



## James H. Hanson

December 26, 1942 - January 19, 2019

James H. Hanson (Jim), age 76, loving husband of Joan Leslie (Rudd) Hanson, of Schwenksville, Pennsylvania, passed away peacefully on Saturday, January 19, 2019 at Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania surrounded by his loving family. Born on December 26, 1942 in Parkers Prairie, Minnesota, he was the son of the late Leland C. and F. Lucille Hanson.

Enlisting in the U.S. Navy on June 9, 1960, Jim would rise through the ranks as an enlisted service member and an officer over a 37-year career that saw him ultimately attain the rank of Captain. Upon his retirement in 1997, and until 2011, Jim worked as a government contractor supporting the U.S. Navy in a variety of capacities involving shipboard engineering and was a fixture on the Navy waterfront in Norfolk.

In his spare time, he enjoyed volunteering at local food pantries in Virginia and Pennsylvania, and was a proud member of the Veterans of Foreign War in Norfolk, Virginia. Jim was also a long time member of St. Timothy Lutheran Church in Norfolk, Virginia having served in a number of capacities over 40 years. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, dear friend, role model and patriot to those who had the pleasure of knowing him and he will be missed by many.

In addition to his loving wife, Jim is survived by his two sons, Joel L. (Ruth) Hanson of Schwenksville, Pennsylvania and Michael J. Hanson of Fairfax, Virginia; and three loving grandchildren, Elizabeth "Ellie" Hanson, Victoria "Tori" Hanson, and Ryan Hanson.

In addition to his parents, Jim was preceded in death by his sister, Virginia Wallevand.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the Funeral Ceremony at the Cattermole Klotzbach Funeral Home, 600 Washington Street, Royersford, Pennsylvania on Friday, January 25, 2019 at 4:30 pm. Friends will be received from 2:00 pm until 4:00 pm Friday at the Funeral Home. Services will also take place on Saturday, February 2, 2019 at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 1051 Kempsville Rd, Norfolk, VA 23502, at 11:00 am. Friends

will be received from 10:00 am until 11:00 am at the church. Burial will take place on Friday February 8, 2019 at 11:30AM at the Washington Crossing National Cemetery, 830 Highland Rd, Newtown, PA 18940. In lieu of flowers Memorial gifts can be made to the St Timothy Food Pantry, 1051 Kempsville Road, Norfolk, VA 23502, the Daily Bread Community Food Pantry, P.O. Box 131, Schwenksville, PA 19473, or to a food pantry near you. Condolences may be made by visiting [www.RoyersfordFuneralHome.com](http://www.RoyersfordFuneralHome.com). Arrangements are being handled by the Cattermole Klotzbach Funeral Home, Royersford, Pennsylvania.

# Cemetery

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## Washington Crossing National Cemetery

830 Highland Road  
Newtown, PA, 18940

# Events

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**JAN 25**   **Visitation**   02:00PM - 04:00PM

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Cattermole - Klotzbach Funeral Home  
600 Washington Street, Royersford, PA, US, 19468

**JAN 25**   **Funeral Ceremony**   04:30PM - 05:30PM

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Cattermole - Klotzbach Funeral Home  
600 Washington Street, Royersford, PA, US, 19468

# Comments

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“ CAPT Hanson was our Plankowner Chief Engineer of the USS WASP (LHD-1). He was tough, but fair, an extremely hard worker, and never afraid to roll up his sleeves to pitch in. We respected him, and worked hard for him. For the Electrical Division, I offer our condolences for our departed Shipmate. We have the watch, Captain Hanson.

EMC(SW) Bill Ridgeway, USN (Ret)  
Plankowner, USS WASP (LHD-1)

**William Ridgeway** - February 01, 2019 at 12:31 AM

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“ Jim was my uncle through marriage, but treated me and my family like he was my uncle in blood. Jim and Joan warmly welcomed us Minnesotans into their home for the holidays in Chesapeake when it was not possible for us to return to Minnesota to be with our family. We enjoyed the many holidays at your home. We will be forever grateful for the Thanksgivings, Christmases and Easters we shared with you and your boys and grandchildren. The food was great. The memories are cherished. I enjoyed hearing your stories about the Navy. I wish I could have heard more. You were humble of your accomplished Naval career. Thank you for introducing me to the Vince Flynn books. Thank you for letting my car sit at your house while we were moving to Virginia. I'm sorry the time went too fast. We thank you for your service and we are glad you had a supportive, loving wife and a loving home to come home to when you were away serving our country.

