



James Isaac Griffin, IV

August 1, 1958 - January 21, 2026

James Isaac Griffin IV, age 67, beloved husband of Joan Solomon Griffin, of Canadensis, Pennsylvania, passed away on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, after a fierce four-year battle with ALS. Born in Wichita Falls, Texas, on August 1, 1958 to James Issac Griffin III (Mary Paddock Griffin) and the late Davyne Elise (Slaughter) Griffin, he was raised in McAllen, Texas.

A graduate of Dartmouth College with an undergraduate degree in Art History, James continued his education at Columbia University where he received his Master of Business Administration. James started his career as an investment banker and venture capitalist until suffering a heart attack in 2000. After that life-changing event, he decided to focus the rest of his life on improving education for underserved students and adults.

In 2012, he founded the non-profit New Century Education Foundation with the goal of serving underperforming students, dyslexic readers, and juvenile justice and adult incarcerated populations through innovative and proven software. He considered his greatest achievement spearheading the development of the New Century - Noah Text Lessons (<https://www.newcenturyeducation.org/dyslexia-solution>) for dyslexic and other struggling readers. He took incredible pride in the clinical research trials which demonstrated statistical significance of the software in improving the reading levels of middle school students and adults. Continuing the work of improving reading

outcomes for at-risk students and adults was his primary focus during his battle with ALS. His family plans to continue his legacy of education in his memory.

James spent his free time restoring antique cars and hiking the great outdoors from the Appalachian Trail to the Coastal Path of Wales. He was always a welcoming host to loved ones passing through, offering them a home cooked meal and good spirits. For 14 years, he was a board member of Fairview Lake YMCA Camp in Stillwater, New Jersey, including a stint as its Chairman. During that time, he established their 2-week specialized reading camp.

Most importantly he was an adoring husband and loving father to his numerous children, of the blood and of the heart.

In addition to his wife and father, James is survived by his children: Christopher Isaac Griffin, Linna Davyne Griffin (Rahul Nagarkar), Kaitlin Solomon Elizabeth Griffin, and Noah Beecher Phoenix; siblings: David West Griffin (Juliet Ellis) and Elise Davyne DeMarzo (Michael); step-siblings: Cynthia T. Bright (Stuart Sailer) and Andrew P. Bright (Titta Ahola); and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and friends too numerous to list.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend his memorial service on the 14 of February at 1 PM, at Saint John's Episcopal Church, 564 Easton Turnpike, Hamlin, PA. Friends will be received from 11am to 1 pm, at the Church.

Memorial contributions may be made in James' name to ALS United Great New York (https://secure.als-ny.org/site/TR/DIY/General?pg=team&team_id=11452&fr_id=1410), New Century Education Foundation (<https://www.newcenturyeducation.org/>), or Fairview Lake YMCA Camps (<https://givebutter.com/c/FVL/members/inmemoryofjimgriffin>).

Arrangements are being handled by the Campbell - Ennis - Klotzbach Funeral Home, Inc. Condolences, memories, and stories may be offered online at www.PhoenixvilleFuneralHome.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 14. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Saint John's Episcopal Church
564 Easton Turnpike
Hamlin, PA 18427

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Memorial Service

FEB 14. 1:00 PM (ET)

Saint John's Episcopal Church
564 Easton Turnpike
Hamlin, PA

Tribute Wall

PG

“ Dear Joan and entire Griffin Family — Griff would be very proud of your strength, may he rest in peace, Peter Glassford

Peter Glassford - February 14 at 02:42 PM

FM

“ Frederick M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Isaac Griffin, IV.

Frederick M. - February 14 at 11:21 AM

WK

“ Joan, family, and friends, Jim is missed in St James, in town, on Grove, and even the projects in his driveway under the tarp/ A gentleman always, and the true meaning of the good die young. But he touched us all, and his memory will live on in our hearts and minds. With love, Pat & Bill Kopp

William Kopp - February 14 at 09:15 AM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of James Isaac Griffin, IV.



February 11 at 05:35 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of James Isaac Griffin, IV.

February 11 at 05:35 PM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of James Isaac Griffin, IV.



February 11 at 02:59 PM



“ Andrew, Titta, Jenny, Sara & Luca purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of James Isaac Griffin, IV.



Andrew, Titta, Jenny, Sara & Luca - February 09 at 03:45 PM



“ I am grateful to have Jim come into my life. As part of a team of folks who have a passion for literacy--we tried to make the world just a little brighter for adolescents and adults with dyslexia. I'll not forget our time together designing a reading intervention and then seeing that come to life for our adult men and women in prisons. Jim, you have left the world a better place. For Joan and family, I extend my heartfelt condolences.

Troy Mariage - January 28 at 09:33 AM

RO

“ I will miss you, brother. You were the best, and you will never be forgotten. Godspeed to you and your family.- The Botswana Boys

Romesh - January 25 at 06:31 PM

AK

“ Anita K. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Isaac Griffin, IV.

Anita K. - January 25 at 05:20 PM