

James "Jim" Eugene Tvester, age 77, passed away with his family by his side early Saturday morning on February 13, 2021 at the McKenzie County Hospital in Watford City, North Dakota. Memorial services will be at 11:00 on Saturday, February 20, 2021 at the First Lutheran Church in Watford City with Reverend Paul Balaban officiating. Inurnment of cremains with Military Honors will be in the North Dakota Veterans Cemetery, Mandan, ND at a later date.

Jim was born on August 20, 1943 in Powers Lake, ND to Rueben and Hilda (Thingvold) Tvester. There were seven children in his family. He was baptized in the Lutheran faith at Grand View Church near Columbus and was confirmed at Columbus Trinity Lutheran Church. Jim grew up in the coal mine camp south of Columbus where he attended the Coal Valley Grade School #3. He graduated from Columbus High School in 1961 and then attended Minot State University graduating in 1965 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Education and Physical Education. Later, in 1972, Jim received a Master's Degree in Education (emphasis in Business and Guidance and Counseling) from the University of Montana in Missoula.

Jim's teaching career began at the Richardton, ND Public High School where he was a Business teacher and coached basketball, football, and track for two years. In 1967, he began his Business Teaching career of 13 years in Watford City where he also coached basketball, football, and track. He taught from 1967-1969 and then spent time serving his country in the US Army from 1969-1971. In 1971, Jim continued teaching and coaching until 1982 when he made a career change. For the next 25 years, from 1982-2007, he served as an accountant, office manager, and business manager at McKenzie Electric Cooperative. He retired in 2007.

In 1964, Jim met the love of his life, Joyce Elaine Sande, who was also attending Minot State University. Their love blossomed and on August 6, 1966 they were united in marriage at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Rolla, ND. To this union, they had three wonderful children - JeAnne Elaine, Jayme Eugene, and Jayson Eugene; thus the formation of the JET Family! Following their marriage, every Valentine's Day there-after, because they both attended MSU and met there, they received a Valentine's Day card from MSU as they were Alumni Mates.

Jim was honored to serve his country in the US Army. He served one year in Vietnam in the Americal Division as an infantry soldier and then later served in the office of the Americal Casualty Branch. A humble, but proud soldier, Jim was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, two Bronze Stars, two Commendation Medals, the Vietnam Service Medal, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal while serving in Vietnam. He was released with an honorable discharge from the Army on June 11, 1971 at Ft. Lewis, Washington where he was presented with the Good Conduct Medal.

During his high school basketball career, Jim was coached by Dale Brown who eventually became the coach of the LSU men's basketball team. Later in his life, Jim was honored to have been asked by Dale Brown to sit by him at a Rural Electric Company Banquet where Dale was a motivational speaker. Jim was a member of First Lutheran

Church in Watford City where he taught Sunday School for many years and was on the church council for several years. He was a member of the American Legion and American Legion Drill Team, a Lifetime Member of the VFW, and a member of the Vietnam Veterans of America. He was also a past member of the Rotary, Lions, and Elks Clubs, and served on the Board of Dakota West Credit Union and the Watford City Golf Board.

