



James Milton Rumley

October 15, 1941 - August 16, 2020

COOLEEMEE – Mr. James Milton Rumley, 78, of Cross Street, died Sunday, August 16, 2020, at his home.

He was born on October 15, 1941, in Guilford County, to the late Carl Wilson and Emily Cora Kirkman Rumley.

Jim enjoyed a full life that included many varied vocations. He was of the Methodist faith and was a veteran of the U.S. Army. A North Carolina native, he moved to Cooleemee in 1986. His deep abiding interest was in history and in 2001 he authored, “Cooleemee: The Life & Times of a Mill Town”. As the Textile Heritage Center’s archivist, he assembled the South’s preeminent collection of mill and mill village photographs, documents and artifacts housed in local museums and at UNC Chapel Hill. Jim was a recipient of the Order of the Long Leaf Pine. He also enjoyed feeding and watching birds.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Don Rumley.

Survivors include his wife, Lynn Wells Rumley, of the home; two sons, Lewis Rumley and Danny Rumley (Andrea); a grandson, Jonathan; two brothers, Carl W. Rumley, Jr. (Pansy) and Philip Rumley; a stepdaughter, Casey Simpson Fernandez (Sergio); and three step grandchildren, Annalynn, Emma and Leah.

A memorial service will be conducted on Saturday, August 29, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. at Legion Memorial Park in Cooleemee.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Cooleemee Historical Association, P.O. Box 667, Cooleemee, NC 27014.

Online condolences may be made at www.eatonfuneralservice.com.

Cemetery

Legion Memorial Park
NC Hwy 801 S
Cooleemee, NC, 27014

Events

AUG	Memorial Service	03:30PM
29	<hr/>	
	Legion Memorial Park	
	NC Hwy 801 S, Cooleemee, NC, US, 27014	

Comments



“ So sorry for your loss - just made aware that Jim passed in August. He will be missed. Lynn, you and Jim have meant so much to us and we thank you for all your assistance helping us at the Saxapahaw Museum. May the memories you generated with Jim comfort you. Keeping you and your family in thought and prayer.

Jane Cairnes
Saxapahaw Museum

jane cairnes - September 24, 2020 at 01:08 PM



“ Lynn and family, I'm so sorry to hear about Jim's passing. Cooleemee was so fortunate to have you move in and save history for all of the Cooleemee kids no matter what age we are!!! Thanks and may God give you peace during this time. Sincerely, Gwen Brooks Sain

Gwen Sain - August 27, 2020 at 12:38 PM



“ So sorry to hear, and I stand with other old friends sending our best wishes.
-- David Nolan

David Nolan - August 26, 2020 at 09:11 PM



“ lynn,
Please accept my condolences about the death of Jim. Although it is impossible for me to be there for his funeral my thoughts are with you at this sad moment.
Jim True

James True - August 26, 2020 at 08:05 PM



“ I am so sorry to hear of his passing. Some of my best times as a local historian were passed in his company. I will forever value what he did to advance the field of local history. He was a true star in the preservation of human dignity. Gary Freeze

Gary Freeze - August 24, 2020 at 01:28 PM



“ Dear Lynn,
I am so sorry for your terrible loss. (Although it's been years since we last met, I think of you often). May the love of family, friends & memories bring you some comfort during this most difficult time.
Fondly, Ilsa Pinkson-Burke

ilsa pinkson-burke - August 19, 2020 at 06:23 PM



“ Debbie Sue lit a candle in memory of James Milton Rumley



Debbie Sue - August 17, 2020 at 05:13 PM