



James "Fred" Hammel

January 4, 1936 - March 30, 2016

James "Fred" Hammel, age 80, died peacefully Wednesday, March 30, 2016 at Liza's Place, Wheeling, WV

He was born January 4, 1936 in New Martinsville, WV, the son of the late Wilbert Raymond and Ida Nolan Hammel.

He was a graduate of Magnolia High School in 1953. Served in the United States Marines 1954-57; bus driver for Marshall County Schools 1963-98 while operating a dairy farm. Owner of Pleasant Valley General Store 1976 until retiring in 1998, at which time Fred and his wife Jean spent several years traveling all over the continental US, including Alaska, Canada, and Mexico.

In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by one brother, Raymond "Bud" Hammel, one sister, Clarice Jean Fouch and a daughter-in-law, Theresa Hammel

Survivors include his wife of 59 years, Jean Brown Hammel; four children, Stephanie (Daniel) Kelly of Pittsburgh, PA, Steven Hammel of Wheeling, Eric (Pam) Hammel of Pleasant Valley and Lisa (Tim) Black of Pleasant Valley; four siblings, Sam (Connie) Hammel of Sebring FL, Ramona (Bill) Williamson of Friendly, WV, Gaynell (Robert) Pitts of Sandyville, WV , and Brenda (Bob) Starkey of Sistersville, WV; nine grandchildren, Brendan, Matthew, Warren, Brooklyn, Jared, Sarah, Emily, Isaac & Derek ; one great-granddaughter, Kenzlee and several nieces and nephews.

A Christian Memorial Service will be officiated by Fred's brother in law, Pastor Bill Williamson at 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 2, 2016 followed by a visitation

until noon with refreshments at Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory, 1
Ridgecrest Road, Bethlehem/Wheeling

In lieu of flowers, Donations may be made to Liza's Place, 308 Mt. St. Joseph
Road, Wheeling, WV 26003.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR 2. 9:00 AM (ET)

Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory- Wheeling/Bethlehem
1 Ridgecrest Road
Bethlehem/Wheeling, WV 26003
(304) 232-0400
<https://www.grisellfuneralhomes.com/>

Visitation

APR 2. 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory- Wheeling/Bethlehem
1 Ridgecrest Road
Bethlehem/Wheeling, WV 26003
(304) 232-0400
<https://www.grisellfuneralhomes.com/>

Tribute Wall

NM

“ We want to extend our sincere sympathy to your entire family in the loss of a wonderful man. I remember Fred and Jean in the store at Pleasant Valley like it was yesterday. Always a smile and a friendly welcome. It was also a place where we could anything we needed. We used to say, "if they don't have it, you don't need it." Although I haven't seen Fred for many years, the memory of both of them will always remain in my mind. Although I wasn't able to be there today for visitation, know that I am thinking of all of you at this difficult time.

Nila Meadows - April 02, 2016 at 10:18 PM

SG

“ Sam, Bunny and Families, Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this sad time. We were so sorry to hear of your loss. God Bless.

Sandra and Bob



Sandra and Bob Greathouse - April 02, 2016 at 07:02 PM

GC

“ Sam and Family,
Sending prayers and condolences to you and your family in this time of need. Personally I did not know him, but I have heard people talk about him and it was all good. May he Rest In Peace in Heaven...



Gary Church - April 02, 2016 at 05:32 PM

DK

“ I was privileged to have Fred as my father in law. He always treated me with respect, could tell a good story, and was my euchre partner for 35 years.

He didn't have to talk about hard work and dedication, he exemplified it.

All of us are going to miss him.

Dan Kelly, Brendan & Lauren Kelly, Matt & Mia Kelly

Dan Kelly - April 02, 2016 at 04:59 PM

TG

“ Tammy (Himelrick) Gianfrancesco lit a candle in memory of James "Fred" Hammel



Tammy (Himelrick) Gianfrancesco - April 02, 2016 at 10:46 AM

TG

My thoughts and prayers are with your family.

Tammy (Himelrick) Gianfrancesco - April 02, 2016 at 10:47 AM

DR

praying for you all. I live out of town and unable to be there. sorry for your loss.

