



James (Jim) M. Papero

May 5, 1932 - March 19, 2014

March 19, 2014 after a courageous 2-year battle with non-smoking lung cancer. Predeceased by his parents, Peter and Mary Papero; and brothers-in-law, Fred C. Scarpulla, John Pelc, and Anthony R. DeGrazia. Survived by his devoted and loving wife of 56 years, Gerry; sisters, Mary Ann Scarpulla and Patricia Papero; sister-in-law, Norma Pelc; nieces and nephews, Fred S. (Carm) Scarpulla, Mark Scarpulla, Paul (Nancy) Scarpulla, Scott (Carrie) Humberstone, Karen Pelc, Victoria Pelc-Pacheco, and John A. Pelc; 16 grand nieces and nephews; cousins, and dear friends.

Jim graduated from the University of Rochester with a Bachelor of Science and a Master's in Education. Jim believed, "Treat people as if they were what they ought to be, and help them become what they are capable of being." ~Goethe

Jim joined Rochester Institute of Technology in 1966. For 30 years, Jim worked to improve the mental and physical health of all RIT employees and the campus at large. Jim created the RIT Employee Assistance Program (EAP) in 1975. RIT was the second college in the nation to start such a program, and the first company in Rochester to do so.

Jim joined the Board of Directors of East House in 1988. For over 45 years, East House has served persons in recovery from mental illness and/or chemical dependency.

Jim joined the Arc of Monroe Board of Directors in 1982 and believed from the beginning that a proposed supportive employment opportunity for individuals with developmental disabilities was both reasonable and achievable.

Jim Papero's vision and dedication continues to impact thousands of lives throughout Rochester. His focus was simple: show people what their potential CAN be versus what it will not be.

The family would like to thank the Wilmot Cancer Center and Dr. David Dougherty and his staff and the Visiting Nurse Service Hospice, nurse Kara Traverse, and senior social

worker Jill Wellman for their loving care of Jim.

Friends may call Sunday, March 23, 2-5 PM at the funeral chapel (2305 Monroe Ave.). A Funeral Mass will be held Monday, March 24, 10 AM at St. Louis Church, 64 South Main St., Pittsford, NY 14534. Interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Contributions may be made to ARC of Monroe County, 2060 Brighton-Henrietta Townline Rd., Rochester, NY 14623 or East House, 259 Monroe Avenue, Suite 200, Rochester, NY 14607.

Cemetery

Holy Sepulchre Cemetery

2461 Lake Ave.

Rochester, NY, 14612

Events

MAR **Visitation** 02:00PM - 05:00PM

23

Anthony Funeral Chapels, Brighton

2305 Monroe Ave., Rochester, NY, US, 14618

MAR **Service** 10:00AM

24

St. Louis Church

64 S. Main St., Pittsford, NY, US, 14534

Comments



“ Gerry,

Jim was a dedicated volunteer for JDRF for many years and he will be missed by many. You and Jim made many contributions to the JDRF events and your time and commitment was always appreciated. Jim shared his talents with so many in the Rochester community and his generous spirit was a special gift. I hope that your memories will comfort you now and in the future. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Mary Anne Fox,

Mary Anne Fox - March 24, 2014 at 06:54 PM



“ Jim was always very kind to me and I enjoyed my discussions with him when I was at RIT. He leaves a fine legacy of caring and compassion that will never be forgotten.

Peter Boulay - March 24, 2014 at 06:20 PM



“ Gerry, I was saddened to hear of Jim's passing. He was a wonderful man. My thoughts and prayers go out to you. Karel Shapiro

Karel Shapiro - March 24, 2014 at 07:40 AM



“ Jim and I intersected through the Mental Health Association, Al Sigl Center, East House, and RIT. His kindness, compassion, and spirit changed lives, including mine - he had a profound influence on my career and it was my privilege to have known and worked with him. I am so saddened to learn that he has passed away. His is an enduring legacy.

Harriette Royer - March 23, 2014 at 09:00 PM



“ He was such a nice man. My husband remembered him from his days at Rush-Henrietta High School. I knew Jim from the ARC Board. He will be missed.
Nancy and Mike LaHaye

Nancy LaHaye - March 23, 2014 at 08:56 AM



“ Dearest Gerry,
Our hearts and prayers are with you at this time of great sorrow. We are with you in spirit. Jim meant the world to us. He was truly a man who believed in giving of himself and he made the world a better place. The city of Rochester has suffered a tremendous loss. May you feel the comfort of all who loved Jim. God bless you.
Arlene & Joe

Arlene Fede - March 22, 2014 at 07:57 PM



“ Jim was a fine man and a dear colleague. Always kind and always thoughtful. He will be missed on earth and very much welcomed in heaven. Jeanne Healy Burns

Jeanne Healy Burns - March 22, 2014 at 07:57 AM



“ Gerry,
My very deepest condolences to you. Not only has Jim gone thru a long, struggling battle, but so have you. You will be fine, especially knowing he is finally resting peacefully. I am there for you.

Ilene Steron

Ilene Steron - March 21, 2014 at 10:16 PM



“ FROM KIM, TOMMY, TIFFANY, AND TIMOTHY DOAN purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of James (Jim) M. Papero.



FROM KIM, TOMMY, TIFFANY, AND TIMOTHY DOAN - March 21, 2014 at 08:05 PM



“ Jim was an inspiration to all of us at the Arc. He believed in the talents and skills of individuals with intellectual disabilities. He worked with his fellow staff at RIT to help people with disabilities obtain jobs. Because of him, the Arc of Monroe began our Job Path services. Today over 400 people are employed in the community.

He also helped the Arc begin our Enrichment Program at RIT. Many individuals have

had the opportunity to spend time on a college campus. They are proud when they tell their family members they have taken classes just like their brothers and sisters.

Jim believed in others. And the Arc will miss his wisdom and caring

Barbara Wale - March 21, 2014 at 06:48 PM