



# James "Jim" Tarbell

OCT 30, 1959 - MAY 2, 2024



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# Table of Contents

<b>Obituary</b> .....	Page 3
<b>Tribute Wall</b> .....	Page 5



# James "Jim" Tarbell

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James "Jim" Tarbell, aged 64, of South Park PA, passed away peacefully on May 2, 2024, surrounded by the love of his family. Born on October 30, 1959, to the late Martin and Frances Tarbell, Jim grew up in a lively household with his siblings and developed a zest for life that would become his signature trait.

Jim is survived by his devoted wife, Karen Tarbell, with whom he shared a beautiful and loving marriage. He was a cherished father to his children Shatae Belajac, James (Ashleigh) Pardini, and Megan (Peter) Kotula. Jim's legacy continues through his adored grandchildren, Alaina, Gavin, Maxwell, and Quinton, who brought him immeasurable joy. He is also fondly remembered by his siblings Steven Tarbell, Michael (Debra) Tarbell, Joan (Dave) Sabol, Patrick (Hilde) Tarbell, and Bridget (Barry) Pieper. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews, and friends. Each family member and friend held a special place in his heart, and he in theirs.

Jim's life was marked by his love for sports and community. He was a dedicated member of the Sons of The American Legion Post 760 and could be found on the golf course with his Wednesday golf league, where his laughter was as frequent as his swings. His passion for basketball, especially during March Madness, was only rivaled by his unwavering support for the Steelers. Jim was the epitome of a team player and a fan who celebrated every victory with gusto.

Known as the "King of His Castle," Jim took great pride in his home and family. He was a "Grill Master" who could turn any meal into a feast, and his culinary skills were the highlight of many family gatherings. His wit and humor were legendary; Jim was a "Purveyor of Useless Information" and a "Teller of Obvious Falsehoods," always ready with a joke or a tall tale to make everyone around him smile.

Above all, Jim's favorite pastime was spending time with his family and grandkids. His presence was a source of comfort and joy, and his ability to light up a room was unparalleled. He was truly loved by everyone who had the pleasure of knowing him, and his absence will be deeply felt by his family, friends, and all who were touched by his generous spirit.



## Obituary

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Jim's life was a testament to the power of laughter, love, and family. As we say goodbye to a man who was larger than life, we take comfort in the memories he leaves behind. His legacy of kindness, humor, and warmth will continue to inspire those who knew him, and his stories will be told for generations to come.

Family and friends are welcome to join the family for a memorial visitation on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 from 2 pm - 4 pm and 6 pm - 8 pm at the Jefferson Memorial Funeral Home, 301 Curry Hollow Road, Pittsburgh, 15236. A memorial service will be held on Wednesday, May 8 at 10 am in the funeral home's chapel.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Sons of The American Legion, Post 760 at 2409 Bethel Church Road, Bethel Park, PA 15102.

Online condolences may be shared at [www.jeffersonmemorial.com](http://www.jeffersonmemorial.com).



## Tribute Wall

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MK

**Mark Kubasky** posted:

Karen and Family Please accept my condolences on Jim's passing. He was a great person... friend and boss... Will pray for you losing your family to get through this difficult time.. Mark Kubasky

May 7 at 2:18 PM

CN

**Christopher Nordengren** posted:

I worked with Jim at Lorillard for over 25 years. Jim was one of the "good guys" who you could always count on. My thoughts and prayers are with Jim's family. God bless you all.

May 7 at 1:53 PM

SK

**Steve And Janice Kline** posted:

Karen and Family - Our deepest condolences are with you on such a sad occasion. We hope this plant will remind you of Jim for years to come.

May 6 at 3:48 PM

JS

**John Soety** posted:

Will miss you

May 6 at 10:31 AM

MF

**Mp77 Family** posted:

Keeping you and your loved ones in our thoughts. Sending all our love.

May 6 at 10:14 AM

UB

**Uncle Rex, Aunt Shirley, Darlene, John, Steve, Starla, Beth** posted:

Our deepest sympathy to Jim's family. We wish you peace and comfort in the days to come.

May 6 at 9:11 AM



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**Diana Rogers And Brad Waite** posted:

So sorry for your loss. Our deepest condolences to the whole family.

May 6 at 9:02 AM



**Rod & Kim Lane** posted:

Our condolences to the Tarbell Family. Jim was a great guy who was always willing to help when called upon. He will be missed. Rod & Kim Lane

May 6 at 8:33 AM



**Don Rosier** posted:

Joan and I offer our sincere condolences to you and both of your families. Most of my memories are tied to either the classroom or on the basketball ball court. As a fellow lefty, my gene pool left me short of what Jim or his brothers brought to the court. It was a pleasure seeing him and Mike play together against opposing teams. Win or lose, Jim often voiced his frustration and then followed with a smile as he thought about the next game or event. I'm thankful for the ability to reconnect at class reunions. Two years ago at our 45th, we golfed together with Chuckie Henderson. As we stood on either side we dwarfed him. At the reunion, Jim was as popular as ever with everyone. We shared stories and reflected on couple that he said often came up at family gatherings. \* the time I accidentally landed an elbow at practice on brother Mike which Jim found funny. \* Mike was fair in his revenge, but he did give me a lesson on gravity. A nudge that had me flying before falling over the scores table at practice. Rest in Peace my friend. You'll be missed, but never forgotten. I look forward to seeing you in Heaven playing some one on one.

May 5 at 4:49 PM



**The Children And Grandchildren Of Joseph Layden** posted:

With deepest sympathy for your loss. The memories of Jim's wit and humor will bring smiles to many in the years to come.

