



James 'Jim' F Mitchell

June 17, 1947 - March 14, 2026

James “Jim” F. Mitchell, 78, of Lake Villa formerly of Oak Lawn, passed away surrounded by family Saturday, March 14, 2026, at Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center, North Chicago.

He was born June 17, 1947, in Chicago, to the late William and Margaret (nee Robertson) Mitchell, Sr. Jim served in the Army and went on to have a successful career in construction. He loved building so much that he put 2 additions on his Oak Lawn home so his kids would each have their own very large bedrooms with walk-in closets and his wife would have her 18ft pillars on the front of the house, living there for 47 years.

He was a lifelong Chicago Cubs fan. Jim LOVED coffee and Hostess cupcakes. Above all, he was a very loving and caring husband, dad, and grandpa. Survivors include his wife of 52 years, Patricia “Pat” (nee Jarowicz); children, Tracy (Tom) Behnke, Brian Mitchell, and Kacy Mitchell; grandchildren Stacy and Nathan Behnke; siblings, Bill (Alice) Mitchell and Sharon McGlohon; brother-in-law, Butch (Pam) Jarowicz; many nieces and nephews; and his special, extended family, Tom, Jack, Joe McDaniel who spent a lot of time with Jim. Tom said he liked all of their talks and FaceTiming with James Francis every day. Jack liked bringing Jim McDonalds and eating hashbrowns with him. Joe loved repeating Kacy say “Hi Daddy” and laughing every morning when she called home. The boys always put a smile on Jim’s face

with their daily calls.

In addition to his parents, Jim was preceded in death by son, Mark Mitchell; daughter, Stacy Mitchell; and sister, Pat (Gary) Osman.

Services will be private.

Tribute Wall

CM

“ I have fond memories of visiting my cousins when we were growing up in Chicago. Jim was always kind and fun to be with. We would walk to the local bowling alley almost every time we were there. Those memories are especially meaningful now. My husband, TJ often stopped by to see Jim and Pat when he was in Chicago. They were always gracious and welcoming. Sincere condolences go out to Pat and family and the friends that were a part of his life. Jim will be missed by many.

Candy and Terry Mullenix - March 17 at 04:37 PM

SR

“ I remember seeing Jim at the Boy Scout event of Monster Jam when my son was younger and we all went there, organized by Tracy. Jim was always cheerful and friendly and very kind to his late son Mark. It was apparent how close they seemed. They are now reunited.

Susan Russell - March 16 at 07:35 PM



“ *The world will miss such an amazing man. Jim was my uncle and Godfather. I have so many wonderful memories of him in my life. He was always happy, smiling and laughing, even when life threw so much at him. He loved big and gave himself freely. The only comfort in the loss is knowing he is in the loving embrace of our Lord Jesus and is reunited with his beloved children taken much too soon.*



Sending prayers and love to the family. Know you are in our thoughts.

Judy Rakocinski - March 16 at 04:23 PM

VO

I will always remember him as a man of quiet strength and remarkable resilience. Despite facing unimaginable health challenges—COPD, neurological limitations, and the burden of a pulmonary embolism—he carried himself with dignity and perseverance. His life was not defined by his struggles, but by the grace and courage with which he met them.

What stands out most, though, is the extraordinary love he shared with his wife. Their 50-year marriage was a living testament to commitment, faithfulness, and true partnership. Through every hardship, they chose each other—again and again—honoring the promise of “in sickness and in health” in the most profound and beautiful way. Their bond was something rare and inspiring, a reminder of what enduring love truly looks like.

His presence will be deeply missed, but his example—of strength, devotion, and unwavering love—will not be forgotten. It was a privilege to have known him and to witness a love story that will continue to inspire all of us.

Viviana Olson - March 20 at 09:54 AM

TB

“ We love you. You'll always remain in our hearts and minds. Love, Tracy, Tom Stacy and Nathan



Tracy Behnke - March 16 at 04:16 PM

BM

“ Bill and I have so many great memories. On our family vacations is when we headed to Illinois to visit family. We always had so much fun at Jim and Pat's home. The kids played with their cousins , the brothers wrestled, and we would see the sites or head to the near park. We always had loads of fun and hated when it was time to leave. Jim always took care of us and made sure we had loads of fun. A true brother to both Bill and I. ❤️❤️



Bill and Alice Mitchell - March 16 at 01:09 PM

SB

“ We , the first generation coming from India , didn't know much about house projects. Jim helped our community sincerely and honestly. We considered Jim and Pat as one of our family members . Pat , please keep in touch with us and if we can do anything let us know.
Jim will always be in our hearts.
Sheela and Pradip Buch

Sheela Buch - March 16 at 01:09 PM

GS

“ Gene, Ruthann & Geno Shipanik purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of James 'Jim' F Mitchell.



Gene, Ruthann & Geno Shipanik - March 15 at 09:24 PM

GS

“ Gene, Ruthann & Geno Shipanik planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James 'Jim' F Mitchell.

Gene, Ruthann & Geno Shipanik - March 15 at 09:24 PM