God Bless,

Matt, Melanie, Paul, and Patrick Markuson

**Matt Markuson** - January 25, 2019 at 08:13 PM

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“ Joan and Jim's Sons he was so proud of. He was my mentor being the Senior LDO Engineer with PHIBRON-12 and then PHIBGRU-2. I was a junior LDO Engineer steaming LPDs under Jim and he always stood behind us as we made our way through the breakers and crossed the pond through the 90's. Enjoyed the floats during Mardi Gras as we worked with University of New Orleans in the virtual design for the Bridge and Engineering spaces of the LHD and LPD Class Amphibious Ships. Jim was a perfectionist and he praised hard work in maintaining an operational steam plant. He was an true professional, loving husband and proud father enjoying being a Grandfather these past few years. Fair winds Joan enjoy the following seas. We will all be together once again. CWO4(R) Dick Clark

Richard (Dick) Clark CWO4(R) - January 25, 2019 at 10:47 AM

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“ To Joan, and the Hanson family, it is clearly evident Heven is gearing up the Ghost fleet, and they needed the Best Engineer to get them in shape. Cause when Jim Hanson comes onboard things will happen!  
As an LDO, he made things happen, as a Commanding Officer, he did not accept the status quo.  
Joan, thank you for being there for him, and us you made the difference.  
Although it is difficult to shift colors, we will see him again. Full steam ahead, and don't lift safeties, ready to answer all bells. AndyV

Andy Vasquez - January 24, 2019 at 07:10 PM



“ Heaven

Andy Vasquez - January 24, 2019 at 07:13 PM



“ Darn, those engineers

Andy Vasquez - January 24, 2019 at 07:19 PM

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“ I have fond memories of Jimmy, as his parents, my aunt and uncle, called him.

I light a candle here and in my window tonight and thank him for his service in the U.S Navy. My husband was a WW II Navy veteran also, he died one year ago today.



**Donna Maki** - January 24, 2019 at 03:18 PM

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“ Diesel Branch, Naval Surface Warfare Center purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of James H. Hanson.



**Diesel Branch, Naval Surface Warfare Center** - January 24, 2019 at 03:01 PM

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“ It had been almost 30 years since our graduation and the last I had seen Mr. Hanson. Fellow classmates Sonny Dean and I had made it to Joel's 50th birthday party. We had a great time catching up and speaking about Joel with his dad for a majority of the time and, and loved every minute. He was very interested to hear how his 4th Company boys were doing, and about our stories of Joel. He was proud of all of us.

Dan

**Dan DiBono** - January 24, 2019 at 11:54 AM

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“ Sincerest condolences to the Hanson family during this difficult time. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.  
The Asher Family

**Michael Asher** - January 24, 2019 at 10:19 AM



“ I knew Jim for years, as a fellow member of St. Timothy. Dedicated, loving, faithful, engaged...truly a profound worker in the Kingdom of God. We keep the family in our thoughts and prayers.

**Bob Kuehl** - January 23, 2019 at 03:06 PM

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“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



**Joel Hanson** - January 23, 2019 at 01:11 PM

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“ Simply the best ships engineer and a sailor who epitomized what the word “shipmate” meant. He now is on watch as the Chief Engineer for the big CNO and I can assure CNO he will never lose power again.  
God Bless Jim . Joan you're in our prayers.  
Len and Sandy Picotte

**Picotte Leonard** - January 23, 2019 at 12:02 PM

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“ Jim was a terrific Naval Officer and good friend. With me an aviator coming into the surface amphib world, Jim was especially helpful to me during my tours on El Paso and Kearsarge. In later years it was always great to see Jim with his big warm smile. I will always cherish our friendship, and Kathy and I wish his family our deepest sympathies.