May 5 at 12:25 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Karen, Shatae, Jimmy and Megan, We are so sorry for your loss. Jim meant the world to me and he will be missed dearly. Continued prayers for you all.

May 5 at 11:42 AM



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KG

**Karen And Roy Glosser** posted:

We are sorry for your familys loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

May 5 at 10:22 AM

CA

**Carole Artim** posted:

Karen, Shatee, Jimmy & Megan ... Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Jim's humor, stories, smile and zest for life will remain with you in the many wonderful memories that you share. I know that we treasure the many memories that we have of Jim from the pool parties and cookouts when our kids were growing up together on Armstrong Drive.Carole, Larry, Ian & Hillary Artim

May 5 at 7:28 AM

CS

**Cardello Lighting & Electric Supply** posted:

Our Deepest Sympathy. May you find comfort and strength in the memories you shared.

May 4 at 5:07 PM

JL

**Joe And Dan Layden** posted:

Those we love dont go away. They walk beside us everyday.

May 4 at 2:18 PM

TD

**Tonette Diffenbacher** posted:

It's been many many years since I've seen your smiling face..... But read assured you will always be in my heart.....Shatae I'm very sorry for your loss. ❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️

May 4 at 1:27 PM

DT

**Delayne Taylor** posted:

My heart breaks for all of you. Jim was a great guy and I have such fond memories of him. I will always consider you guys family. Prayers!!

May 4 at 12:56 PM



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HF

**Hummel Family** posted:

Sorry for your loss. Please accept our deepest condolences. You're in our thoughts and prayers.

May 4 at 12:43 PM

L3

**Love, Your Best Buy Family <3 <3** posted:

Our deepest sympathies and condolences to you and your family during this difficult time.

May 4 at 11:50 AM

JK

**Jack And Chris Kotula** posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

May 4 at 11:18 AM

BC

**Bob Caldarella** posted:

Jim Tarbell was a wonderful man, father , husband and friend . Jim worked for Lorillard for 30+ years on my recommendation and during that time I recieved numerous comments about his outstanding leadership , knowledge and humanity . I could not have been prouder of all his accomplishments. I will miss our conversations and especially him calling me " Uncle Bob".

May 4 at 10:46 AM

SK

**Steve And Janice Kline** posted:

Jim was always a pleasure to spend time with, always left us with a smile. Karen: We so much enjoyed the dinner we had with you and Jim last fall in Pittsburgh. We convey to you our profound sadness and deepest condolences to you and your family. He is dearly missed.-Steve & Janice Kline

May 4 at 8:33 AM

DL

**Donna, Sharon And Marc (Layden)** posted:

To Karen and all the Tarbell family, we are wishing you peace. You are all so loved. From cousins Donna, Sharon and Marc

May 4 at 5:05 AM



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MK

**Mike And Luanne Kennedy** posted:

You will missed

May 3 at 4:29 PM

MS

**Mary Saniga** posted:

Karen and family, I am so saddened to hear of your loss. We had a great work relationship. I always called Jim \"Jimmith\" and he called me \"Meredith\". I remember how he said he was good with trivia. We used to tease him and say he was the \"bearer of useless knowledge\". He was truly very good with trivia. I was so happy when he reached out to me last year. It was so nice hearing from him again. He was a wonderful co-worker and good friend. Please know that Jim and your entire family are in our daily prayers.Mary & Dave Saniga

May 3 at 4:14 PM

BG

**Bob Griffin** posted:

Had the privilege of working with Jim for many years. Always respected his work and always enjoyed my time with him. I'll always remember his laugh. R.I.P. my friend.Bob Griffin

May 3 at 4:05 PM

JT

**Jerad And Holly Tarbell** posted:

Therefore you now have sorrow; but I will see you again and your heart will rejoice, and your joy no one will take from you. \"John 16:22\"

May 3 at 4:01 PM

DT

**David Thomas** posted:

Joan,I wish you and your entire family peace during this difficult time.David Thomas

May 3 at 3:31 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Our deepest condolences to your family. Today and always, may loving memories bring you strength and comfort.

May 3 at 3:04 PM



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MC

**Mindy And Joe Cafaro** posted:

Karen, we are so saddened by Jim's passing. You and he have always been so nice to us at Legion functions. We will miss him and will keep you in our prayers. God blessMindy and Joe Cafaro

May 3 at 2:26 PM

DN

**Debbie, Dan, Karen And Nancy** posted:

With great sympathy and much love,

May 3 at 1:01 PM

AJ

**Aunt Rita, Aunt Joan And Aunt Jane** posted:

We are thinking of you during this difficult...

May 3 at 11:57 AM

KO

**Ken Orris** posted:

So sorry to hear about Jim. It seems like I always had a Tarbell on the basketball team. This Lefty was hard to guard and. was a great scorer. Always with a smile he inspired his teammates. I miss seeing all those Tarbells up on the hill. God's grace.. Coach Orris

May 3 at 11:53 AM

ML

**Mike, Kevin, Kathleen & Rita. ( Layden)** posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with each and everyone of you through this time. We all have wonderful memories of Our cousin Jim. Love, your cousins

May 3 at 11:35 AM

MP

**Mark Price** posted:

Prayers to Jim's family and to the TarbellMark and LuAnn Price

May 3 at 10:13 AM



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**George Gilbert** posted:

Played basketball with Jim in high school. The gentle giant will greatly be missed. Thoughts and prayers to the Tarbell family.

May 3 at 10:00 AM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

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



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