



## James R. Wasmuth

February 24, 1927 - April 7, 2011

James R. Wasmuth, of Huntington, age 84, died at 3:15 a.m. Thursday (April 7, 2011) at his home.

Jim was born in Huntington, on February 24, 1927, the son of Mary Elizabeth (Spencer) and Herman Jack Wasmuth. He graduated from Huntington Township High School on April 23, 1945. After high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy where he served as a storekeeper during World War II, until he was honorably discharged in August of 1946, and then discharged from the Navy Reserves in November of 1948. He also served in the Army National Guard and was discharged as a 2nd lieutenant on June 15, 1954. He married Elaine Marie Seils on October 22, 1950 at the St. Peter Lutheran Church in Huntington. Elaine preceded him in death on March 22, 1987.

In 1952 he purchased his first store The Coffee Ranch. He loved being a businessman and owned many businesses over the years including The Candy Box, Elaine's Nut Shop, Elaine's Candies, Garden Gift Shop, Auburn News Stand, Lake George Trading Posts, Elaine's Hallmark, and The Desk.

Jim married Ruth (Yaste) Conkle on October 6, 1989 at the St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Huntington. He loved to travel with Ruth, enjoying trips to many parts of the country including a cruise to Alaska and a trip to Hawaii. They also enjoyed many evenings ballroom dancing together. But his true

passion was in studying genealogy. Jim loved exploring his family history, and was thrilled to be able to help others research their family history. He was very proud that he could trace his family roots back to Adam and Eve.

Jim was an active member of the Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church in Roanoke and served as the Treasurer for many years. He also enjoyed volunteering with the Historical Society.

Survivors include his wife - Ruth Wasmuth of Huntington; five sons - Rev. James S. (Gwenn) Wasmuth of Rochester, Richard Lawrence Wasmuth of Columbia City, David S. (Ann) Wasmuth of Huntington, Doug E. Wasmuth of Fort Wayne, and Mark Conkle of Huntington; four daughters - Diane E. (Samuel) Greuter of Auburn, Sharri K. (Dale) Tafelski of Rochester, Mary Jane (Kelly) Pratt of Huntington, and Julie (Chris) Campbell of Huntington; eighteen grandchildren - Jill, Jan, John, Joy, Laura, Rachel, Sara, Brettani, Brecklyn, John, James, Adam, Kristin, Adam, Amy, Kourtney, Kayla, and Kylie, and four great grandchildren - Shealee, Baylen, Makayla, and Dylan. He is preceded in death by his parents and first wife - Elaine.

Visitation will be Sunday (April 10, 2011) from 3 - 7 p.m. at the Bailey-Love Mortuary. Funeral services will be at 10:00 a.m. Monday (April 11, 2011) at the Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3416 E. 900 N., Roanoke, with Rev. Shayne Jonker and Rev. James S. Wasmuth officiating. Burial will be in the Pilgrims Rest Cemetery, Huntington. The V.F.W. Post #2689 will perform military rites.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church or the Huntington County Historical Society, in care of Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 West Park Drive, Huntington, Indiana 46750.

# Cemetery Details

## Pilgrims Rest Cemetery

4945 N. Jefferson St  
Huntington, IN

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR **10**. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary  
35 West Park Drive  
Huntington, IN 46750  
(260) 356-1710  
wecare@baileylove.com  
<https://www.baileylove.com>

## Service

APR **11**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church  
3416 E. 900 N.  
Roanoke, IN 46783

# Tribute Wall

BL

“ Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of James R. Wasmuth



Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary - April 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DI

“ I love some of the sayings that have become part of me that I learned from my dad. Like, "Off we go like a herd of turtles," and "The hurrieder I go, the behinder I get." Most of my favorite memories with Dad were while working in the store with him on Saturdays as a teenager.

Diane - April 09, 2011 at 06:58 PM

SH

"That's my beer and cigarette money..."

Sharri - April 09, 2011 at 10:56 PM

MP

“ Mary Jane Pratt lit a candle in memory of James R. Wasmuth



Mary Jane Pratt - April 09, 2011 at 07:34 AM

MP

*He was a wonderful and caring Step-Father, could not have asked for a better one. He made Mom happy. Good man!!*

Mary Jane Pratt - April 09, 2011 at 07:36 AM

DG

“ *Diane (Wasmuth) Greuter lit a candle in memory of James R. Wasmuth*



Diane (Wasmuth) Greuter - April 09, 2011 at 12:51 AM

ST

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Sharri Tafelski - April 08, 2011 at 11:55 AM

ST

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Sharri Tafelski - April 08, 2011 at 11:55 AM

LN

“ *Lisa Nash lit a candle in memory of James R. Wasmuth*



**Lisa Nash** - April 08, 2011 at 08:48 AM

CE

“ *Carole Dale, Elizabeth,michael,&sophia lit a candle in memory of James R. Wasmuth*



**carole dale, elizabeth,michael,&sophia** - April 07, 2011 at 09:29 PM

ST

“ *Sharri Tafelski lit a candle in memory of James R. Wasmuth*



**Sharri Tafelski** - April 07, 2011 at 09:21 PM

JC

“ *Julie Campbell lit a candle in memory of James R. Wasmuth*



**Julie Campbell** - April 07, 2011 at 08:59 PM

ST

“ So many memories, really hard to pick. I used to love going to work with Dad. I thought it was so cool I could run a cash register. Dad always insisted we learn how to make change rather than let the register do it for us. I remember sneaking in and taking a quarter out of his change he kept in a shaving can lid in his desk... I'm sure he had to notice...and I remember making him a home made Hallmark card for every single holiday, and signing it almost all my love, because to be fair, I had to save some for someone else. Miss you dad!

---

**Sharri Tafelski** - April 07, 2011 at 08:40 PM

JV

“ Jane Hale Varney lit a candle in memory of James R. Wasmuth



---

**Jane Hale Varney** - April 07, 2011 at 07:17 PM

KH

“ Kristin Hurst lit a candle in memory of James R. Wasmuth



---

**Kristin Hurst** - April 07, 2011 at 05:56 PM

KH

“ *Me and Seth loved the last time we saw him. We went out to eat and it seemed like everything kept going wrong... running out of food, the waitress spilling the drinks, going from three different people taking our orders to no one coming when we needed them. All that stuff made it a really funny night though and it was good to see Grandpa smiling and happy. I'm sure he had a great time too. He certainly enjoyed telling the story of taking a goat on a road trip! It was a fun night and he will be missed!*

*Love - Kristin and Seth*

---

**Kristin Hurst** - April 07, 2011 at 05:55 PM