



James R. Bookwalter

October 4, 2023

James R. Bookwalter (Jim) 84, of Hartford, passed away on Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at home after a long illness. Jim grew up in Columbiana, Ohio, the son of Dr. Henry Lee Bookwalter and Mary Stephens Bookwalter. After graduating Amherst College and serving in the U.S. Navy, Jim was asked to be an interviewer for the Attica Commission. This led to a life-long career assessing and responding to inmate complaints as the Connecticut Correctional Ombudsman. Some of his passions included the Cleveland Browns, reading, watching movies and woodworking. His home is filled with pieces he's made over the years from his woodshop including a bookcase which houses an extensive collection of Jane Austen novels, war history, and British Detective series. Although he was sick for some time, Jim continued to find humor in everyday life and we will miss his quick wit and warm smiles. Jim was predeceased by his brother Thomas L. Bookwalter. He leaves his loving wife, Fredrika Neaverson Bookwalter; her brother Thomas C. Neaverson; his children Anna B. Hildreth (Mark), Elizabeth M. Bookwalter, James S. Bookwalter, and Sarah B. Hutchins (Jonathan); his grandchildren Mason W. Hildreth, William S. Hildreth, Scarlett J. Hutchins, and Bradley J. Hutchins; his granddogs, Henry and Barney; his brother and best friend Dr. John R. Bookwalter (Marilyn); his sisters Stephanie B. Lane (Joshua) and Mary Elizabeth B. Thomas (Peter); sister in law Lynda Rouse Bookwalter and more nieces, nephews, family and friends than we can list. Jim held a celebration of life with his family in March and requested a private ceremony

with his immediate family to be held on his beloved St. Lawrence River. Jim hadn't been able to make it to the river since 2019, and his final wish was to see it again. We know he will be at peace in his final resting place. Please consider making a donation in his honor to Feed the Children, feedthechildren.org or Amherst College, amherst.edu.

Tribute Wall



“ I grew up in Columbiana a block away from Jim, his sister Mary Elizabeth Bookwalter Thomas is still a close friend of mine. A truly amazing family of kind, caring individuals. Sending my love to all of you.

Susan (Susie) Brown Gauthier.

Susan Brown Gauthier - March 31, 2024 at 06:08 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of James R. Bookwalter.

October 17, 2023 at 05:34 PM