Chris Cole  
RADM USN (Ret)  
USS El Paso and USS Kearsarge

**Christopher Cole** - January 23, 2019 at 11:03 AM

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“ Jim was a terrific officer and friend. He will be missed by all who knew him.  
Sympathies to his entire family.  
Gordon Holder  
VADM, USN (Ret)  
USS Austin and CPG 2

Gordon Holder - January 23, 2019 at 09:25 AM

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“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of James H. Hanson.



January 22, 2019 at 09:35 PM

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“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of James H. Hanson.



January 22, 2019 at 04:08 PM

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“ Captain Jim Hansen was a dear friend, a mentor and a one of a kind shipmate. I'm one of many that will miss Jim, his smile and the encouragement that he gave each and everyone of us.  
God called him home way to early, however it is obvious that he needed a loving leader, another angel and God knew Jim was his man.  
To his lovely Bride, and his family; Our love, thoughts, and prayers are with each of you, You have our deepest condolences.  
Captain and Mrs. William G. Earnest

Captain William G. Earnest, USN - January 22, 2019 at 04:05 PM

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“ Jim was always an approachable role model, the consummate Naval Officer, a gentleman, and friend to any sailor, young or old with a desire to succeed. His impact on the Navy, and those who came in contact with him will serve the Nation well for generations to come.

I'm a better person for knowing him, try hard everyday to be a better person than I am because of his example and wish Gods peace on his family during this most difficult time.

**jeffrey sheets** - January 22, 2019 at 04:00 PM



“ Captain Hanson was a true mentor and leader. It was a pleasure to know him, serve with him, and share service as an Engineering LDO. His impact on the world's greatest Navy is long lasting and has set high standards for all snipes to follow. We have the watch Captain.....Fair winds and following seas shipmate.

John Toye, LT, USN, 6130 Retired

**John Toye** - January 22, 2019 at 08:09 PM



“ Donna and I send our deepest and most sincere condolences to the Hanson family at this time of sorrow. Joan, you and Jim were the perfect Navy team. I remember you saying you moved over nineteen times while on active duty. In my family, "Jim and Joan" was always spoken as one word. We watched as Jim and Joan's sons Joel and Mike grew up. Jim was a close friend, shipmate, neighbor, and "go to" guy when we needed help. We have so many wonderful memories of Jim. His sense of humor was evident in his telling of jokes and sea stories. We loved to hear him laugh. I met Jim when he was assigned to the U.S.S. La Moure County in the 1970's. He and I served together on the U.S.S. Independence a few years later. Jim was a "shipboard sailor" in the true sense of that term. From senior chief to warrant officer to Captain he served as a role model and mentor on many ships and stations. I am thankful that I can call Jim a true friend. Jim, I will see you when I get there.  
Jack and Donna

**Jack and Donna Branson** - January 22, 2019 at 08:39 PM



“ Great man. Personally and professionally. He will be sorely missed. Dana and I send our love and condolences to Joan and the family.

Commander John Ordemann ,USN, Retired

**John Ordemann** - January 23, 2019 at 02:10 PM



“ Jim was a professional in all aspects of his life, A true friend to those that knew him, a man of God, a faithful servant to his country, He made those around him better, I feel honored to be able to say he was my friend. Evanna and I extend our utmost sympathy and condolences to Joan and the family.

Chuck Ruth, USN , Retired

**Chuck Ruth** - January 24, 2019 at 12:06 PM



“ I first met Jim when he was a PMR rep for NAVSEA in Norfolk. His dedication to make the sailor's lives easier and his Navy the best that he could, while maintaining a terrific sense of humor made him the consummate professional. He is sorely missed. My deepest sympathy to his family.

Rich Caccese

**Rich Caccese** - January 25, 2019 at 12:46 AM



“ CAPT Jim Hanson, the Engineer's Engineer! Jim made a positive impact to all of us Snipes, young and old! I true Engineman, One of the Navy's first Diesel Engine Inspectors (DEI), and the "Go To" guy to keep our steam and diesel propulsion plants alive in the Amphibious Fleet. Jim personally mentored my Naval career, and I know he did the same to so many other Sailors. Outside of the Navy Jim helped countless other Veterans as a Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 4809 Service Officer. Jim spent countless hours assisting Veterans in need. Jim you are truly missed! My condolences to Joan and the family.

Dave Alexander CWO3 (Ret), USN DEI

**David Alexander** - January 25, 2019 at 09:15 AM