



## James H. "Jim" Conrath

February 17, 1939 - March 24, 2024

James H Conrath (Jim) of Bonita Springs, Florida, passed away Sunday, March 24, 2024, at the age of 85. A long-time resident of Zanesville, Ohio, he was born in Cambridge, Ohio, the son of Carl W and Marguerite (Doughty) Conrath.

Jim was a graduate of the Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans High School Class of 1957 where he won the Self-Reliance Award. He had fond memories of his grade school and earlier high school days at St. Benedict's in Cambridge, Ohio. After high school, Jim worked for Continental Can as a Cost Accountant while he attended the Ohio State University Branch in Zanesville. In 1962, He took an accounting position with North American Aviation in Columbus, Ohio and retired from Rockwell International in 1984 after helping facilitate the Rockwell International Missile Systems move to Georgia. Jim proudly served in the US Army from 1960 with an honorable discharge in 1966 and finished up his education at Franklin University.

At the early age of ten or eleven, he worked with his two older brothers, Carl and Richard, at their grandfather's Cambridge Glass barrel-making shop in Cambridge, Ohio. In his teen years, Jim won the Muskingum County Junior Tennis Championship, and he and his brother Richard performed tennis-match exhibitions together. He was known for his sharp wit and memory and could recite all the movies and actors he ever saw. He was a proud Son of

The American Revolution, and his love of history started at an early age. He never forgot the story told to him by an elderly customer on his newspaper route. She witnessed the Lincoln funeral train as it passed through Ohio in 1865.

Jim left his Zanesville family to marry his wife Helen (Psotto) Conrath of Yonkers, New York, back in 1961. Together they raised four children, James, Jr, (Suzie Welch) Conrath of Jesup, Georgia, Richard Patrick Conrath of Princeton, Illinois (Deceased April 2023), Teresa Conrath (Philip) Sims of Zanesville, Ohio, and John (Libby Herda) Conrath of Pine Island, Florida. He was preceded in death by his brother, Carl W. Conrath and parents, Carl W. Conrath, Sr. and Marguerite (Doughty) Conrath.

After Jim's retirement, he and the family opted to remain in Zanesville, Ohio, where he bought a Dairy Queen, fixed it up, and sold it. He then joined Dunzweiler Realty. Meanwhile, he was business manager at the St. John's Lutheran Church and served on the Muskingum County Mental Health Board. He was a true entrepreneur, an avid antiques collector, bibliophile (book reader), and eBay seller. His specialty was restoring antique furniture and houses. The first old home he and wife Helen owned was just six doors away from the birth place of Zane Grey, author of Western novels and stories. At one time, Jim even purchased some antique printing presses and started his own printing business and newspaper. They and their children were all active members of the Zane Trace Players theater group.

James is survived by his beloved wife Helen of 63 years, with many thanks to the loving care and assistance of Rosette Darroux of Lehigh. He is also survived by brothers, Richard (Karyn) Conrath of Florida, John Jack (Missy) Conrath of Ohio, and sisters, Jane (Glenn) Conrath Trout Of Florida, Anne (Robert) Conrath Gordon of Florida, and Shirley (Nick) Conrath Madden of Ohio. He is survived by ten grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and many

nieces and nephews. (Grandson, Caleb Conrath and Granddaughter, Sidney Sims deceased).

A funeral service will be held at Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home in Bonita Springs on Thursday, March 28, 2024 at 10:30 AM. The family will receive friends from 9:30 until the time of the service. Burial will follow with Military Honors at Naples Memorial Gardens. Blessing and Memorial will be given by Doctor Richard Conrath.

Online condolences may be offered by visiting [www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com](http://www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com).

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home, Family Owned Since 1978.

# Cemetery Details

## Naples Memorial Gardens

525 111th Ave. No.  
Naples, FL 34108

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 28. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home  
28300 Tamiami Trail So.  
Bonita Springs, FL 34134  
(239) 992-4982  
bonitafhbill@comcast.net

## Funeral Service

MAR 28. 10:30 AM (ET)

Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home  
28300 Tamiami Trail So.  
Bonita Springs, FL 34134  
(239) 992-4982  
bonitafhbill@comcast.net

## Graveside Service

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MAR 28. 11:30 AM (ET)

Naples Memorial Gardens  
525 111th Ave. No.  
Naples, FL 34108

# Tribute Wall

PP

“ So sorry to read of Jim's passing. We have wondered where you are now. Many good memories of Zane Trace Players. Very nice man with a big smile and friendly to all. Our daughters Karen and Cheryl will send their condolences when informed. God Bless all of you. Sending love and prayers.  
Ron and Phyllis Payton, 2160 Greenhouse RD., Zanesville, Ohio 43701

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**Phyllis Payton** - April 02, 2024 at 03:03 PM

DD

“ John and Libby sorry to read of your fathers passing. I can see where you get your drive. Your Dad lived a very full life. My Condolences from Coshocton Ohio. RIP Mr. Conrath.

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**DAVID DILLY** - March 29, 2024 at 07:04 PM

CH

“ Blessings to your family. Helen inam sure you Will not remember me, but I was a Good Samaritan Student Nurse in the OB rotation. You're my patient for the birth of your child in 1974. I remember you hand Jim well. You made such an impact in my experience. It truly was a pleasure caring for you and your family. I never did forget you. Blessings. Connie Hardcastle

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**Connie Hardcastle** - March 28, 2024 at 10:48 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of James H. "Jim" Conrath.



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March 28, 2024 at 12:08 AM



“ I have known Jim for over 20 years. He and Helen were/are like Guardian Angels in my life from the start. Always welcoming and accepting and open and calm, so calm, at least in my presence! We often shared the same wit and sense of humor and he was always up for a good laugh. I could just pop over to their home and their door was always open to me and often we were off on an adventure of some sort that ended up in Jim, and Helen, sharing some history of the area and homes they renovated in Zanesville. Adventures needed the inevitable stop at Toms Ice Cream bowl and of course an adventure with Jim wasn't complete without a stop at the local gas station to fill up his coffee cup! I have so much gratitude and love for Jim (and Helen). I have a picture of Jim and Helen on my refrigerator from some Thanksgiving long ago, after we had served Thanksgiving dinner to homeless in the community together. So many adventures and so much love. I often hear him saying "hey kid" when I look at the photo. I hear him saying this now as I share these memories and always will have a special place for him in my heart.

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Anissa Kasarjian - March 26, 2024 at 05:14 PM

KO

“ Jim is my cousin. We didn't see each other often, we moved away from Cambridge when I was a baby. I always remember him as a kind, really good guy. My parents always spoke highly of him. Rest easy, cousin

kathleen O'Dowd - March 26, 2024 at 05:06 PM

AK

“ Anissa Kasarjian lit a candle in memory of James H. "Jim" Conrath



Anissa Kasarjian - March 26, 2024 at 04:58 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of James H. "Jim" Conrath.



March 26, 2024 at 09:31 AM