Denise Ruza - April 02, 2016 at 10:57 AM

L&

our thoughts and prayers are with all of you on your day of sorrow.

Linda Riza Mohan &family - April 02, 2016 at 10:59 AM

CM

“ Sorry for your/our loss. When we moved to Beeler Station in the late 70's we quickly learned that whatever we needed could usually be found at the Pleasant Valley Store. It reminded me of fictional store that was featured on Garrison Keller's Public Radio Show, "A Prairie Home Companion". It was said that if you could not find it at the, "Pretty Good Grocery", you could probably get along without it. I began calling the Pleasant Valley Store, Fred's Pretty Good Grocery. Many times the Hammels would prove the point by coming up with something to fill almost any need. It was never the same after they retired, no reflection on the new owners, but it was Fred and Jean's spirit and smiles that made the difference. Thanks for the wonderful memories.

Calvin Moninger

Calvin Moninger - April 02, 2016 at 08:21 AM

LH

Thank you Calvin ! I remember your gazpacho ! Correct me if that is incorrect ... It was a tasty cold soup. Take care, Bless you, Lisa HAMMEL-Black

Lisa Hammel-Black - April 02, 2016 at 05:05 PM

SN

“ God has truly blessed you to have had such a man as a husband/father in your lives. I was blessed to have all of you in my life to show what a loving and supporting family is suppose to be like. It was a long time ago but I have never forgotten. God bless you Jean, may his Spirit comfort and abide with you. Steve, Eric, Lisa, and Stephanie; may you always always remember your Dad's strength, support, sternness, but especially his love. You remain in my thoughts and prayers. Steve Nixon

Steve Nixon - April 02, 2016 at 01:11 AM

LH

Thank You Steve.

Lisa Hammel-Black - April 02, 2016 at 05:07 PM

KH

“ *Prayers and loving thoughts to the Hammel family. We have very fond memories of visiting Mr. and Mrs. Hammel at the farm when we were kids. Truly indelible memories of Mr. Hammel's animal calls...*

The Kelly Kids - Gary, Kay, and Dan and families

Kay Kelly Helenbrook - April 01, 2016 at 04:50 PM

DF

“ *Truly a great man !!! Always a welcoming smile, whether on the bus, in the store, on the street, in life - he always called me Dawn instead of Dawna, which I normally do not like, but with him it was different - a nickname that honored our special friendship connection. Thinking of the entire family during this time, hugs to all.*

Dawna Foster - April 01, 2016 at 02:21 PM

LH

Thank you for coming today.

Lisa Hammel-Black - April 02, 2016 at 05:09 PM


Dawna
Foster

No thanks needed :)

Dawna Foster - April 02, 2016 at 08:58 PM

DF

“ *Dawna Foster lit a candle in memory of James "Fred" Hammel*



Dawna Foster - April 01, 2016 at 02:12 PM

RB

“ *Sorry to hear about Fred.*

A bus operator, a store operator and a pretty good guy.

He'll be missed.

Randy

Randy Bierce - April 01, 2016 at 02:07 PM

PR

“ *What a great person. Spent time at the Hammel home years ago when I went to grade school with his kids what a great person. Someone I have remembered for 50 years. Memories are wonderful they are always with you. Please know my thoughts and prayers are with everyone during this difficult time. Peggy Crow Richmond*

Peggy Crow Richmond - March 31, 2016 at 06:36 PM

PR

“ *Peggy Crow Richmond lit a candle in memory of James "Fred" Hammel*



Peggy Crow Richmond - March 31, 2016 at 06:31 PM



“ Benjamin Strope lit a candle in memory of James "Fred" Hammel



Benjamin Strope - March 31, 2016 at 06:12 PM



Just A Good Old Friend And Will Be Greatly Missed

Benjamin Strope - March 31, 2016 at 06:13 PM

DS

“ Debbie Schwing, Maxine Burkey, Dave Francis

Debbie Schwing - March 31, 2016 at 04:52 PM

BB

“ Stephanie and Family,

So sorry to hear about your loss. My thoughts will be with you.

