



James A. Champion

February 5, 1947 - July 30, 2023

James A. (Champ) Champion, age 76 of Chesterfield Township, passed away on July 30, 2023. James was born on February 5, 1947 in Detroit, Michigan to the late James and Frieda (née Goller) Champion. Loving husband of Marie for 31 wonderful years. Proud father of Ryan and Darrin (Melissa). Cherished grandfather of Brandon, Brendan (Diana), Lauryn, Allison, Braylon and Samantha. Dear brother of Karen Nagle.

Jim graduated from Wilbur Wright High School in Detroit. After graduation Jim served in the United States Army from 1966 - 1968. He was sent to Vietnam in the fall of 1966. While bravely serving his country as a radio operator with an infantry platoon he earned a Purple Heart and two Bronze Stars, one with a V device for outstanding valor. While Jim came back from Vietnam to a country who scorned his service and treated him with derision, he never lost his pride in service, his appreciation for his fellow vets, or his love of country.

During his life Jim worked as a pressman, a distribution manager and an assemblyman, however no job was ever more important to him than his family. In his life Jim took the most pride in being a loving father to his two amazing sons, Ryan and Darrin, a faithful husband to his wife Marie, a doting Papa to his beautiful grandchildren, and an honorable military veteran who served his community. These four pillars of Jim's life were rooted in his faith in God with the Catholic Church as his faith's foundation. Nothing was more important.

Visitation for James will be from 2:00 – 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 2, 2023 at the Wasik Funeral Home – Gendernalik Chapel located at 35259-23 Mile Road in New Baltimore. There will be Military Honors at 6:00 p.m. and a Scripture Service at 7:00 p.m.

Instate at 9:30 a.m. until a 10:00 a.m. Mass on Thursday, August 3, 2023 at St. Thecla Catholic Church located at 20740 Nunneley Road in Clinton Township.

In lieu of floral arrangements, memorial donations may be made to the following: Tunnels to Towers Foundation, www.t2t.org or to the VFW Post 7573 www.vfw7573.org

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 2. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home - Gendernalik Chapel
35259 23 Mile Road
New Baltimore, MI 48047

Military Honors

AUG 2. 6:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home - Gendernalik Chapel
35259 23 Mile Road
New Baltimore, MI 48047

Scripture Service

AUG 2. 7:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home - Gendernalik Chapel
35259 23 Mile Road
New Baltimore, MI 48047

Instate in church

AUG 3. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Thecla Catholic Church
20740 S. Nunneley Road
Clinton Township, MI 48035

Funeral Mass

AUG 3. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Thecla Catholic Church
20740 S. Nunneley Road
Clinton Township, MI 48035

Tribute Wall

JF

“ I have too many childhood memories to share in a short space. But my times with him as adults were even sweeter from picnics and holidays to weekends up north. He will always be cherished and in my heart. He was undoubtedly my favorite cousin—more like a brother to me. He brought Marie into our lives, and she has been as close as he was. May he join the rest of our loved ones and rest in the arms of our Savior.

Jean Fuller - August 01, 2023 at 10:21 AM

MP

I know Jim For 67yrs We worked @ Safran & the News .u tell Me how did We Put A Ghetto Store Our of 40ozs Staying to Long .My bigger Brother Will be Missed God Bless Lovely Marie & The Boys .

Mike Peralta - August 01, 2023 at 10:42 AM

JK

Dear Marie and family, wishing you peace, comfort, and strength at this time of sorrow. Our hearts go out to you during this difficult time. We are thinking of you and your family and sending caring thoughts your way. May Jim Rest In Peace. We have all lost a very kind friend and fellow veteran. 🙏🙏 Joe and Donna Kay

Joe Kay - August 01, 2023 at 11:23 PM