

## **James L Will Sr.**

July 23, 1933 - May 25, 2013

James Leon Will, Sr., age 79, of Evansville, passed away Saturday, May 25, 2013 while at Lake Barkley with his family.

Mr. Will founded the James L. Will Insurance Agency and retired from there in 1999. He was also a founder and Senior partner of Freeman, Will and Niemeier Financial Services and former owner of Fore Investments, K & W Farms and K & W Leasing. Jim had a longtime dedication to the University of Southern Indiana, where he served on the Board of Directors until 1995. He was currently a member of the Advisory Council at USI, longtime member and Past President of the USI Varsity Club and a member of the USI Coaches Club. He was appointed to the University of Southern Indiana Board of Trustees in 1996 and served as Chair in 1999. Jim was a board member of Southern Indiana Higher Education, Inc.; honorary lifetime Board Member of the Evansville Boys' and Girls' Club; member of the President's Club of Cincinnati Insurance Company; former member of Board of Directors of Evansville Water and Sewer Utility Company; former 23 year member of Board and Executive Committee member of Citizens National Bank/Fifth Third Bank. In 1988, Jim was awarded the Sagamores of the Wabash by Governor Robert Orr. He was the former president and four year member of Vanderburgh County Plan Commission; former six year member of Evansville Airport Authority; lifetime honorary member and past president of the Westside Nut Club where he had been a member since 1963; former member

of West Side Business and Professional Men's Association; board member of the St. Anthony Family Center and Soup Kitchen; former board member of Catholic Foundation of Southwestern Indiana, Inc.; former board member of the Catholic Education Foundation; member of St. Meinrad Alumni Association; member of the Evansville Kennel Club; member of Mater Dei Friends and Alumni Association; member of Knights of Columbus and a 25 year member of the Evansville Country Club. Jim was a longtime member of Resurrection Catholic Church where he was an active volunteer serving on the Parish Council; as finance chairman and new building chairman. Jim was an avid golfer; had seven holes in one and shot his age at the age of 78. He was presently a member of the Cambridge Golf Club and Helfrich Hills Men's Club.

Surviving Jim are his wife of 58 years, Eileen H. (Berendes) Will; four daughters, Lynn (Bob) Reed and Leann (Chad) Sander, both of Evansville; Lauri (Patrick) Koster of St. Louis, MO and Lesley (Jeff) Bertrand of Fishers, IN; a son, James L. (Karen) Will, Jr. of Evansville; ten grandchildren, Jennifer (Michael) Elsner; Hannah and Ellie Sander, Will, Claire and Callaghan Koster, Sarah and Mitchell Bertrand and Kayley and Lindsey Will and a great grandson, Henry Elsner.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph J. and Agnes (Hoefling) Will and a sister, Betty Jo Coleman.

A Mass of Christian Burial will take place at 10:30 A.M. on Thursday, May 30, 2013 at Resurrection Catholic Church, Rev. Phil Kreilein officiating. Entombment will follow in St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery.

Friends may visit with the family from 1:00 until 8:00 P.M. on Wednesday at Pierre Funeral Home, 2601 W. Franklin Street. Visiting will conclude with a memorial service conducted by the church at 8:00 P.M. Friends may also visit

with the family from 9:30 A.M. until service time on Thursday at Resurrection.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Mater Dei Full of Grace Capital Campaign, Resurrection Catholic Church, the USI Foundation, Birth Right of Evansville or the Boys' and Girls' Club of Evansville.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY **29**. 1:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Pierre Funeral Home  
2601 West Franklin Street  
Evansville, IN

## Visitation

MAY **30**. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Resurrection Catholic Church  
5301 New Harmony Road  
Evansville, IN

## Service

MAY **30**. 10:30 AM (CT)

Resurrection Catholic Church  
5301 New Harmony Road  
Evansville, IN

# Tribute Wall



“ *James L Will Sr.*

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January 16, 2023 at 06:53 PM



