



James Blackburn

December 31, 1969 - September 13, 2010

Obituary of James Blackburn James E. "Jim" Blackburn passed away September 13, 2010 at Ocala Regional Medical Center. He was born in Louisville, Kentucky and moved to Ocala in 1979 from Appleton, WI. Jim was an avid sailor. Jim was an artist his entire life. His career began at a young age as an apprentice under major illustrators of the time in Chicago, IL. It included illustrating lunch boxes and thermoses for Aladin Industries, art director for CPS Industries, Tuttle Press and 30 years at Signature Brands. He is survived by Linda Blackburn his wife of 32 years, daughters Shannon (Mike) Whitaker of Ocala, Kate (Art) Reeves of Nashville, TN, son Lee (Janel) Blackburn of Ft. Scott, KS, 9 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. The family will receive friends from 6 to 8pm on Friday, September 17, 2010 at Roberts Funeral Homes Downtown Chapel, 606 SW 2nd Avenue, Ocala, FL 352-622-4141. Funeral services will be held at the funeral home at 10:00am on Saturday, September 18, 2010.

Tribute Wall



“ *James Blackburn*

June 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Linda I'm so sorry to hear of the loss of your husband. I know the memories will carry you through and you will see him in the eyes of your children and grandchildren. My thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family.*

Laura Smith - September 21, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *I lost an old friend to cancer this week. Jim Blackburn A pretty tough old soldier. He was a " tunnel rat" in Vietnam before anyone in American knew there was a war over there. Got himself blown up in one of those tunnels and had to go through reassembly at Walter Reed. Jim was a sailor, he won a leg of the Mackinaw for single crewed craft at age 16. He still had the knack too, as he led four stinkpotters (me included) on a bare boat cruise off the west coast of Florida for two weeks in the mid eighties. Years later, I tested him again on the St Claire river...the engine died on my 37' tug boat and he had to use the rudder and current to keep us off the rocks and out of the freighters paths for thirty minutes, until I could restart the engine. Jim was an accomplished commercial artist working for the likes of Disney and General Mills, but his best work was a painting of me on my 30' Regal crossing Lake Erie as a beer can floats by in the water. Did I mention that Jim was a scuba diver? Well he was certified but away maintained the standing position on all dives. Just wish he was around to make on more pot of seafood chowder. Love Ya Buddy*

David Sanders - September 19, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Dear Linda and Family, I'm so terribly sorry for your loss.

Martha Miller - September 18, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KP

“ Dear Linda and family, My heart goes out to all of you for your tremendous loss. I didn't know Jim except for Linda's stories, and he sounded like a gem of a person. I hope the day's to come are filled with wonderful memories and joyous celebration of Jim's life. I can't be there but please know that you are all in my thoughts and prayers. With deepest sympathy, Kathi Perry

Kathi Perry - September 18, 2010 at 12:00 AM

WB

“ Dear Linda and Family.... I just want to send you my best wishes and love at this time I know that there is a hole in your lives now that cannot be replaced. I just wanted you to know we care and send you our sincerest condolences for the passing of Jim. Wendy and Patrick Miller

Wendy Bandurski-Miller - September 18, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ Dear Linda, So sorry for your loss. Prayers go out to you and your family. Sincerely, Denny and Leigh

Denny & Leigh Karchner - September 18, 2010 at 12:00 AM

EE

“ To Linda and the extended Blackburn family, Jim was a great friend, a world-class artist and creative force, but most of all a devoted family man. Jim and I shared many mornings talking business and politics while we reviewed his work on a computer screen. This was always the best part of my day. You should all know that his favorite subject during these early mornings was indeed the love he had for all of you. He was so proud of his family, and often shared with me his many photos of family events. He was a man of boundless talents, which I'll always admire and remember, but what I'll remember most of all about Jim, was his love for family. I am very honored that I got to know Jim for these past years. I will miss him. Simply said, he was a good man. You remain in my prayers, Evan Eckman

Evan Eckman - September 17, 2010 at 12:00 AM