Barb Bass

Barbara Bass - March 31, 2016 at 12:12 PM

JW

“ Janine Whipkey lit a candle in memory of James "Fred" Hammel



Janine Whipkey - March 31, 2016 at 11:51 AM

JW

“ I remember when Fred came to our farm to artificially breed my cow, I was only 12 or 13 but I had saved my money and I paid him in full all in pennies. So sorry for your loss. Janine Yoho Whipkey

Janine Whipkey - March 31, 2016 at 11:49 AM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of James "Fred" Hammel.



March 31, 2016 at 11:31 AM

CP

“ Christie Pettit lit a candle in memory of James "Fred" Hammel



Christie Pettit - March 31, 2016 at 08:43 AM

KH

“ Steve and Family,

I'm so sorry for the loss of your father. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you.



Kelly Hanlin - March 31, 2016 at 08:19 AM

KR

“ *Kathy Chambers Richardson lit a candle in memory of James "Fred" Hammel*



Kathy Chambers Richardson - March 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ *A friend whom we will all miss although the memories of that dear friend we shall carry with us until we are but a memory ourselves. We feel blest to have known this jovial caring man and most certainly are better human beings for having been allowed to share his lifetime with him. May the Lord be with Jean and the entire family so they may rejoice in knowing that a better place has been prepared for this husband, father and friend and he now dwells there. . Bill and Janet Lee Foster*

Bill and Janet Foster - March 30, 2016 at 11:28 PM

SB

“ *Sharon Brown lit a candle in memory of James "Fred" Hammel*



Sharon Brown - March 30, 2016 at 08:50 PM

SB

“ Every single time Tim and I would stop by Hammel's Store with our two young boys Fred would always welcome us with a smile and always took time letting our small boys at the time pick their nickle candy out piece by piece without any concern of the time they took doing it. <3.

RIP Fred

*Blessed Memories
Tim and Sharon Brown*

Sharon Brown - March 30, 2016 at 08:49 PM

 Jenifer
Strope

“ The best bus driver ever and always had great advice for me. He will be greatly missed!



Jenifer Strope - March 30, 2016 at 07:05 PM

 Robyn
Ewing
Wells

“ Will never forget him...he was always so happy and friendly when you walked through the door at the store. I'll never forget , when Tim and I were struggling, when we first got married , and I was down to my last bit of food... miraculously we "won" half of a beef from the store... I don't know who entered our name... and I will always think it was Fred's doing... He was like that... always good to us. Loved him and still love his family. My condolences on your loss...but heaven has gained another sweet angel. Blessings
Robyn (Ewing) Wells

Robyn Ewing Wells - March 30, 2016 at 05:28 PM

SB

“ Remember him at the store, always with a smile. Prayers to all.

Shelly & Bryan Buzzard - March 30, 2016 at 05:11 PM



“ May the love of God surround you and your family during this difficult time

May you come to know that the love of God is with you always,

May your memories of James "Fred" Hammel, give you peace, comfort and strength...

Rest now in the arms of our Lord your work on earth is complete. I thank you for your service and my Freedom. You will not be forgotten.

My thoughts and prayers are with the family of.....

*US Marine Veteran, James "Fred" Hammel, "A True American Hero"
God Bless†*

† Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13 †

Cheryl Skinner, Tri-state Military Museum - March 30, 2016 at 05:10 PM

CR

Jeannie, Stephanie, Steve, Lisa, Eric,

I'm sorry to hear about Fred. Please know my thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time.

Carol (Kittle) Robinson

Carol Robinson - March 31, 2016 at 01:17 PM

DH

Our sincere condolences from the family of Marjorie and Earl McLaughlin. Fred was respected and admired by our parents. Donna Hesse, Brenda Mercer, Carol Grimm and Joyce Burkey

Donna Hesse - March 31, 2016 at 08:29 PM

SD

I have very fond memories of Fred - he always had a smile and made you feel welcome. You are all in my prayers during this time of sorrow.
Sharon West DaRe

Sharon West DaRe - April 01, 2016 at 10:08 AM