“ *So sorry to hear of Jim's passing. I remember him well from Resurrection Church. He was a very nice man and a friend to our family. God bless Jim and his family.*

*Judy (Goedde) Wohadlo##imported-begin##Judy (Goedde) Wohadlo##imported-end##*

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June 05, 2013 at 01:31 PM



“ *Eileen and family  
Linda and I am so sorry for your great loss...I really enjoyed being around Jim when I had the chance...I'm so glad I just seen him...there will never be a man like Jim...I wished I could had been there for you and family...we are praying for "old man Will" as he would say it...also praying for you and his whole family in which he was so proud of...we will miss him.##imported-begin##Jerry and Linda Thacker##imported-end##*

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June 01, 2013 at 12:12 PM



“ We extend our deepest sympathy to Eileen and family. We always saw Jim, usually at breakfast, when we visited in Evansville with our brother-in-law, Don Scherer. He was such a pleasant man, always talking about his golf game. May the wonderful memories sustain you through this most difficult time. You're in our thoughts and prayers##imported-begin##Patty (Wolf) and Marvin Egbert, Tucson, AZ##imported-end##

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May 30, 2013 at 11:50 PM



“ We are sorry for your loss. He will be greatly missed by his friends at Handy Korner Market and The Fishing Hole Restaurant. We'll hold a paper for him....

God bless you all.##imported-begin##Handy Korner Market, Lake Barkley##imported-end##

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May 30, 2013 at 10:49 PM



“ Jim,  
I am expressing my sympathy to you and your family. I have known your father for many years. He has done many favors for me. I am proud to say that I knew your father. He is now included in my prayers. When on my prayer list you are there forever.  
Yours in Christ-Larry Osborne##imported-begin##Larry Osborne##imported-end##

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May 30, 2013 at 01:06 PM



“ You have my deepest sympathy on your loss. Whenever I saw Mr. Will he had a smile on his face. It always made me feel good. I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Cyndi Croce Bent##imported-end##

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May 30, 2013 at 12:43 PM



“ Jim Jr. and family, so sorry for your loss. He was a leader and a great man. You and your family are in our prayers.##imported-begin##Bob Bender##imported-end##

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May 30, 2013 at 08:37 AM



“ "Old Man Will" is one of my most admired people. I have been priviledged to be around some great people; Hall of Fame athletes and coaches, Governors and Senators, business and religious leaders and great educators, BUT Jim Will Sr. will always be my mentor, advisor and wonderful friend. My life has been enriched for having been in his presence.  
Wayne Boultinghouse##imported-begin##wayne  
boultinghouse##imported-end##

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May 30, 2013 at 08:29 AM



“ Our deepest sympathy for the loss of Jim. Prayers go out to Eileen and all of the will family. Jim you will be in our thoughts and prayers May he rest in peace . He will be greatly missed##imported-begin##Dan and Julie Devillez ##imported-end##

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May 30, 2013 at 07:49 AM



“ Eileen, Jimmy & family: Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. I feel so fortunate to be able to call Jim a friend. Like everyone else, I'll miss him, but a reassuring smile will always erase any sad thoughts when I think of all the enjoyable times and funny stories I have to look back on. What a truly great man he was!##imported-begin##Doug Claybourn##imported-end##

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May 29, 2013 at 10:31 PM



“ Lesley I'm so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in my prayers during this tough time. Your Dad was such a great man. He touched so many people and brought much joy to so many. He was a wonderful man as well as a great father to you all.  
God Bless  
Jeff and Vicky Horstman##imported-begin##Jeff Horstman##imported-end##

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May 29, 2013 at 10:22 PM



“ Jim Jr and all your family---

So sorry for your loss. Prayers to you all.

