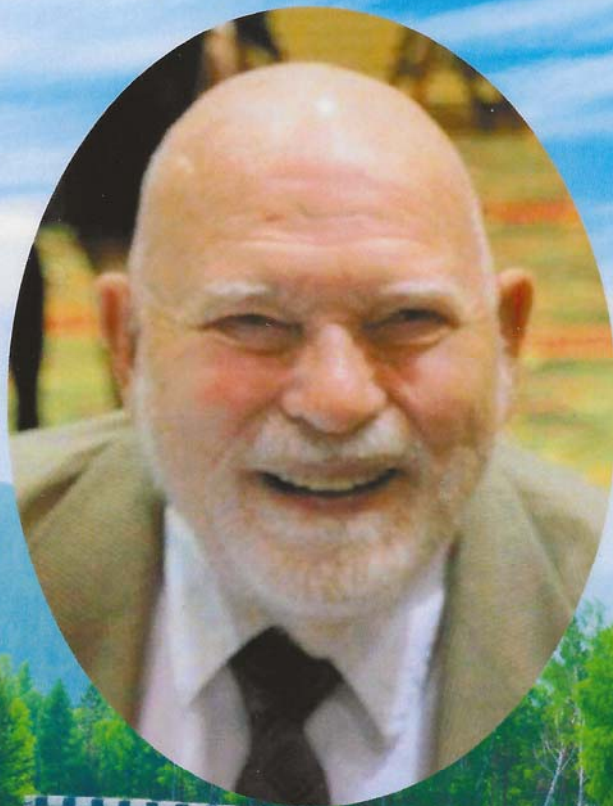


Traveling on...

Celebrating the Life of

JAMES L. (JIM) CARPENTER

December 29, 1930 - November 22, 2018



"It's a beautiful day!" -Jim

January 26, 2019

- 1-2 pm Service
 - 2-3 pm Eating & Remembering
- Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society
Madison, Wisconsin

Order of Service

Gathering Music – *A collection of songs Jim would have loved*

Prelude *All the Things You Are*
music by Jerome Kern; lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II

Opening Words and Welcome Rev. Sandra Ingham

Chalice Lighting Jason Carpenter
To live content #484 Surekha Carpenter
by William Henry Channing Naima Tucker
Jai Carpenter
Brooklynn Smith

Singing* *Spirit of Life #123*

Jim's Life – Eulogy Rev. Dr. Tony Larsen

Resolution for Connecting Link by
Madison Metropolitan Chapter of
The Links, Inc. Julia Holman & Link Sisters

Remembering Jim Jeffery Carpenter
Jan Carpenter Tucker
Meggan Carpenter
Bob Greenler

Music *There Will Never Be Another You*
music by Harry Warren; lyrics by Mack Gordon

Open Sharing (2 minutes maximum per person, please)

Singing* *Breaths #1001*

Benediction Margaret Carpenter
To live in this world #696
by Mary Oliver

Chalice Extinguishing Brooklynn

Postlude *Sentimental Journey*
composed by Les Brown and Ben Homer

* Please rise as your spirit and physical ability allow.

Please join Jim's family and friends for eating and more remembering after the service.

Jim's Life...

James Lee Carpenter was born December 29, 1930 in Chicago, Illinois. He frequently said to those he met, "My friends call me Jim, and I would like you to be my friend." He grew up in the Austin area of Chicago. By age 17, he directed and played trombone in his own "Jimmie Carpenter's Big Swing Band." He loved big band music and to dance the jitterbug.

Although he was raised a Methodist, as an adult he proudly proclaimed himself to be an atheist and became a faithful member of Unitarian Universalist (UU) churches: Third Unitarian Church in Chicago, Olympia Brown UU Church in Racine, and most recently, Prairie UU Society in Madison.

After receiving a Master's degree from the University of Chicago, Jim's first career was as a social group worker. In 1952, Jim and his first wife, Cynthia (Cyd), were married in a Quaker ceremony, having met through activities with American Friends Service Committee. Theirs was a courageous act when interracial marriage was against the law in many States. They moved to Milwaukee for Jim to do his alternative military service as a conscientious objector. Their two children, Jan (1954) and Jeffery (1955), were born. Jim and Cyd became "hostel parents" at the Red Barn American Youth Hostel. Jim acquired his first horse, Daisy, kept honey bees, and grew alfalfa hay. They made lifelong friends in the Greenlers, Konles, Berentsens and others from Friends Meeting.

In his second career he joined his father as a commission-only salesman and entrepreneur of Carpenter Visual Service. Jim and his little family bought their first home in Maywood, Illinois. In 1964 he began his third career, in education,



becoming an eighth-grade science teacher. Cyd became a teacher, too, which allowed the family to take weeks-long driving and camping trips in the summers and enjoy winter time skiing.

