



James Arthur Zimmerman

October 10, 1959 - December 24, 2022

James Arthur Zimmerman, known as “Jim Zim,” passed away on Christmas Eve, December 24th, 2022. He loved meeting people and making their lives better and was a positive bright light everywhere he went.

For much of his life, he lived in Oskaloosa, Iowa, where he grew up playing in the marching band, coaching the color guard, and becoming a town leader through his philanthropic and volunteer service. In high school, he started working in the local Brown’s Shoe Fit and loved it so much that he built a life-long career with Brown’s.

Artistic by nature, Jim created many artworks and window displays and received a BFA in Art from Rockford College. Jim marched with Phantom Regiment Drum & Bugle Corps and Cavaliers Drum & Bugle Corps and directed hundreds of winter guard performances, including for the award-winning Malachi Winter Guard.

Jim is survived by his husband, Frankie Ma; his father, Norman Zimmerman; and bonus mom, Elaine Mason; sister and husband, Julie (Rod) Bolin; brother and wife, Jay (Lisa) Zimmerman; sister- and brothers-in-law: Jennifer Cao and Tony Ma; and nephews and nieces: Zachary Zimmerman, Sydney Bolin, Leslie Bolin, Adoree Cao, Eyslee Cao, Isle Cao, and Odin Cao.

He is preceded in death by his mother, Cynthia Ann Zimmerman.

A celebration of life will be held on March 5th, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. at the Central United Methodist Church in Oskaloosa. Burial will take place at the Beacon Cemetery. The family welcomes photos, videos, and remembrances

of Jim, which can be sent to Jimzimarchive@gmail.com. Memorials may be given to Malachi Winter Guard.

Jim's family is hosting a Memorial Concert in his memory on from 10 a.m. to noon on Sunday, March 5 at the George Daily Auditorium. Please join them and enjoy the beautiful music.

Cemetery Details

Beacon Cemetery

1860 260th ST
Oskaloosa, IA 52577

Previous Events

Memorial Concert

MAR 5. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

George Daily Auditorium
1800 North 3rd ST
Oskaloosa, IA 52577
andy@georgedaily.org
<https://georgedaily.org/>

Performances by Stephanie Kim, Katy Richter, and Katherine Ho

Memorial Service

MAR 5. 1:30 PM (CT)

Central United Methodist Church
201 North Market ST
Oskaloosa, IA IA

Tribute Wall



“ *James Arthur Zimmerman*

October 05, 2023 at 11:57 PM



“ *Such a great man and person. Loving and a lifelong friend. You and your family have a special place in my heart.love you Zimmerman folks*

Michael Wells - March 05, 2023 at 07:36 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Arthur Zimmerman.*



March 03, 2023 at 06:55 PM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of James Arthur Zimmerman.*



March 02, 2023 at 11:12 PM

SM

“ I went to school with Jim from Seventh grade thru Graduation. He was a very nice person. Rest in Peace my Friend.
As Always, Sheryl McCain Stephen McCain



Sheryl McCain - March 02, 2023 at 03:18 PM

MB

“ I was in training at Browns in osky when Jim was hired. He was so good at display and window trim. His smile was contagious. We served on the board of directors for Browns together. He had good ideas and was respected by his fellow shoemen. RIP Zimmy Mark Boyd

mark boyd - February 21, 2023 at 09:24 PM

AB

“ I only knew Jim for a short while at his latest adventure Salvage Angel. We were both vendors and connected instantly. He was a generous sweetheart to me. He was a warm open soul that touched us all in such a short time. He had a passion for vintage. We miss his spirit and creativity for sure. Fly high Jim.



Amanda (Mandi) Boyer - January 22, 2023 at 01:07 PM



“ Jim was always so supportive of me in my color guard journey since day one, and was always sharing the story of my mom saying “my daughter will spin a 6ft flag just like everyone else!” when I was 11. I remember sharing his excitement when Malachi made finals for the first time. I’m so happy I got to see him in Dayton this year and I’m heartbroken that he’s gone. Miss you Jim 💔

Rebecca Clark - January 19, 2023 at 04:27 AM



“ I met Jim first when I was taking piano lessons with his mom, Cynthia. He was always smiling and kind at recitals. In high school, he was my color guard coach. I have so many memories of those years - of summer & winter color guards that are all intertwined with Jim Zim. What has always stood out was that he was smiling and kind, even when we were likely testing his patience. There were also more than a few times when he'd show us a move or stunt he wanted and thinking there is no way I can do that. But he was such an awesome teacher that he could break it down and we were all able to do it.



My life was better for having know Jim and even though I hadn't been in touch with him for a long time just knowing he was around was a comfort. He will be missed.

Erin Davis - January 15, 2023 at 08:20 AM



“ CINDY ALBRIGHT lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Zimmerman



CINDY ALBRIGHT - January 13, 2023 at 02:58 PM

DR

“ Jim was such a joy to know. His family lived on C Ave east when ours lived on N.9th. Jim and his sister and brother were friends with our sons. Hw will be missed. He always had a smile and kind word for everyone. RIP Jim.



Dena Roord - January 11, 2023 at 05:51 PM

DS

“ I met Jim a couple months ago working at Salvage Angel with him. In such a short amount of time, he made such an impact on my life. He was so kind to me, being a newbie at the store. He shared beautiful stories of his life with me. He was beyond helpful and generous. One day I was struggling putting something together and he noticed, came right over, and put the whole display together for me without hesitation. Even though I only had a few encounters with Jim, I knew right away what a special, kind, genuine person he was. Much condolences to the family, Danielle Silva

Danielle Silva - January 11, 2023 at 08:02 AM

CV

“ Cliff And Leilani VandeWall lit a candle in memory of James Arthur Zimmerman



Cliff and Leilani VandeWall - January 10, 2023 at 05:45 PM

CB

“ I knew Jim mainly through his help with our AAUW (American Association of University Women) book sale that was held each fall, center court of the mall. Jim would come the day before the sale and price all of our 'special' books. It was quite an undertaking, but he was happy to help us out. When he moved to Colorado, our group missed his wise advice on book values.

After moving to Colorado, I started a small food tour business and Jim brought me a vintage uniform from the Canary Cottage to use however I could for the tour. The uniform found a happy home at Salvaged Designs where I point it out to tour customers.

While Jim and I were mere acquaintances, his passing hit me really hard. He was a good soul who spread happiness wherever he went, and this shouldn't have happened to him. My deepest sympathies to his family and friends.

Cheryl A Benson - January 10, 2023 at 05:24 PM

SW

“ Jim & I met at the Sinniff Auction house on the edge of Oskaloosa, we had interest in antiques but of different collections but we always looked over the items for sale & pointed out to each other if particular item was there, we had joined the Kish-Ke-Kosh Quester antique group & had many fond memories of our trips with the group, Jim Zim was a great host when time for him to have meeting at his home, he was an excellent cook too, one particular memory is his oven roasted maple bacon...yummy JimZim...you will be missed by so many, & I will remember our many years of enjoying our antique collection...RIP dear friend...till we meet again in antique heaven...



Sherry Willey - January 10, 2023 at 04:35 PM