

James L. Pierson

November 2, 1924 - February 14, 2021

James L. Pierson, age 96, husband of the late Dolores J. (Herold) Pierson, of Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, passed away on Sunday, February 14, 2021 at Brandywine Living at Upper Providence. Born on November 2, 1924 in Altoona, Pennsylvania, he was a son of the late Grace V. (Clugh) and Howard W. Pierson.

Mr. Pierson was a 1942 graduate of Altoona High School and completed one semester of college prior to enlisting in the United States Army. He served during World War II with the 3rd Army Division in Europe from 1943 - 1945 and returned to service during the Korean Conflict with the 25th Infantry from 1950 - 1952. James completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Agronomy at Penn State University in 1948. He remained a lifelong supporter of all things Penn State.

He was employed in fertilizer sales from 1948 - 1950 with Swift and Company in Baltimore. Returning from the Korean Conflict, he worked for the Oliver Corporation in York, PA. James continued his career as the East coast product and sales manager of agricultural chemicals for Rohm and Haas Co in Philadelphia from 1959 - 1976; and from 1976 - 2003 worked as a realtor for Horning Farm Agency in Morgantown, PA.

James was an active member of the First United Methodist Church of

Phoenixville, where he served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Lay Leader and in staff parish relations. He was also a member of the Masonic Hiram Lodge #616, Altoona, PA and was the chancellor of the Alpha Zeta Agricultural Fraternity from 1947-1948. James served on the Spring-Ford School District School Board and also served for 27 years on the Upper Providence Township Parks and Recreation Board.

In his spare time, James enjoyed farming. He cherished family time on Swans Island Maine and traveled extensively throughout the world. He loved meeting and talking with people and had many friends, some dating to Penn State days and some encountered more recently at Brandywine Living at Upper Providence. All of his friends would testify to the impact that those friendships had in their lives.

Mr. Pierson is survived by his children: Barbara J., wife of David Michael, of Pottstown, PA, Claudia A., wife of Robert Simmons, of Hanover, PA and Dr. Douglas J., husband of Debbie Pierson, of Alfred, NY; eight grandchildren: Erin Michael Connolly, James B. Michael, Joshua D. Michael, Michael L. Simmons, Jonathan R. Simmons, Sarah L. (Pierson) Ellis, Benjamin J. Pierson, and Emily M. (Pierson) Pinson; and twelve great-grandchildren: Rohan and Sayre Connolly, Isla and Coen Michael, Wyatt and Colette Simmons, Ivy, Eagan, Susanna and Calum Ellis, and Judah and Rebekah Pinson. Mr. Pierson was preceded in death by his wife of 57 years, Dolores J. Pierson; one daughter: Elaine M. Pierson; and siblings: Wayne Pierson, Esther McConahy and Phyllis Lambert.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, funeral services will be held privately at the convenience of the family. Memorial contributions may be made in Mr. Pierson's name to the First United Methodist Church, 865 S. Main Street, Phoenixville, PA 19460. Arrangements are being handled by the Campbell - Ennis - Klotzbach Funeral Home, Inc., Phoenixville. Condolences may be

offered online at www.PhoenixvilleFuneralHome.com.

Tribute Wall

BY

“ My deepest sympathies to Jim’s family. It was my privilege to have known Jim and Dolores, and to have played a role in their lives at difficult times. I would like to share two memories of Jim. First, I remember when our youth pastor and his wife were looking for housing. Their I. One was limited, and, hearing about their need, Jim offered an apartment in a building he owned. I believe he set the rent at what they could Ford rather than charging the full amount. That was just one example of his kindness and generosity. Hi. Was a humble man, and I’ll always remember him bringing me bulletins from the little church on Swann’s Island that he and Dolores attended each summer. He explained that it was a small church, and the pastor’s strength was pastoral care rather than preaching, but he went on to say that there was always a word from God to hear and reflect on. I appreciated his openness to hearing God’s Word regardless of the delivery or source. One last thing. My legacy at First Church was in music - hiring David Bryant and then, thanks to Jim’s generosity, purchasing the glorious piano that was given in memory of Elaine and Dolores Pierson. I was privileged to lead their funeral services, and to be part of Jim and Dolores’s lives. Even years after I left First Church, when I would come to a Men’s Night Out, Jim always greeted me as if we had seen each other the day before. He was kind, generous, and a man of great faith who was an exemplar for those around him. We were all blessed by knowing him. May he Rest In Peace with the Lord.
Bron Yocum

