchild, Mayzie Lohof, as well as many cousins, nieces and nephews and their families.

Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at: www.silhafuneralhomes.com.

Cemetery Details

Dawson Memorial Cemetery

2816 West Towne Street
Glendive, MT 59330

Previous Events

Memorial Service

NOV 4. 10:00 AM (MT)

Our Savior Lutheran Church
322 North River Avenue
Glendive, MT 59330

Tribute Wall



“ *James "Jim" Molmen*

December 07, 2022 at 04:10 PM



“ *So sorry for the loss of your Dad, Dave.*

Jo Anne (Jonutis) Herem - November 30, 2019 at 11:26 PM



“ *I met Jim when I was a young man and was amazed at his talents. I helped him build his home in Highland Park during the 60's and also worked with him during our years on the railroad. He will be missed by many.*

Dennis Geiger - November 04, 2019 at 10:38 PM



“ *Our condolences go out to all the family of Jim Molmen. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him. We worked with him on the railroad and enjoyed playing pinnocle with him.*



Denise & Joe Borntreger - November 03, 2019 at 10:55 PM



“ *What great memories of Jim remembered with a smile! A wonderful man who shared his talents with many! Thanks for the years of bells!*

John and Karen Pickart - November 03, 2019 at 07:28 PM

LM

“ Randy, David, Steve and Rosanne I am so sorry for your loss. Your Dad was a wonderful man. Please know that you all are in my thoughts and prayers today and in the difficult days to follow.
With sincere sympathy, Loretta McDanold Miller

Loretta McDanold Miller - November 02, 2019 at 09:14 AM

ML

“ MSP JV GTS - Delta Air Lines purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of James "Jim" Molmen.



MSP JV GTS - Delta Air Lines - November 02, 2019 at 09:05 AM

JH

“ To Dave and all your family--so sorry for the loss of your Dad. Thinking of you.

Jo Anne (Jonutis) Herem - November 02, 2019 at 01:54 AM

KS

“ Kay S. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of James "Jim" Molmen.



Kay S. - November 01, 2019 at 07:42 PM

PF

“ *Patty and Melvin Deines and family purchased the Fairest of All for the family of James "Jim" Molmen.*



Patty and Melvin Deines and family - November 01, 2019 at 06:11 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Molmen.*



November 01, 2019 at 04:13 PM



“ *I worked with this fine man on the railroad many years ago. Everyone liked him. Lately I had been visiting him at the Vet's home and got to love him even more. When I talked to the nurses at the home they said he was one of their favorite patients. I will miss this dear man. God bless him. I am sure I will see him again in heaven one day.*

Russell Parker - November 01, 2019 at 12:43 PM

KA

“ *Jim was a very kind man. Thank you for giving me the chance to take care of him at EMVH. He will truly be missed. Peace to all of you during this time.*

*Sincerely,
Karen Ask*

Karen Ask - October 31, 2019 at 11:15 PM

DS

“ *Dick Sadorf lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Molmen*



Dick Sadorf - October 31, 2019 at 07:52 PM

DD

“ *Dan & Donna Dobson lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Molmen*



Dan & Donna Dobson - October 31, 2019 at 06:13 PM

NS

“ *Jim was quite a gentleman. He taught Noren a lot about woodworking and made many beautiful items for his family, church and friends. He will be greatly missed and sorry we won't be able to attend his memorial.*
Noren and Karen Shanley



Noren Shanley - October 31, 2019 at 04:57 PM

RA

“ This is very sad news, I loved working with and being mentored by Jim on the RR. One trip coming home from Forsyth and just west of Miles City while riding in the cupola of our caboose on a loaded coal train, we watched as 28 cars of coal tumbled off the tracks ahead of us and into a creek at MP 86. When the train finally came to a halt we were just 14 cars from joining the destroyed cars in the creek. Without batting an eye Jim said "hit the ground kid, and flag that train behind us to a stop". Jim was the consummate Railroader. You could trust his judgement in any situation. At one time Jim helped me build upper and lower (Oak of course 😊) cabinets for a 90 gallon fish tank, and because of Jim's amazing talent, they turned out gorgeous. He oozed pride for his three wonderful sons and his beautiful daughter constantly. If farming is allowed in Heaven, and there happens to be a farmer admiring his crop when he arrives, I have no doubt that Jim will turn to GOD, point to that farmer and say, "Now there is a man that is outstanding in his field." Love you Jim and RIP. Rolly and Barb

Rolly Anvik - October 31, 2019 at 04:24 PM

MH

“ I believe the best testament to Jim's life is the superb quality of the kids he and Viola raised. By any account he lived a full life, but that probably won't ease the pain of his passing for those who loved him. I fondly remember visiting his farm at the end of the road when I lived in Glendive. My condolences to his family members, may he RIP.

Michael Hughes - October 31, 2019 at 04:12 PM

MW

“ *Mark And Sheryl Walsh lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Molmen*



Mark and Sheryl Walsh - October 31, 2019 at 01:39 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Molmen.*



October 31, 2019 at 11:56 AM

JN

“ *Molmen Family: You and your families are in our thoughts & prayers. Jack & Kathy Nicholson*

Jack & Kathy Nicholson - October 31, 2019 at 11:27 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of James "Jim" Molmen.*



October 31, 2019 at 10:57 AM



“ *Trish Long Emly lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Molmen*



Trish Long Emly - October 30, 2019 at 07:59 PM



“ *Jack And Diane Crockett lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Molmen*



Jack and Diane Crockett - October 30, 2019 at 01:33 PM



“ *What a legend! Always enjoyed my visits with Jim and his perspectives on all things important. He clearly loved his family. Blessings to all of you.*

Carole J. Diede - October 30, 2019 at 12:38 PM



“ *Molmen Family, my Sincere Sympathy to you all, Jim and I worked together on the Railroad for years, Jim was a Real Gentleman, always enjoyed my visits with him RIP Jim .*

Chuck Heinrich - October 30, 2019 at 12:14 PM

LO

“ *The Oium family sends our condolences to all of you. I remember Jim coming down Highland Park road with the horses and giving a wave on his way by. Very sweet man. 🙏🙏✝️✝️*

Larry and Sandy Oium - October 30, 2019 at 10:23 AM

CB

“ *Molmen family. What a great man your dad was. I have had the pleasure of knowing him for many years. He was well known in our church. As the years went by, I had the pleasure of visiting him when he lived at Grandview and then the Vets home. What a delight he was. Hold on to the memories. RIP Jim. You certainly have earned your wings.*

Cindi and Dennis Byron - October 30, 2019 at 09:23 AM

AW

“ *Arnell Wagnee lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Molmen*



arnell wagnee - October 30, 2019 at 01:54 AM

AB

“ *Alice Bachmeier lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Molmen*



Alice Bachmeier - October 29, 2019 at 10:17 PM

PR

“ Karen Bruce and family. I am sorry to hear of ur step fathers passing. May he Rest In Peace. Tom and Patty

Patty Reynolds - October 29, 2019 at 09:35 PM

PR

“ Patty Reynolds lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Molmen



Patty Reynolds - October 29, 2019 at 09:34 PM

LS

“ Linda Schuler lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Molmen



Linda Schuler - October 29, 2019 at 08:18 PM

CE

“ Curt Erhardt lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Molmen



Curt Erhardt - October 29, 2019 at 06:54 PM



“ *Linda lit a candle in memory of James "Jim" Molmen*



Linda - October 29, 2019 at 04:59 PM