



James Randall Barstow

March 3, 1960 - June 22, 2026

James Randall Barstow, 66, of Mishawaka, Indiana, formerly of Charlotte, Michigan, passed away on June 22, 2026. A selfless man with an unwaveringly positive spirit, James was born on March 3, 1960, in Galesburg, Illinois, the son of Merle and Rachel Anne (Holscher) Barstow.

James attended Charlotte High School, where he was a proud member of the 1978 championship basketball team. His love of sports continued throughout his life and led him to play basketball for two years at the University of Akron. Whether on the court or in everyday life, James approached challenges with optimism, always finding the bright side of any situation. He was known for his strong work ethic during his years as a Dish Network technician, where customers valued both his technical expertise and his friendly, dependable nature. James also enjoyed keeping active and liked to joke that he was still "good looking and in shape-for a man his age."

Above all, James was a devoted father and grandfather. His daughters were the center of his world, and he loved them with all his heart. Becoming a grandpa to Paisley and Montana brought him immense joy and was one of his greatest blessings. James' compassion, positivity, and love for his family will be remembered and cherished by all who knew him.

James is survived by daughters; Izabella Wood and Emmelia Barstow;

granddaughters Paisley and Montana; sisters, Susan (Bill) Taylor, Jane Barstow-Boettcher, and Nancy Barstow; brothers, Dan (Stacie) Barstow, Ben (Dawn Takamoto) Barstow, and Matt Barstow; and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his father; Merle, in 2003; mother, Anne, in 2024; and his sister; Diana Barstow in 1988.

Friends are encouraged to support James' family by attending services or sharing memories on his Tribute Page at www.prayfuneral.com. Visitation is Thursday, June 25, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Pray Funeral Home. A graveside service will be held Friday, June 26, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at Maple Hill Cemetery with Pastor John Bailey, officiating. If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to his grandchildren, payable to Izabella Wood. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Upcoming Events

Visitation

JUN **25**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

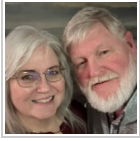
Pray Funeral Home
401 W. Seminary St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Graveside

JUN **26**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Maple Hill Cemetery
801 Tully Brown Rd.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall



“ *Wow, we have lost another great member of the class of 78. Jim was always positive in school and wonderful to talk to. I am sorry for your loss*

Kenneth Cutter - 1 hour ago

RC

Jim was always a good guy, will never forget his dunk in the Dome over Okemos!! 🏀🏀

Robert Converse - 31 minutes ago