Bron Yocum - February 28, 2021 at 04:44 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Washington Memorial Chapel Churchyard*



Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home - February 28, 2021 at 12:23 AM



“ 1 file added to the album *First United Methodist Church*



Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home - February 27, 2021 at 08:42 PM

RF

“ *Marge and I first met Jim and Delores over 50 years ago at church. Our son, Steve, had Delores as his typing teacher in high school. For many years Jim and I attended our church's "Men's Night Out" once a month, and I picked him up and drove him to those dinner meetings. Usually I read the restaurant menu to him but he always resorted to ordering a salmon dinner no matter where we were eating. On the drive home I always enjoyed hearing his stories about his family. His memory was always so sharp. He was a father figure to me since he was four years younger than my Dad. He was a true gentleman and always conducted himself honorably as my Dad did. I always respected him for being at Normandy on D-day in 1944, and also serving in Korea. He is truly a fine example of "The Greatest Generation"!*

Ron Fricker - February 26, 2021 at 06:12 PM

BT

“ I got to know Jim because Dolores served as a Board member of the organization I was running. Dolores invited my wife Jill and I to visit them at Swans Island. This began my relationship with Jim. Over the years Jill and I visited Jim at Swans as well as his farm house and recently at Brandywine.

Jim was so friendly, caring and generous to everyone. He loved God, his family, friends, strangers and life itself. God blessed him with a long life and gave him grace to deal with great loss as well as great blessings. He was an example of a life well lived who modeled a faithful life to God, family and friends. So thankful to know Jim and Dolores.

Bill Tarr - February 25, 2021 at 08:45 PM

SA

“ How beautiful that this dear gentleman passed away on Valentine's Day! He was always so sweet and kind, professional and respected very deeply by so many!

His perseverance and great attitude toward life will always stick with me!! Instead of pitying himself when he was almost blind he took on the challenge of doing his own bookwork and if I remember correctly the bookwork of other people as well.

Jim will always stand out to me as a very dignified respected man of integrity

sharon Eberly from Horning Farm Agency - February 25, 2021 at 06:20 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of James L. Pierson.* ”



February 25, 2021 at 06:14 PM

JT

“ I first met Jim and Delores on Swans Island on a weekend trip with my husband, Bill.

They were both so gracious and kind. We traveled by lobster boat to another Island for their lobster fest, it was such a delightful experience (Delores won the door prize that year - a lovely blanket)! After the loss of Delores we took many trips with Jim to and from Swans Island. He remembered everything, every person, where they lived and what they were doing. He was remarkable in that way. His vision was poor but he always knew right where to turn on our trips. We'd listen on the radio to the Phillies games and it was always a good night when they won! He always had on a Penn State, Phillies, or prized hat from both wars. He had such a passion for his family and the Lord. They were his priority. Such an honorable man, fighting in both WW2 and the Korean War (he felt was the hardest). He became such a special and dear friend. He was so very kind, thoughtful, and generous in so many ways. I loved his prayers before EVERY meal - always so thankful. He gave us the gift of experiencing Swans Island and rich family history there. But most of all the gift of his faithful friendship. He blessed so many and us too. I know he is rejoicing with Delores and Elaine and many others. He no longer needs to have Delores' voice on his answering machine (he sees her in person)!!

He now SEES clearly and that brings joy to my heart. Bill and I are praying for you and for God's perfect peace.

Matt. 25:23 " Well done, good and faithful servant..."

Jill Tarr

Jill Tarr - February 23, 2021 at 11:13 AM

MC

“ Jim was a man who loved many, and who was loved by many. His optimism and zest for life.....his ability to make others feel good about themselves.....his fascinating life stories...his love for his family, for music, for the church, and for God.....are qualities that model a wonderfully well-lived life. When a family, a friend, or the world loses a man like Jim Pierson, we are all diminished. My thoughts, prayers, and heart go out to all who love him. He will be honored, missed, and remembered. Heaven is a happier place, now that Jim Pierson is in eternal residence!

