



James M. "Jim" Lowman

FEB 5, 1929 - APR 12, 2016



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Hamlin & Hilbish
Funeral Directors

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James M. "Jim" Lowman

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James M. "Jim" Lowman 87, of Leesburg, passed away on April 12, 2016. He was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and moved to the Leesburg - Eustis area in 1989. He was a retired sales manager in the electronics industry and a member of the "Friends of Florida Folk" group. He is survived by his children; Jay (Kay) Lowman of Edison, New Jersey and Kathryn (Mark) McMillian of Hixson, Tennessee, his companion, Elaine Reichenbacher, former wife, Barbara Lowman, several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Jim was a licensed private pilot for many years. In the early sixties, his piloting skills saved his life when the single engine airplane he was flying lost engine power and he was forced to land in a farmer's field. He logged several thousand hours during his flying years. Later in life, he enjoyed building and flying radio controlled model airplanes.

After moving to the Leesburg area, he and Elaine founded the "Friends of Florida Folk" group bringing folk musicians from the Central Florida area together with the common bond of music. They taught adult education dulcimer classes in Leesburg and Eustis and performed at various folk festivals in the area as well as in numerous retirement villages. Jim and Elaine were recently celebrated and recognized for their contributions to folk music in the region by the organization they founded.

There will be a gathering in the Hamlin Hilbish Chapel on Friday, April 15th from 10 AM until Noon. The family requests in lieu of flowers to send memorials to Cornerstone Hospice, 2445 Lane Park Road, Tavares, FL 32778.

The final resting place will be Lakeside Memory Gardens, Eustis.






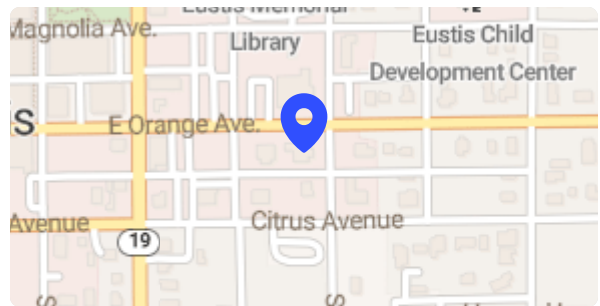
Events

James M. "Jim" Lowman



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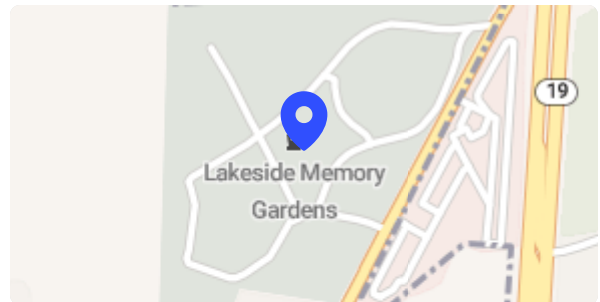
Gathering

-  **Friday**, April 15, 2016
-  10:00 AM - 12:00 PM ET
-  **Hamlin & Hilbish Chapel**
326 E. Orange Avenue, Eustis FL 32726



Cemetery Details

-  **Lakeside Memory Gardens**
36601 County Road 19A, Eustis FL 32726
-  **352 357 4193**





Tribute Wall

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BB

B Bitzer posted:

Jay - just came across your dad's obituary while looking up old friends. Sorry for your loss. B. Bitzer

June 22 at 7:06 AM

JL

James Lowman posted:

Rest in Peace Grandpa! James Lowman CW3, US ARMY RET.

October 10 at 8:50 AM

SW

Sally Wilson posted:

Earline Greer wrote that she was just starting the dulcimer and received much help from Jim and Elaine (aka Jimnylane). My story is the same. Earline told me about the Mt Dora dulcimer group and my husband and I went. Like Earline, I could barely play even a tune or two, but Jim and Elaine encouraged me to try and to participate. They were always positive and building up their students. After meeting them, I took classes with them numerous times. Their classes always had great content, and they were patient, clear, excellent teachers. I learned a great deal from them, and I'm sure one reason I play today and am passionate about the dulcimer is because of them. They were friends as well as teachers, and my husband and I enjoyed getting together with them, sometimes for dinner or fun, but always with music. Their motto was "through music, friends," and so it was. Jim and my husband, John, loved to play Misty together. It's not the usual dulcimer tune, but they made it a dulcimer masterpiece. I always got a big kick out of how Jim would give a big build up to a "great American folksong," and surprise everybody with Take Me Out to the Ballgame. We enjoyed his lively sense of humor. Between them, Jim and Elaine seem to have initiated almost all the music of this area, the dulcimer clubs, the jam, and the third Saturday concerts. Jim was a really wonderful person, a wonderful friend, and more than wonderful dulcimer player.

May 4 at 4:21 PM

IS

Ivan Stiles posted:

Jim and Elaine were my "Florida Parents," and Elaine will continue to be my "Florida Mother." They were instrumental in advancing my musical endeavors in Florida for many years. I will never forget all that Jim and Elaine have done for me and for the folk community in Florida. Jim was one-of-a-kind and will never be replaced.

April 16 at 7:22 AM



Tribute Wall

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Pfox posted:

Jay/Kay, and family so sad to hear sounds like an awesome, talented man, may your memories be a blessing forever and ever. PFox and family

April 14 at 1:25 PM



Jay Lowman posted:

Our father is finally at peace after losing his fight with lung cancer. The illness took him from us quickly in the final days. We love and miss you...Jay Lowman

April 14 at 6:20 AM



Earline Greer April 16 at 9:50 AM

When my husband and I moved to Florida I was a beginner dulcimer player. I saw an article in the Orlando newspaper about Jim and Elaine who established the Mt Dora dulcimer society and invited people to join. We went, and although I could barely play one tune, Jim and Elaine welcomed and encouraged us. We then took a beginner class with them and didn't look back. I would say they and the dulcimer changed our lives. I will always be grateful to them. Earline Greer



Becky And Michael Pollitz April 15 at 3:01 PM

We're thinking of you and your family this week Jay. Your Dad was SO lucky to have such an amazing son. He must have been an extra special guy. Sending love and light your way. XO Becky and Michael Pollitz



George Richards April 14 at 10:36 AM

Among other successes, he, produced a marvelous son, Jay.



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring James M. by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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