The Samples##imported-begin##BJ & Janet (Kercher) Samples and Brian##imported-end##

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May 29, 2013 at 07:19 PM



“ I wish to extend my sympathy and prayers to the Will Family. I taught at Resurrection a long time ago.  
Sister Laura Marie Schmitt##imported-begin##Sister Laura Marie Schmitt##imported-end##

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May 29, 2013 at 06:45 PM



“ We are so sorry. We are in Cincinnati but our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Your loss is our loss.##imported-begin##Diana & Chuck Petranek ##imported-end##

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May 29, 2013 at 06:08 PM



“ Dear Lauri, Patrick, Will, Claire, Cal & Family:

*Our Hearts & Prayers are With You -- as are the prayers of the Priory Community and all of the Monks @ Saint Louis Abbey.*

*Peace of Christ Be With You Now & Always.*

*Your Friends, Doug Heidi Jake##imported-begin##Drysdales, Priory, & Monks of Saint Louis Abbey##imported-end##*

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May 29, 2013 at 03:06 PM



“ Jim Will Sr will be remembered as a true man's man, a man of his word, giving and honor. I met Jim and Eileen many years ago. What a wonderful couple. Both were very kind and a friend to me. Jim was and is a role model. I will miss you my friend, this community will miss you. Be with God.##imported-begin##Dave Raibley##imported-end##

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May 29, 2013 at 01:39 PM



“ Eileen, Jim Jr. and family,

*Sorry that I am unable to attend visitation or funeral mass. I fell and I am housebound due to my MSA down problem.*

*Jim Sr was a civic giant and he created a better community for all. I am proud that he was my patient and friend.*

*Stan Tillman, OD##imported-begin##Stan Tillman OD##imported-end##*

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May 29, 2013 at 12:02 PM



“ Dear Jim and family,

*I am sorry to hear about your loss. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Julie Arafeh##imported-end##*

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May 29, 2013 at 12:44 AM



“ So very sorry for your loss. Thoughts and prayers to your family.##imported-begin##Paul & Cindy Niemeier##imported-end##

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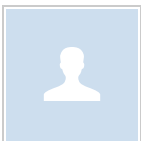
May 28, 2013 at 07:46 PM



“ *Eileen & family,  
We were saddened to learn of the passing of your husband, dad,  
and grandfather. Your family is in our hearts and our prayers.  
Regards,  
Jennifer (Maier) and Steve Fox  
Marietta, GA##imported-begin##Jennifer & Steve Fox##imported-  
end##*

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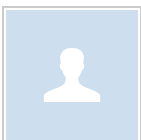
May 28, 2013 at 05:59 PM



“ *Cecelia and I were so sad to learn of Jim's death. He was so  
supportive of our work on the Campus Ministry Board at USI and  
our efforts to serve the Catholic students there. And his support of  
all of the work at USI was important to all of the faculty who were  
doing our best to improve the educational attainment of students  
from the Evansville area. Supporters like Jim don't come very often  
and he will be missed. We'll remember him in our prayers for  
deceased family and friends.##imported-begin##Augustine J. (Jay)  
Fredrich##imported-end##*

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May 28, 2013 at 05:18 PM



“ *Please accept our deepest sympathies for the passing of  
Jim.##imported-begin##Donald and Martha Deer and  
family##imported-end##*

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May 28, 2013 at 04:39 PM



“ *Eileen and Family,*

*Jim was an Awesome man and our Family had the great pleasure of knowing him and as children we had many good times he will be missed and you all our in our prayers*

*Love, Bernie & Jennifer Byers, Dan & Connie Koester, Don & Leanne Seibert, Billy & Tammy Koester and Betty Koester###imported-begin##Bernie & Jennifer Byers##imported-end##*

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May 28, 2013 at 03:23 PM



“ *We are so sorry to hear about Jim. He was truly a great man. He will be missed by everyone whose life he touched. He will be forever in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Love*

*Dick & Sandy Wedding###imported-begin##Dick & Sandy Wedding##imported-end##*

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May 28, 2013 at 02:37 PM