



## James Lee Carroll

February 23, 1962 - April 30, 2024

James "Jimmy" Lee Carroll, a man that from birth was dealt many lifelong challenges but was able to overcome so much. Jimmy, 62, of Kalamazoo was born on February 23, 1962, the son of Leo and Margaret (Pennington) Carroll. He was born three months premature and from birth was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy, doctors told his parents that he would not live to his fifth birthday. Jimmy lived his entire life non-verbally, but was able to communicate with his eyes and facial expressions. Even with the challenges that he faced he was always happy and smiling. During his younger years Jimmy was an artist and loved making paintings with the use of his mouth. He was also able to operate a computer and his wheelchair by his mouth. Jimmy was also known as being a collector of pens. It is believed that he has collected a pen from every doctor's office/business that he has visited throughout his lifetime. For 20 plus years Jimmy took part in different case studies at Western Michigan University to help better understand Cerebral Palsy. He also loved going out and about with his caregivers. Even if it was just a quick trip to the coffee shop, it made his day. Jimmy's sisters believed that if Jimmy could speak, he would have said how he was proud of his ability to communicate non-verbally in a verbal world. They also stated that for the first time in his life he can now do something that he has never done, walking alongside his parents in heaven. Jimmy beat the odds, touched many lives and will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Jimmy is survived by his sisters, Jeanette (Doug) Aspinall, Jackie (Duane) Collier, and Julie (David) Brooks; several nieces and nephews; and his loving care that he received from his family at Community Living Options Home on Chelton Ave. in Kalamazoo. He was predeceased by his parents.

Friends are encouraged to support Jimmy's family by sharing memories on his Tribute Page at [www.prayfuneral.com](http://www.prayfuneral.com) <<http://www.prayfuneral.com>>. A private family graveside service will be held at Wilcox Cemetery in Nashville. If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to St. Jude Childrens Research Hospital. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

# Tribute Wall

JA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



jeanette aspinall - May 03, 2024 at 08:00 PM

JC

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



jackie collier - May 03, 2024 at 05:20 PM

FS

“ Beautiful obituary and so true. He stole the hearts of many with that smile and charm. I hope you run into your old friends Cynthia, Richard and Herman in the afterlife Jimmy.

Fiorella Spalvieri - May 03, 2024 at 01:49 PM

JC

Thank you from his sisters

jackie collier - May 03, 2024 at 05:17 PM

JA

“ 8 files added to the tribute wall



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jeanette aspinall - May 02, 2024 at 10:30 AM