



Jim Cook

November 21, 1942 - February 9, 2025

Jim Cook, age 82, of Gravois Mills, Missouri, passed away on Sunday, February 9, 2025, at Saint Luke's Hospice House in Kansas City, Missouri. He was born on November 21, 1942, in Decatur, Indiana, to the late William (Willie) and Helen Cook.

Jim was a hardworking and dedicated man, spending over 40 years as an over-the-road truck driver, where he built a reputation for his strong work ethic and camaraderie among fellow truckers. Jim's profession kept him on the road, and that didn't end when he retired, as Jim spent much of his time traveling. His favorite destinations included Okeechobee, Florida, where he loved to relax and spend time fishing, boating, and enjoying the great outdoors and Texas, where he would spend time with his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Jim is survived by his beloved significant other, Lillian Vaughan, and his three sons in Texas: James Cook Jr., Willie Cook, and Bryan Cook and wife Bobi. He leaves behind eleven grandchildren: James Robert Cook and wife Chelsea, Cory Cook, Troy Cook, Amber Ortiz and husband Paul, Bryan David Hopson, Desiree Cook, Johnathan Ramey and wife Liz, Brittaini Cook and husband Kolton Jefferis, Bryce Cook and wife Victoria, Bryana Cooper, and Jacob Larsen. He was also a cherished great-grandfather to twenty-one great-grandchildren: Emma Cook, Brayden Cook, Charlotte Cook, Layla Cook,

Parker Cook, Everleigh Mendez, Ryatt Ortiz, Raven Ortiz, Jeremiah White, Lily Jefferis, Karson Jefferis, Harley Cook, Salem Cook, Castiel Cooper, Rex Cooper, Ayden Baker, Faith Eichman, Grace Carver, Thomas Swanson, Mabel Swanson, and Violet Swanson. Jim is also survived by two brothers and two sisters: Donald Cook in Michigan, and Douglas Cook, Carolyn Cook, and Joan Cook all in Indiana. He was preceded in death by his parents, and two sisters: Linda Combs and Donna Gulick. He will be deeply missed by everyone, including his extended family and many dear friends.

Jim's journey on this earth may have come to an end, but the miles of love he traveled in the hearts of those who knew him will go on forever. May he find eternal rest, with the open road stretching endlessly before him and the waters always calm for a perfect day of fishing.

To honor Jim's life, a celebration will be held on June 21st at Jim and Lily's house on Lake of the Ozark in Gravois Mills, Missouri. For those who would like to receive details, please email bobijoycook@gmail.com.

Jim's family wishes to express their gratitude for the love and support they have received during this time.

Cremation arrangements are under the direction and care of the Kidwell-Garber Laurie/Sunrise Beach Chapel.

Tribute Wall

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“ I had the Great honor of running a Team Sleeper Truck with Jim . We drove out of Milwaukee , Wisconsin . Jim , or Dad as I would call him . He would say I'm not your Daddy ! I started that when I first started working with him . He actually meant that ! I pulled some jokes & pranks with him , on him and about him . He ended up calling me son . I think that was to say if you can't beat them , join em ! I pulled a big joke on him when we were in Carlisle , Pa . Jim and I were sitting at a table in the middle of the room . Eight or so drivers were on three sides of us with their backs to us . I raised my voice to him and said , you know Mom left you . Because she couldn't put up with you . It was her idea for me to drive this team with you . I not happy doing this with you because it's just not good . No one moved or even turned to see who we were . I got up and stormed out the door . I almost couldn't keep from laughing until I got away from that area . Jim was maybe less than a minute behind me . I asked Jim what they said or did when I left . He said you could have heard a pin drop . They were all frozen . We both laughed all the way back to the truck . Jim kept in touch with me over the years . He would tell me how much he enjoyed being retired , doing a lot of fishing . Said he met this great lady , Lillian . Said they were having a great life . I was so happy to hear that ! We shared some great times . I really respected Jim ! He had a lot of class !
To Lillian and all the other members of the family I AM SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS .

Timothy L Crawford - February 19, 2025 at 02:01 AM