



James M. Aska

June 11, 1941 - June 15, 2019

James Martin Aska died on June 15, 2019. He was born on June 11, 1941, in Lima, Ohio, the son of Martin and Bernice Aska. He is survived by his brother, Gerald Aska (Beverly) of Lima: his wife of 36 years, Kate Oklok, of Upper Sandusky: his daughter, Maritt Aska Wolfrom (Craig) and two grandchildren, Kaia and Finn Wolfrom, all of Hailey, Idaho. Jim was a graduate of the Ohio State University and served in the United States Navy.

Upon filling out Jim's death certificate, the question of "former occupation" arose. Kate's answer, "Retired Renaissance Man" was rejected, either for not being sufficiently mundane or for conjuring up images of tilts on horseback. Too bad, because "Retired Renaissance Man" fit Jim better than any job title ever could.

Even describing Jim as a man of the world would be giving him short shrift. He was, instead, a man of many worlds: a Norwegian among Serbians, an urbanite who retired to small town life, and an Ohio flatlander who admired his daughter's love of the mountain west. He was a staunch liberal who read conservative political pages and he sold 19th century pottery through e-commerce. He admired art and created it. And even when age and illness stole his physical vitality, he remained intellectually engaged to the end.

Best of all, though, he embraced family, not only his own but the large and

noisy Oklok clan as well. Together, he and Kate made 134 S. 8th Street a place that for the many siblings, in-laws, nieces and nephews would always be home.

His legacy lives on through his daughter and grandchildren whose interests range from hiking to robotics. It also lives through the many people he made think twice about something or consider for the first time. He will be sorely missed.

Memorial donations may be made to Habitat for Humanity in care of Bringman Clark Funeral Home 226 E. Wyandot Ave. Upper Sandusky, Ohio 43351.

Tribute Wall

WB

“ Jim and I were friends in the early 60's while serving aboard the USS Franklin D Roosevelt. We worked as photographers. After I completed my service I married and we moved to Suitland MD. Jim was transferred from the FDR to the Naval Photographic Interpretation Center in Suitland. We reconnected and Jim and I would meet for pizza and occasionally for hamburgers. Jim was always positive and we had a great friendship. We were both Ohio natives so we had that in common. Jim had very good taste in clothes. He awakened me to the collegiate looking sweater style. He loved beautiful sweaters. After he completed his duty he left the NPIC and returned to Ohio. We corresponded for a while but then raising children became the order in my life. I am disappointed I did not re-connect in our later years. Jim was a good friend and a positive influence. When I knew him he was a man with strong values and morals. I will remember him fondly and pray his family will know that I valued his friendship when we were young.




William Burns - February 11, 2022 at 03:07 PM

SK

“ I remember the 1970's when my late wife Joyce Garver Keller and I would sit and talk all-night with him.

Steven Keller - June 20, 2019 at 02:29 PM

 Carole
Waller

“ *I never met or knew James Aska, but he was exactly the type of person I would have liked to know and to have shared in his worthwhile activities. I send my condolences to his family and friends. A man like James will be sorely missed.*

Carole Waller - June 20, 2019 at 09:43 AM

CW

“ *Jim always had a smile on his face and his dog by his side. He was creative, intelligent and friendly. He loved purchasing, selling and studying antiques. Farewell for now, fine sir.*

*Respectfully,
Cheryl Wolfe*

Cheryl Wolfe - June 19, 2019 at 10:10 PM