



## James Alan Dowd

February 2, 1951 - March 30, 2026

James Dowd, 75, passed away peacefully on March 30, 2026, at Hamden Rehabilitation and Health Care Center. James was born in Exeter, New Hampshire on February 2, 1951, to the late Robert and Virginia Dowd. James was a graduate of Hamden High School and a graduate of the University of New Hampshire (BA) and Smith College (MFA). James had a career as a writer, who found joy in the simple things with his quick wit and storytelling combined with his joy of skiing. He is survived by his sister, Kathy Dowd, of Hamden, CT and John Dowd of Watkinsville, Georgia and predeceased by his sister-in-law, Barbara Dowd. In addition to his siblings, James is also survived by his nephew, Keith Cail (Jeanne) and niece, Kristin Cail (Dinis Escaleira) and his great nieces and nephews, Courtney, Cassidy, Brennan and Brody Cail.

A private memorial will be held by the family.

The family wishes to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the staff of Hamden Rehabilitation Health Care Center for their loving care and support.

# Tribute Wall

DJ

“ I was deeply saddened by this news. Jimmy was an extraordinarily talented individual who co-wrote a musical while still in high school. In 1970 he was lead singer in a group of local musicians in recording sessions in NYC and New Haven. I was honored to be among the members of that group, which also included a very youthful Paul Cohen, John Twohill, Don Cox, Gwillim Lsw and the genuinely legendary John Menta. Sadly, along with Jimmy the last three are also no longer with us.

*Jimmy loved to sing those songs, most of them satires on 1950s rock and roll classics. But I think his favorite was “Freakout Session,” a cheerful ditty that celebrated all of the overused 1960s hippie patois so much a part of the boomer culture at the time. And even decades later, he remembered all the lyrics perfectly.*

*There was a wonderful almost carefree air about him that infused itself into his singing style. RIP Jim, as “purple clouds breeze through the air, and turned on birdies dance everywhere.” You will be missed.*

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**Dave Johnson** - May 04 at 01:21 AM

Jl

“ Jim was quite the with. Often he would lie back in a pensive mood and you would know he was hearing music or creating it or focusing on words and images for a poem or a play. His happiest times were with best friend Matt Elgosin playing and singing in their band and skiing.

*Jean Incampo classmate Hamden High 1969*

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**jean incampo** - April 02 at 11:37 AM

SD

“ I enjoyed our chats when I brought Jim Communion every other week. He was a man of faith. Rest in peace my friend! 🙏  
Sandy D'Ambrosio

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**Sandra D'Ambrosio** - April 01 at 09:57 PM

MD

“ My condolences to the family and friends of Jim. I first met Jim many many years ago on Sherman Avenue. He lived across from my cousins. We both graduated from HHS in 1969. He was a great classmate. RIP sir 🙏  
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**Michael Devine** - April 01 at 02:56 PM