



## James Jeremiah Grippa

August 5, 1960 - September 26, 2021

Grippa, James Jeremiah, "Jim," age 61, of Holladay, UT passed away in ICU at St. Mark's Hospital from COVID on September 26, 2021 in Salt Lake City, Utah. James was born August 5, 1960 in Wilcox, AZ. He called Colorado home but spent many years living in Utah and California.

James loved the challenges of his work in the environmental consulting field as well as teaching safety awareness in everyday tasks. He made friends and connections wherever he traveled.

James was gifted with sharp wit and comedy for every situation, even when in the hospital. Most remember James for his smile and big bear hugs. He loved being a father, teaching his boys the art of cooking in the kitchen and catching fish while camping. He volunteered his guidance with the Boy Scouts of America as well as many meals at various churches.

James is survived by his sons Caelan Ronan and Liam Robert, mother Martha Ellis, father Robert P. Grippa, brothers Robert A. Grippa and Fred Grippa, sisters Nadine Grippa, Wendy Haley, Leona Elliott and Pauline Sandberg, best friend and life partner Karen Boerdam. James is also survived by nephews Vincent Grippa, Chase Grippa, Tony Grippa, Daniel Elliott, Jeffrey Sandberg, Ryan Sandberg and nieces Amanda Grippa, Deana Prue, Angela Elliott, Lacey Anderson, Martie Notestine.

Due to COVID concerns, a celebration of life gathering is being planned in Spring/Summer of 2022. In the meantime, an open house with lunch will be held on October 9th at 11:00 am at 3103 E Craig Drive, Salt Lake City, Utah 84109 (LDS Church).

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to James' sons college fund for Caelan at <https://gift.my529.org/6ZXNCW> and for Liam at <https://gift.my529.org/MQEHP5>.

# Tribute Wall



“ *James Jeremiah Grippa*

October 05, 2023 at 07:49 PM



“ *Hello this is Liam! I could go on forever about our memories but my favorite was he would always rub my tummy to help me go to sleep. Also he and I would always talk in the morning and end the talk with a hug and go on with our day.*

**Liam Grippa** - October 17, 2021 at 10:39 PM



“ *James was my neighbor for a time, and from the moment I met him he was friendly, and warm and anxious to get to know us. He willingly jumped right into helping me plan our neighborhood Christmas party and was very enthusiastic about being chef for that event! The food was outstanding of course! My most sincere condolences go out to his family and all who loved him. Clearly he will be missed.*

**Suzanne Gallegos** - October 05, 2021 at 04:51 PM



“ *James was my Fraternity room mate in college when we both lived in the Fraternity house. Jim was a great roommate and I always loved his sense of humor and occasional sarcasm. He was loud and his presence was always known when he was in the room, but I loved every minute of it! Rest in Peace brother James! YITBOS until we meet again in the bond eternal.*

**cliff** - October 05, 2021 at 04:00 PM

PK

“ Jim and his family were a pretty big part of my life during high school and college. I went to homecoming with him our senior year in 1977 and he won me over with his sense of humor and how much we both had in common. We both came from large families, we were involved in choir and theatre and we both cared about our high school. We even found out that our parents lived in the same house/duplex when we were toddlers. What a small world! We ended up staying together for about 3 or 4 years and were even engaged at one time. Although that didn't work out for us, the experiences we had together were important and helped to make me who I am today. I still remember making tamales with the Grippa family. You never forget that experience. I remember Martha helping me get a job over Christmas break distributing license plates in Colorado. (Remember when everyone had to renew their plates in January/February?) I also remember Rob driving me down to Pueblo to see Jim. That was a fun trip. I also remember when Lacey was born. What a beautiful baby. I think of all of these things now, as I mourn for Jim's family, his mother, his sisters, his brothers and his Dad. The memories of him will always be in my heart. Jim was dearly loved, his spirit and heart will be missed by all of us who had him in our lives. Godspeed Jim.



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**Patty Garnhart Knudson** - October 04, 2021 at 10:13 PM

PN

“ Jim was intelligent, funny, hard working and well organized. He was kind and generous too. It won't be easy to fill his shoes. I think he wore size 13.  
See you on the other side Jim. I look forward to settling that bet.

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**Pat Noteboom** - October 04, 2021 at 05:14 PM

JJ

“ James was such a genuine and joyful soul. I was very lucky to have him as a friend for so many years. He brought light, love and humor to so many. Grateful he was a part of my life and we had so many fun times growing up in Arvada. From Street Theatre, Concerts, school activities and beyond. He was an amazing person and adored his family. Shine on James see you on the other side.

JoDee Jetton - October 04, 2021 at 10:01 AM

TP

“ Jim was my boyfriend early in high school. He was my boyfriend on my 16th birthday and gifted me with a dozen roses and an 8-track player for my car! Lots of fun memories and always showed me respect and love. May the Lord keep you at His right hand and grant you everlasting peace. Praying that grand adventures await you in God's many mansions. Travel safe sweet one, you'll not be forgotten. †❤️

Teresa (Teri) Propp - October 03, 2021 at 11:17 PM

TG

“ Oh I am sooo saddened about Jim. We just reconnected before he got sick. We were also able to message each other when he was in the hospital fighting. 😭 Jim and I went to St. Anne's together and then high school. He was the class clown. I think he was in trouble a lot with the sister's. Lol The last time I saw him was our 10yr reunion 😭 Still the life of the party. I was hoping that one day I would be able to see him again. To the whole family of the Grippa's I am deeply sorry for your loss.



Tammy Modglin Gervais - October 03, 2021 at 05:54 PM

TG

“ JJ was one of my favorite students at Arvada Senior High School. I remember his unbounded enthusiasm while supporting and enjoying everything he was involved with at school. I am truly sorry that we have lost him and his humor.

*Ted Grundmeier*

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**Ted Grundmeier** - October 03, 2021 at 02:19 PM

RW

“ I met James working at Kleinfelder. He taught our LPS classes and always had great stories to liven them up a little. He and I would travel to other offices to perform radiation and lab audits. I always looked forward to those trips and the laughs along the way. He always had a warm smile, huge heart, and wonderful funny stories. He was an amazing man and will be missed by so many. Prayers and condolences to all who loved him. May he R. I. P. and entertain heaven with his beautiful soul.

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**Rene Walters** - October 03, 2021 at 11:03 AM

FS

“ I met Jim working at Kleinfelder in Las Vegas. He always wore a bright smile with a kind heart. Funny guy that made us all laugh. Genuine and authentic. Prayers for the family.

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**francisca suarez** - October 03, 2021 at 09:37 AM

BM

“ James was a true friend. Met him when fate made him my neighbor, stayed friends long after each of us moving far away. He would do anything for you ( including cooking amazing stuff ) we could discuss things that we completely disagreed about without anger while sipping a whiskey. I'm going to miss the guy. The world was better with him in it.

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**brian m** - October 03, 2021 at 09:35 AM

DJ

“ The guy could fix anything and was happy to do it and I can't recall him ever getting upset or angry with the hair-brained, totally unbuildable stuff we engineers came up with sometimes. And he would totally geek out over gadgets and technology, that's the last discussion I remember having, James deep in his zone. The world is a little less nice now with him gone, but we're lucky to have had him for a little while

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**David J** - October 03, 2021 at 08:17 AM

MJ

“ I will always think of james and the stories he told growing up with his little sisters and nana and Tara my I could sit there and listen and laugh my most favorite stories of him I will miss him greatly love you all

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**mary jane** - October 02, 2021 at 09:46 PM