



James N. Berkey

MAY 13, 1940 - FEB 13, 2024



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James N. Berkey

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James N. Berkey, 83, of Clinton passed away Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at Fieldstone in DeWitt.

Memorial Visitation will be from 2:00 to 4:00 pm, Friday February 16, 2024 at the Clinton Chapel Snell-Zornig Funeral Homes & Crematory. Online condolences may be expressed by visiting his obituary at www.snellzornig.com.

James Norman Berkey was born May 13, 1940 in Humeston, Iowa, the son of James Renwick and Phyllis Didema (Richey) Berkey. He married Dorothy Elida Ehrhart in June 1965; she passed away in January 2003. James earned a bachelor's degree from Parsons College and from the University of Iowa. He earned his master's degree from Drake University. James worked for the Mississippi Bend AEA for over 30 years as a special education consultant.

He was an Eagle Scout and won the Silver Eagle Award. He was an avid hunter, outdoorsman and horseman, and was a member of Ducks Unlimited and Pheasants Forever. He enjoyed watching western movies, especially John Wayne, and bird watching. He was a Ham Radio enthusiast with the call sign N10Q. In high school he was on the swimming team and worked as a lifeguard. While teaching at Clinton High School he was a swimming and diving coach. He was a Polio survivor and he never let anything hold him back from doing what he loved. Jim enjoyed music and playing the drums. He enjoyed telling jokes, was an avid Hawkeye fan, and the DJ of Spring Rock.

He is survived by his four children: Joan Elizabeth Berkey of Clinton, William Layton Berkey of Wadsworth, Illinois, James Renwick (Mona) Berkey of Ames, Iowa and Janet Louise Berkey of Camanche; 5 grandchildren: Elias James Diaz-Berkey, Megan Isabelle Berkey, Madeline Grace Berkey, Faith Geneva Cannon and Miles Andrew Carey; one brother Dick (Linda) Berkey of Lyons, Oregon; and his beloved dog Stormy.



Obituary

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He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife.


Memorials may be made to Prairie Pastures Dog Park in Clinton or to the March of Dimes.




Events

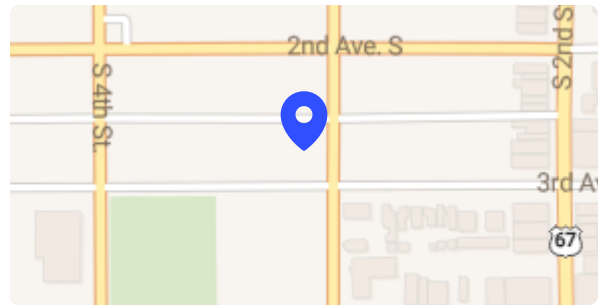
James N. Berkey
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Memorial Visitation

 **Friday**, February 16, 2024

 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM CT

 **Snell-Zornig Funeral Home & Crematory, Clinton**
302 Third Avenue South, Clinton IA 52732





Tribute Wall

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PT

Perry Thompson lit a candle in honor of James.

Sorry to see Coach Berkey had passed. I'll remember him fondly from my days on the high school swim team, then from HAM radio after, then several times we'd watch Iowa basketball games on TV. Always find memories.

December 13 at 10:26 AM



EM

Elizabertha Mcgiggle lit a candle in honor of James.

September 5 at 6:28 AM



GO

Gwen Ostert shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

So sorry to hear of your loss Joan and family. I have many very fond memories of spending time with Jim. Wonderful memories of camping with the horses and just spending time together. You all are in my thoughts and prayers!

February 17 at 1:53 PM



Dorothy Parker posted:

I remember a very young "Cousin Jimmy" from our visits to Humeston, Iowa, and always had fun playing with him in Grandpa and Grandma's back yard and the park across the street from their home (the "square")! My father, William Eugene "Bill" Berkey, brought the family home to Humeston every chance he got, but since we lived in Pittsburgh in my early years, it wasn't often we got the chance. I remember the concern we all had when we heard of Jimmy's diagnosis of polio, and from reading the obituary, I can see that his life was very full of activities and family love. Sending love and caring to you all. Dorothy Evelyn "Debby" (Berkey) Parker

February 16 at 1:32 AM

KD

Karen L. Diaz posted:

James it's been a long time since we was together at Jay & Mona's wedding but we had a wonderful time celebrating them. You and your wife was very kind to us. May God lift your children another family members comfort and understanding. God Bless you all Love, Rio & Karen Diaz (Gods taken another Angel home.)

February 15 at 2:16 PM



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Guy Plumley posted:

Condolences to the family. I knew Jim through Ham Radio used to talk to him quite a bit. We did a few Field Days at Palisades in Savanna, IL. He was a great guy.

February 15 at 1:54 PM



Shelly Bressler & Sandy & Terry Hallmann sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Berkey family.



February 15 at 1:11 PM



Shelly Bressler & Sandy & Terry Hallmann planted a Memorial Tree in honor of James.



February 15 at 1:11 PM



Arden Miller posted:

I've had the wonderful opportunity to work with Jim at the MBAEA as a multidisciplinary teammate serving the Clinton and Maquoketa Community School Districts. Jim always drove the big suburbans so we knew Jim was in the building.. Jim was extremely conscientious of what students needed and always had great rapport with them. He was a kind and gentle soul and I could always engage in great conversations even though we may have had different viewpoints on a variety of topics. After retiring we stayed in touch via emails for some time.... You will be missed, Jim and God Bless you and your family...Ardie Miller MSW LISW School Social Worker Mississippi Bend AEA

February 15 at 12:07 PM



David Tallett posted:

So sorry to hear of the loss of your father, Berkey family. Your Dad was always giving of his talents and treasures; sharing the workings of his HAM radio system and expertise with reloading gun ammo. Prayers from the Tallett family.

February 15 at 8:45 AM



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Julie Muljolland posted:

I am so sorry for your loss. I have many fond memories of your mom and dad. I was in your mom's card club for many years and worked with her at the shelter. You will be in my thoughts and prayers.
Julie Mulholland

February 15 at 2:15 AM



Debi Van Sant posted:

Your dad and mom were such wonderful people. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Debi Van Sant

February 14 at 8:23 PM



Anonymous sent an Enchanted Cottage to the Berkey family.



February 14 at 5:39 PM



The Dwight Berkey Family planted a Memorial Tree in honor of James.



February 14 at 5:39 PM



Jan Beveroth lit a candle in honor of James.



February 14 at 5:02 PM



Tete Long May 21 at 10:49 AM

Jim Berkey was the finest of human beings. We shared a close friendship from 1975 to his passing. Integrity, compassion, and positive ethics to the highest degree describe Jim. I worked with Jim at the AEA for 30 years and he always focused his energies to help young people. Rest in peace, my friend!



Jan Beveroth February 14 at 5:03 PM

Sorry for your loss Joan and family. May his memory be a blessing



Tribute Wall

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Nancy Wade posted:

Joan, I am so sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. He was certainly a good friend to Les and I over the years. It was your Dad that got us interested in ham radio. My wish is for your family to remember all the good times you had with your Dad. I lost Les on 12/3/23. I will keep your family in our prayers.
Nancy

February 14 at 1:12 PM



Anonymous sent an Arrive in Style to the Berkey family.



February 14 at 12:33 PM



Kris Liberacki (Sientra) planted a Memorial Tree in honor of James.



February 14 at 12:33 PM



Gwen Ostert shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

February 17 at 1:53 PM



MO Trip in 2004



Memories only last if you share them

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



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