



## James W. Frederick

February 3, 1920 - May 24, 2017

James Walter Frederick, age 97, passed away quietly at his home with family and devoted caregivers at his side.

He was born February 3, 1920 in Dunkirk, NY to Karl and Eleanor Frederick.

On February 13, 1943 he married Carol Mutz, who passed away in July 2015.

Jim and Carol were married for 72 years and had one daughter who lives in Leland.

They were very fortunate throughout their long happy lives enjoying good health, success, extensive travel and many life-long friendships.

Together, in 1959, they founded Boride Products, Inc. in the basement of their home in Birmingham, MI. Boride, a manufacturing company, which produces high-tech, and industrial ceramic products grew significantly upon moving to Traverse City, MI in 1970. The business was sold to Dow Chemical in 1984.

During World War II Jim served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He primarily flew in B-29 Bombers both as a navigator and bombardier.

After the war he attended the University of Buffalo in Buffalo, NY. Blessed with a well-

ordered mind he had a talent for both accounting and engineering. He thrived on precision and often quipped that measurements for his numerous projects needed to be “Frederick Perfect.” The origins of his perfectionism were documented in his high school year book where his caption read, “I Like Everything Neat.”

Jim served on the Munson Healthcare Board, the Leelanau Memorial Hospital Board, the Leland Volunteer Fire Department Board, and participated in many other civic organizations. His family was surprised to learn that he had mentored young students aspiring to become entrepreneurs. No doubt these students were told the story of how he got his start in business. The story revolves around Jim picking up a hitchhiker, a Frenchman, who happened to be well versed in high density industrial ceramic materials. A few trips to France and the rest is history.

While Jim never took his golf game seriously, he enjoyed his golfing buddies at both the Leland Country Club and Moorings Club in Vero Beach, FL. Most of all, this unassuming man enjoyed a robust walk in the woods with his family and much loved dogs. He loved all animals, especially dogs and would continually marvel at the miracles of nature.

Family was always his first priority. No matter what else was happening he made himself available. He had the wisdom to handle troubled times with encouragement,

optimism and compassion. As a Dad he had a knack for creating absolutely thrilling childhood bedtime stories. Indeed he was a wonderful husband and father.

In addition to his daughter Judy Frederick, Jim is survived by his brother Duane Frederick of Gasport, NY, many nieces and nephews, a granddog "Perry" and his loyal team of caregivers who became like family after many years of service.

He was preceded in death by his cherished wife Carol, and brothers Donald Frederick and Paul Frederick.

Jim loved to laugh and reserved the best of his quick wit and sly humor for his closest friends and family. We will break out the "Dewars" to toast our friend. He was a true gentleman until the very end.

A graveside service and memorial reception are being planned for early summer.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Leland Volunteer Fire Department, PO Box 1112, Leland, MI 49654, ShareCare of Leelanau, 740 E. Duck Lake Road, Lake Leelanau, MI 49653, or a charity of one's choice.

Please leave memories of Jim at the Reynolds Jonkhoff Funeral Home web site:

<http://www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com>

# Cemetery

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## Beechwood Cemetery

Leland, MI,

# Comments

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“ Judy,

Enjoyed your wonderful story of your Father's life...he was a warm, intelligent, man and will be remembered for so many things, including his kindness and impressive wit. Thinking of you at this difficult time.

Love,

Nash

**Nancy Adams Nash** - May 29, 2017 at 07:29 AM

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“ Judy,

Your Dad was an amazing man.. a beautiful tribute. We are thinking of you and Mr. Perry.

Much love,

Deb and Betty

**D A Hughes** - May 28, 2017 at 06:33 PM

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“ Judy,

That was a wonderful review of your dad's life and showing all the beautiful aspects of his life.

I remember my family and my dad, his uncle Glenn, meeting both back in Buffalo and in Michigan where Jim and my Dad would go on for hours about both his business and my dad's business. With both my dad and your Grandfather Karl being machinists it was easy to understand how he came by "Frederick perfect." Your mother was well matched for your dad. She had a real spark about her. I remember everybody laughing when the subject came up of her scooting about town in her little Renault Dauphine in the late 50's. Weeeee!

If your dad saw an opportunity he seized it, more than not coming out on top. His was a truly special life and will be sadly missed by all that knew him.

Marty and I will light a candle at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Auburn, Alabama next Sunday in his honor.

God bless you all,

Dick and Marty Frederick

**Dick Frederick** - May 28, 2017 at 05:19 PM