By 1969, Dr. James L. Carpenter acquired a PhD in educational administration from Northwestern University. He was employed as Director of Research and Evaluation by the Chicago Public Schools. After several years, the General Superintendent wanted somebody who was less dedicated to telling the truth about some multi-million-dollar programs that did not achieve better test results than did students in control schools. Jim was released from his position and subsequently spent fifteen years being a Chicago school principal, always in inner city, high poverty elementary schools and a middle school. He found this to be very fulfilling.

When Jim got his PhD, he had hopes of being "from" Chicago. When the Chicago Schools made him an offer he could not refuse, he did the next best thing and bought a weekend and vacation home (1970) – previously, and then affectionately – known as Josie's Tavern, on the shores of Browns Lake in Burlington, Wisconsin. This offered opportunities for swimming, boating, water skiing, ice skating and entertaining. Josie's sported its original Blatz beer sign in the front yard, a 30-foot bar, old fashioned cash register, a juke box, and picture window views of the lake. Often strangers would boat up to the dock and come in for a beer. Jim welcomed and served them without

charge. Many hours were spent playing games, talking and carousing by a wide variety of family and friends. Weddings of several people were held there, including Jeffery and Sumita Carpenter (1982).

In 1977, a 114-acre farm was acquired two miles from the home on the lake. Horses were boarded and Jim had his own to ride for many years. Jim was a weekend farmer, participating in every phase of raising crops, cattle and pigs. He delivered freshly butchered, neatly wrapped meat to his customers in the Chicago area. There was always work on the upkeep of Josie's and the 3JC Ranch, so friends and relatives got to experience painting, construction, chopping wood, cleaning up the waterfront, combining and bailing hay, and raising a pole barn.

In 1978, Jim and Cyd relocated to a home in Oak Park, Illinois and kept the two-flat in Maywood as rental property. Jim and Jeffery briefly owned a real estate company to help friends buy and sell homes, while managing their own investment properties.

In 1991, Jim and his second wife, Margaret, had a daughter, Meggan. After retiring from Chicago Schools, he and his new family moved to Racine. They were married at Josie's Tavern, and true to his convictions, Jim was once again proudly in an interracial marriage. He and Margaret served as co-coordinators of an Alternative Teacher Certification program at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside; Jim had the title of Clinical Professor.



Jim and Cyd



Jim and Margaret



In retirement, using building skills acquired through having rental property, along with hired assistance, Jim rebuilt Josie's Tavern and the boat house. He was frequently busy but found this enjoyable. They lived there until they desired a more metropolitan school environment for Meggan. They purchased a comfortable condo in Verona, Wisconsin and Josie's was sold.

For most of his life, when possible, Jim was an everyday bicycle rider. He loved to ride along Military Ridge trail near Madison, and even when his advanced years required moving up to a three-wheel bike he joyfully rode his trike in his Verona subdivision. He enjoyed traveling and was a frequent passenger on long drives crisscrossing the State during Margaret's employment as the Director of Education for the Wisconsin prison system. While Margaret worked, Jim saw the sights, visiting many historical parks, buildings and museums. There were several vacations spent with Jeffery and Jan and their families, and one memorable vacation where the whole family, including Cyd and Vijaya (Jeff's mother-in-law), drove to and toured Savannah, Georgia together. He loved to engage complete strangers in a game of "How are we all related?" Jim was a good listener and happiest when talking, and many people remember enjoying hours-long conversations with him.

Meggan and Sidney Smith blessed the family with a

granddaughter. Meggan and Brooklynn moved in to help with Jim's care after he was diagnosed with atrial fibrillation and congestive heart failure. Jim had a sense that he was in his last days, and cried many tears when family members who visited for Thanksgiving 2017 left, the last time he would see them. Jim took his last "road trip" home from the rehabilitation hospital and died on November 22, 2018 (Thanksgiving Day). Jim's ashes will be scattered near Browns Lake, as he requested, sometime later this year after the snow and ice have melted.

James L. (Jim) Carpenter was preceded in death by his parents Slater Brown Carpenter and Dorothy St. Clair Carpenter, his brother, Robert A. Carpenter, and first cousins Gordon Anderson, Jeannie (Jim) Stratton, and Reggie (Noreen) Willemsen. He is survived by first cousins Charles (Jane) Lake, Helen (Gordon) Anderson, along with a host of second cousins.

Left to remember Jim are his second wife Margaret Clayton Carpenter; his first wife Cynthia Crooks Carpenter; his children Jan Carpenter (Vernon) Tucker, Jeffery Scott (Sumita) Carpenter, Meggan Clayton Carpenter; and his grandchildren Jason Ravi Carpenter, Surekha Lee Carpenter and Jai Hari Beauregard Carpenter, Naima Amani Tucker, and Brooklynn Milani Smith; along with a host of in-laws, nieces and nephews, cousins and friends.

The Carpenter family wishes to thank all those who have helped with the celebration of life service and the eating and remembering reception. We appreciate everyone's loving kindness during this time.