James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr.

December 25, 1955 - April 9, 2026

James “Jim” Gene Puskas Jr., 70, passed away on April 9, 2026 at the University of Kansas Medical Center surrounded by his loving family and friends after a courageous battle with cancer. He left behind a legacy of love, kindness, and unwavering faith.

Jim was born December 25, 1955 in Manhattan, KS, the son of James and Shirley (Porter) Puskas and graduated from Shawnee Mission Northwest High school. He started his career at the United States Postal Service where he worked for 35 years and also met his wife Kathy. They married in 1989 and raised their family in Lenexa, KS. Jim found great joy in spending time with his family, working outdoors, and especially landscaping and relaxing at the lake. He was an avid Kansas City Chiefs fan and rarely missed an opportunity to cheer on his team. Known for his generous spirit, Jim was always ready to lend a helping hand, particularly with outdoor projects. He truly loved the outdoors and the simple pleasures of life.

Throughout his illness, Jim faced many doctor visits, procedures, and challenges, yet he remained remarkably upbeat. Those who spoke with him would never have known the extent of his struggles. Jim was an eternal optimist—a compassionate man with a kind soul, a charitable heart, and a gentle nature. His deep faith brought him comfort, and he found peace in his belief that “God’s Got It,” placing his trust fully in Him.

Jim is survived by his beloved wife of 37 years, Kathy; his three children, Chad Puskas (Nichole), Chris Puskas, and Chelsi Puskas; his two younger brothers, Curt Puskas and Rusty Puskas (Sonya); and his cherished grandchildren, MaKayla and Denton, who brought him immense pride and joy. He was preceded in death by his parents.

The family extends their heartfelt gratitude to the compassionate staff at the University of Kansas Medical Center (Floor CA10 and ICU), whose care and kindness provided comfort to Jim and the family throughout his cancer journey and in his final days.

Jim will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him. His memory will live on in the hearts of his family and friends. A celebration of Jim’s life will be held on Thursday, April 16, 2026, at Maple Hill Funeral Home. Family and friends are invited to gather for a visitation from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM, with the funeral service beginning at 2:00 PM with burial to follow at Maple Hill Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Maple Hill Cemetery

2301 S 34th St
Kansas City, KS 66106
(913) 262-6610
info@maplehillfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **16**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Maple Hill Funeral Home
3300 Shawnee Dr
Kansas City, KS 66106
(913) 831-3345
info@maplehillfuneralhome.com
https://maplehillfuneralhome.com

Funeral Service

APR **16**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Maple Hill Funeral Home
3300 Shawnee Dr
Kansas City, KS 66106
(913) 831-3345
info@maplehillfuneralhome.com
https://maplehillfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery created a Tribute Video in memory of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr.

Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery - April 14 at 04:13 PM

WJ

Kathy & Family,
Our hearts are broken, but we know we'll see him again one day. We're sure Grandma Porter was at the Pearly Gates waiting to welcome him to our Father's Home. He fought the fight so hard & so brave! He will be so deeply missed by all of us, but he's flying high with The Angels watching over us all now.
Rest In Peace & God Speed Dear Cousin.
Love Always,
Wilbur & Sis Stum, Jr.

Wilbur & Sis Stum, Jr. - April 16 at 12:35 PM

LR

Lupita, Nellie, Diego, Rhonda purchased the Sma ll Garden Dish for the family of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

Lupita, Nellie, Diego, Rhonda - April 16 at 11:13 AM

Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

April 16 at 11:12 AM

Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

April 16 at 08:43 AM

A Memorial Tree was planted in honor of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

April 16 at 08:43 AM

AF

Aunt Lucy, Charlene, Darlene, & The Kerwin Family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

Aunt Lucy, Charlene, Darlene, & The Kerwin Family - April 15 at 11:45 AM

-C

- CA9 & CA10 purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

- CA9 & CA10 - April 15 at 10:11 AM

SD

Scott DeBerg purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

Scott DeBerg - April 15 at 08:17 AM

SD

Scott DeBerg planted a Memorial Tree in honor of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

Scott DeBerg - April 15 at 08:17 AM

Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

April 14 at 01:34 PM

Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

April 14 at 01:26 PM

FK

From Scott and Kim purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

From Scott and Kim - April 13 at 09:54 PM

FK

From Scott and Kim planted a Memorial Tree in honor of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

From Scott and Kim - April 13 at 09:54 PM

SF

Stephanie Schibler and Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

Stephanie Schibler and Family - April 13 at 03:23 PM

BT

Jim was an incredible man and an exceptional friend. There are times in life when we have a relationship with someone, then move away and lose contact. Such was my case with Jim. But there are many fond recollections of my times with Jim that have stayed with me and always will as our friendship and its joys forever remain among my wonderful memories. With sons the same age and involvement with their sports activities, there were significant experiences with Jim and I always delighted in his positive spirit throughout those times together. I am grateful that he shared the investments we were making in young lives through those experiences, recognizing that sports are, in many ways, a metaphor for life. Just as in those relationships with young men, in all of his relationships, I saw Jim planting seeds, seeing the best in people, and investing in lives in ways he may never have known. That smile, that sense of humor, that positive spirit - I was blessed to have the good fortune of knowing this gentle giant. Jim was - and remains - a tried and true difference maker! I look forward to seeing you there, Jim! Blessings to Kathy, Chad, Chris, and Chelsi as you are in my heartfelt prayers.

Bob Thomas - April 13 at 01:30 PM

TP

Jim was one there of the nicest guys I've ever met. his wife Kathy, one of the nicest ladies I've ever met. I had the pleasure of knowing them at the postal Service. I will miss Jim. pray for peace and comfort for Kathy and the family. unfortunately, I will be out of town for the services. my thoughts and prayers are with you

Tim Poje - April 13 at 01:12 PM

Tender Tribute was purchased for the family of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

April 12 at 10:43 PM

A Memorial Tree was planted in honor of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

April 12 at 10:43 PM

TW

Jimmy his brothers and I go way back to summers at their grandmothers plus some early teen events in KC. What fond memories. Our condolences to all of Jims family. The Worthington's of Kansas.

Tj Worthington - April 12 at 08:05 AM

MF

mclaughlin family purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

mclaughlin family - April 11 at 10:59 AM

MF

mclaughlin family planted a Memorial Tree in honor of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

mclaughlin family - April 11 at 10:59 AM

TD

The Donovans purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

The Donovans - April 11 at 09:44 AM

TD

The Donovans planted a Memorial Tree in honor of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

The Donovans - April 11 at 09:44 AM

JR

Joe & Michelle Rawie purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

Joe & Michelle Rawie - April 11 at 09:25 AM

JR

Joe & Michelle Rawie planted a Memorial Tree in honor of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

Joe & Michelle Rawie - April 11 at 09:25 AM

TW

Jimmy and his brothers we go back to the 60's spending summers with his grandma. What fond memories plus some early teen events in KC. How time flies. Our condolences to his family from the Worthington's of Kansas.

Tj J Worthington - April 11 at 08:38 AM

SD

Steve Dugan purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of James "Jim" G. Puskas Jr..

Steve Dugan - April 10 at 10:30 PM