



James Hilliard Trato

May 1, 1940 - November 25, 2018

James Hilliard Trato, 78, went to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on Sunday morning, November 25, 2018. Jim suffered from a traumatic brain injury after being hit by a car while riding his bicycle on March 25, 2017.

He was born on May 1, 1940 to John Hilliard and J. Helen (Thiede)Trato in Battle Creek, Michigan. He graduated from Lakeview High School in Battle Creek in 1958 where he played football and basketball. He attended the Battle Creek Bible Church.

After High School he attended Kellogg Community College. He left Michigan in 1959 for Southern California. He attended Azusa Pacific College for two years where he played football and basketball. He graduated from Cal State, L.A. with a degree in History in 1968.

He was employed by Aerojet General Corporation in 1962 at the age of 22 as an Administrative Assistant and two years later assigned to Master Document Control Center and received a high security clearance that was top secret for his duties as a Top Secret Control Officer which had to do with special munitions specific to the war in Viet Nam. From 1975 until 1982 he was Director of Administrative Services and the head of Corporate Security. After he left Aerojet he formed his own companies in the field of fuel technology.

Jim was a conservative, direct, intense and caring man who was inspired and motivated by the words and ideals of his Christian faith. He loved his children, his family heritage, old time rock and roll, classic cars, learning about fuel technology, and the Pacific Ocean. He was self- educated on many complex topics and this led him on a variety of creative and experimental career endeavors.

He has a patent on a product he developed in July 2004. He loved adventure. After he got his pilot's license he was able to own his own small plane. He loved to be part of the sailing races on a large vessel to Ensenada. He loved to create things and to use the never ending strength in his hands to build decks, gardens and restore his 1931 Buick.

His kindness, strength and fighting spirit will never be forgotten and he will be missed. We are thankful that he is now free from both physical and mental pain.

Jim is survived by his daughter, Jill Heather Trato (Chris) Izu; son, Jason Hilliard Trato, grandson, Brayden James Izu; sister's, Judith Trato Frank and Jacqueline Trato Hammond and brother John (Herb) Trato.

Burial will be at El Toro Memorial Park in Lake Forest, California December 16, 2018 @ 2PM. See below for maps, driving directions and times.

NO FLOWERS PLEASE and in Lieu of Flowers, the family requests that donations be made to: The Desmond Doss Foundation <https://www.desmondossfoundation.org/donate.php>

Previous Events

Graveside Service

DEC 16. 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM (PT)

El Toro Memorial Park
25751 Trabuco Rd
Lake Forest, CA 92630

Tribute Wall



“ *Reflecting on Memories created a Tribute Video in memory of James Hilliard Trato*



Reflecting on Memories - December 05, 2018 at 09:30 AM

AM

Oh my, how very Beautiful and Touching!!!! So much love went into making this!!!! What an Honor for Everyone!!!! ❤️❤️❤️❤️

adrienne madej - December 11, 2018 at 11:02 PM

BC

Such a beautiful tribute to Jim and his loving family. Obviously, all the love and dedication in planning this video took a great deal of time and effort. However, what a treasure for the Trato Family and all their friends.

I only met Jim once and I am so glad that I did... Barbara Cassin

Barbara Cassin - April 15, 2019 at 11:52 AM

JB

What a wonderful tribute to my friend and brother in Christ. I had tears in my eyes for the entire video as I realized how much I loved and miss Jim. My friend our Lord has you now.

Pastor Jim Bond

Jim Bond - July 26, 2019 at 05:00 PM

EP

“ *Judy and Jackie*

My memories go back to the hay rides at the farm, Bible school, and Sunday school at the Battle Creek Bible Church.

Jim and Ted were great friends and could test our parents at times. One of the best times were the picnics at Goguac Lake. Remember the news paper taking our photo when our families were at the Willard Beach having a picnic. Seems that the Lord has a lot of our loved ones, but our time will come. OUR HOPE Realized. Friends Forever , Love Elsie

Elsie L. Peterson - December 14, 2018 at 10:09 AM



“ *3 files added to the album Trato Family Album*



Reflecting on Memories - December 11, 2018 at 11:13 PM

JH

“ *Words by Jim Trato about his patent. Check Patent No: US 6,767,398 B2*

Date of Patent: July 27, 2004

Trade name: SP 50 Slurry Mix

Inventor: James H. Trato

"If GOD blesses a man or woman with Perception and specific talents, mans duty is to do his/her best to create a useful device, process, or method, for the betterment of mankind. Behind every patent is a singular creator. Not many groups nor associations can be found in USPO records under patents issued."

Jacqueline Hammond - December 11, 2018 at 05:41 PM



“ 67 files added to the album *Trato Family Album*



Reflecting on Memories - December 10, 2018 at 09:29 PM



“ 2 files added to the album *Graveside Memorial Folder*



Reflecting on Memories - December 09, 2018 at 11:08 PM



“ 0 file added to the *tribute wall*

Reflecting on Memories - December 07, 2018 at 07:43 PM

TW

“ Jim was my neighbor all through my early years. We went to school K-12. Graduated together, played lots of sandlot baseball, football, and basketball. So sorry to hear that he has passed. I'm sure he will be missed by friends and family. I know his last couple of years have been tough. Many thanks to Judy and Jackie for keeping us informed. RIP Jim and prayers to the family.

Tom Wentworth - December 02, 2018 at 09:50 PM

LI

Beautiful tribute. Sounds like a really interesting, intelligent, & talented man. Being free of pain is Heaven - really.

Linda - December 11, 2018 at 11:58 PM