Meredith Rung Creswell - February 22, 2021 at 09:29 PM



“ My deepest condolences to your family. Your dad was such a special man. We met quite a few years ago when I started delivering Meals on Wheels to his farmhouse. He would always come outside to greet me with a big smile and a great story! I continued to visit him after he moved because we had grown to be friends. We'd have lunch together and I would sit for hours enthralled by his stories. He was always so upbeat, interested and interesting. The world lost a great man, the likes of which you don't meet anymore. I'll think of him happily reunited with your mom and the rest of his family in heaven. My prayers for all of you.

Marlene Santry

Marlene Santry - February 22, 2021 at 06:34 PM

LG

“ I first met Jim in 1999. He purchased a 10-acre property that I had listed. In the years following, I got to know this man as a true gentleman. I maintained a real estate relationship with him which evolved into a friendship. I enjoyed long chats with him and learned about his life. The most important aspect was his family. He beamed when he spoke of them and exuded tremendous pride. I felt I knew his son Doug and daughters Barbara and Claudia and I enjoyed his stories. He also spoke of his grandchildren, their weddings, their lives, and their travels. My husband is a retired Army Lieutenant Colonel, a Penn State graduate, and huge fan of Nittany Lion football. He would join me in taking Jim out to eat at Chadwick's which was Jim's favorite place. They had a great deal in common and I knew they would have a lot to talk about. Jim will be greatly missed.



Laura Gallagher - February 22, 2021 at 05:45 PM

JR

“ Jim was one of the kindest, friendliest and interesting people I have ever known! He could make anyone feel comfortable and like he'd know you all his life. I will miss having him visit his beloved Sean's Island!

Jean Ranquist - February 21, 2021 at 09:08 PM

MM

“ As I reminisce upon the life of Jim Pierson, I do so with a huge smile upon my face. What a wonderful, loving father and husband, and what a blessed life he led. I met him when I was a roommate at college with his daughter Barb, a lifelong friendship I continue to cherish. Jim had tragedies in his life, but he rose above these and continued to show his heartfelt interest in all the people around him. I was honored to have been a small part of his life. To all of you family members, please take comfort in the joy he spread into so many lives. He will be missed, but never forgotten.

Margaret McCarney - February 21, 2021 at 08:05 PM

BG

“ As a child growing up on a farm across the street from the Pierson's on Route 29, I enjoyed meeting their family and Jim hiring me to care for his animals when they would go away. This gave me the feeling of responsibility and trust, along with earning some money.

As I grew up and moved off the farm, I still lived close enough to visit Jim from time to time at the farm and Brandywine. I enjoyed our talks of the "old" days and remembering how the area looked before all the development.

I only hope more people in this world live a life as full and rich as Jim did. May God bless him, and all his family. Rest in Peace my friend.

Bob Greenwood - February 21, 2021 at 02:57 PM

LR

“ So much enjoyed those days talking with Jim at the dock while waiting for the boats to come in. Surely one of the greatest men of the greatest generation.

-Les W. Ranquist

Jim was so full of knowledge and could remember anything about anyone! I also enjoyed talking with Jim at the dock on Swan's Island while waiting for the boats to come in. He had so many great stories of places he had been and people he knew. I'm so glad he was able to spend so much time there while on vavation.

-Leah Ranquist

Leah Ranquist - February 20, 2021 at 09:21 PM

CS

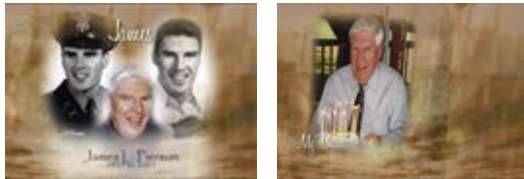
“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Claudia Simmons - February 19, 2021 at 03:07 PM



“ 2 files added to the album VIDEO TRIBUTE



Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home - February 19, 2021 at 01:41 PM



“ *This past Wednesday would have marked our 26th year of attending Ash Wednesday and the Phoenixville Community Lenten Services together. I could not think of a better person to make this journey with other than Mr. Pierson. He was a true disciple of the Lord. I am truly thankful for our friendship. May God bless Mr. Pierson and the entire Pierson family.*

Allen Dobrtischkin

Debby DeNicola Dobrischkin - February 19, 2021 at 11:10 AM