



## James "Jim" F. Rieger

March 25, 1951 - February 3, 2021

James "Jim" F. Rieger, 69, died surrounded by his loving family on Wednesday, February 3, 2021, in Fort Myers, Florida.

Jim was born March 25, 1951, in New Haven, CT, where he spent many happy years with his Goatville neighborhood friends and family. He is the son of the late Joseph and Rosemary Rieger.

After graduating from Wilbur Cross High School, Jim had a long and dedicated career with Southern New England Telephone Company (SNET), before retiring to Florida in 1999. Jim had a unique sense of humor and always knew just the right thing to say to get everyone in a room to laugh. He always had a great story to tell and a nickname for all. Jim was actively engaged in athletics his entire life, participating on countless softball teams and coaching youth sports.

Jim is survived by his beloved wife Gail Wojtyna, two children, James Rieger of Plymouth, Vermont, and Susan (Eric) Panttila of Norwell, MA, and his four grandchildren, Madisen Rieger, Meredith Rieger, Holly Panttila and Matthew

Panttila, and by his former wife, good friend and mother of their children, Teresa (Russo) Rieger. He was predeceased by his parents

and his step-brother, Jack Keefe.

Family and friends are invited to attend a Mass of Christian Burial at St. Joseph's Church, 129 Edwards Street, New Haven, Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. Burial will be private at a later date. Calling hours will be Wednesday, February 17, 2021 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in Sisk Brothers Funeral Home, 3105 Whitney Avenue, Hamden. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Multiple Sclerosis Society at [www.nationalmssociety.org/Donate](http://www.nationalmssociety.org/Donate). To leave an online condolence, please visit [www.siskbrothers.com](http://www.siskbrothers.com).

# Previous Events

## Calling hours

FEB 17. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Sisk Brothers Funeral Home  
3105 Whitney Ave.  
Hamden, CT 06518  
(203) 288-7114  
siskfuneral@sbcglobal.net

## Funeral service

FEB 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Josephs Church  
Edwards St.  
New Haven, CT

# Tribute Wall

NS

“ *Deepest sympathy at this difficult time.  
Thinking of you,  
Steve, Nancy, Ben & Ryan Santello*

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**Nancy Santello** - February 27, 2021 at 02:59 PM



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of  
James "Jim" F. Rieger.*



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February 23, 2021 at 07:44 PM

MK

“ *Gail and the entire Rieger family, my sincere condolences on the  
passing of Jimmy aka "The Shiek". Goatville will not forget him.*

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**mike kingsley** - February 20, 2021 at 08:53 PM

MW

“ *We are sorry for your loss. I have fond memories of Jim being our  
CYO mentor at St. Stan's basketball. We will keep you all in our  
thoughts and prayers.  
Michael and Margaret Weber*

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**Michael Weber** - February 17, 2021 at 03:08 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of James "Jim" F. Rieger.*



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February 17, 2021 at 11:56 AM



“ *Big Guy, Jane, John P., and Meghan will always fondly remember the many hours Jim spent coaching the Orange Hills Yankees and Glorias Babe Ruth championship teams. Thanks again- for the great times on and off the fields. Rest in peace Good Buddy*

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**Sullivan** - February 14, 2021 at 01:08 PM



“ *To Jim's Family... My wife Jan & I went to Wilbur Cross High School with Jimmy! I played baseball with him and had many GREAT TIMES!! Rest In Peace Jim, you always had a great sense of humor and made everybody smile when they were around you!! God Bless you as you travel home!!*

*Jim & Jan Foley  
Myrtle Beach, SC*

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**James (Jim) Foley** - February 13, 2021 at 09:50 PM

RU

“ Our condolences go out to Gail & Jim Jr & Susan & Theresa and all of THE SHEIK'S family & friends. Can't believe he's gone. But his memory lives on in each of us. GOATVILLE forever. We will never forget the good times spent together. In athletic endeavors. And at any time Goatville gathered together. Too many individual memories in an over 5 decade friendship to list here. RIP my friend. Until we meet again. Save us all a good spot in heaven.

Russ - February 13, 2021 at 02:53 AM

FI

“ My heartfelt condolences and sympathies for Gail and the entire Rieger family. A life well, and fully lived. God Bless

Frank lezzi - February 12, 2021 at 06:41 PM

SB

“ Jimmy calls me 'chini', it's my favorite nickname! There was never a dull moment with him. He often asks me to bail him out of the hospital every time Gail takes him in. I will truly miss him and he will be in our hearts forever!



Sharon Bruno - February 12, 2021 at 06:39 PM