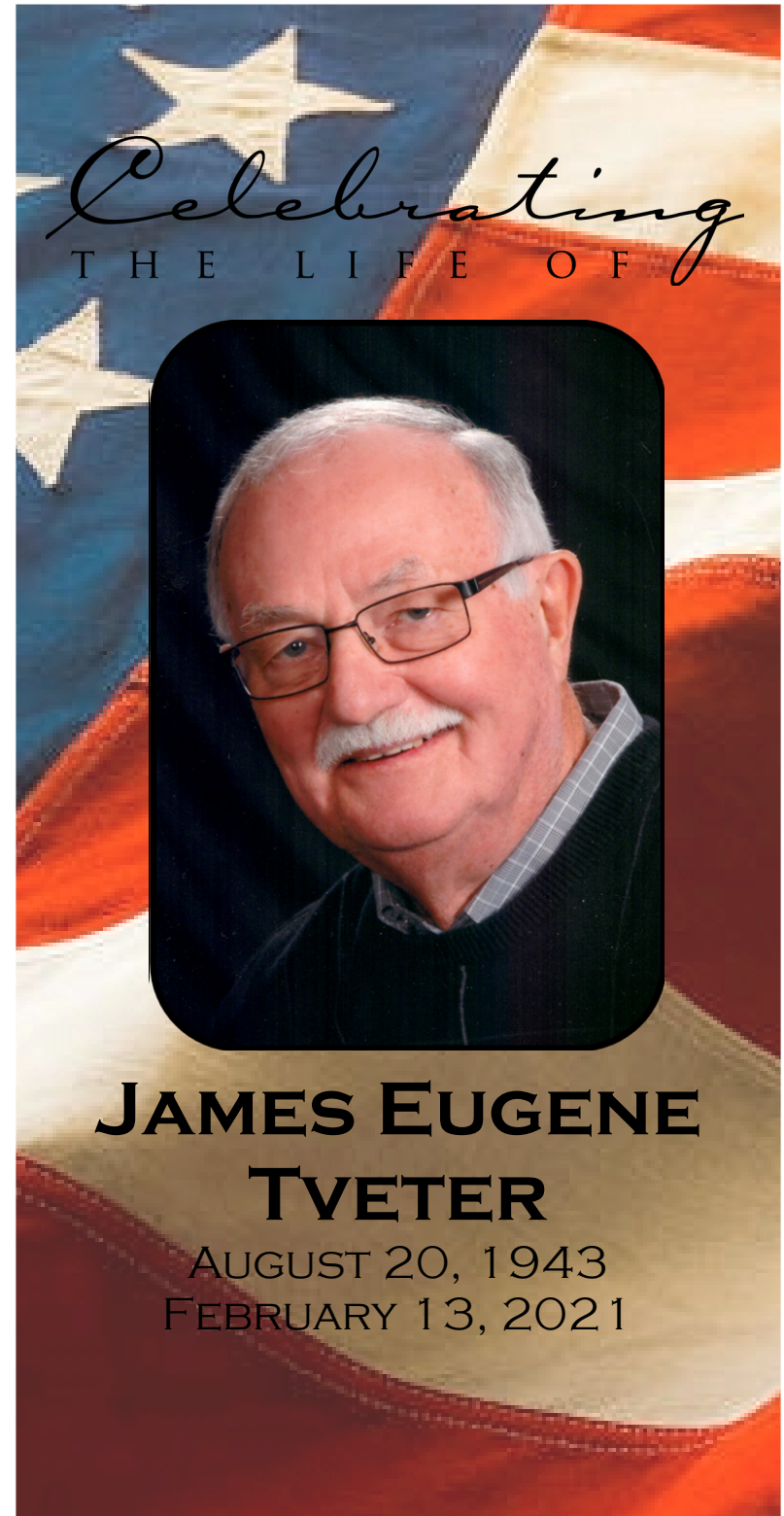
Jim's hobbies included fishing, golfing, and hunting with his family and friends. He was a prankster and a goofball. Many detailed golf stories and big fish stories were told to family and friends. If he caught the first couple of fish, he would always have some advice to give to others on how to bring in a fish! His pride and joy were his wife, children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. He especially enjoyed attending the sporting events in which his children and grandchildren participated. If you knew Jim, you may have heard him "cheering" and giving advice to them during the games! He was a very proud dad and grandpa! He also enjoyed playing with his grandkids and great-grandkids - he even dressed up for them in various costumes, played school (he was the student), taught and played poker, wrestled with sound effects, and taught many life skills. Jim took pride in all of the accomplishments of his family. Jim was a great role model for his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and his many students he had while teaching. He was a hard-working, kind, loving, helpful, and caring person. He always enjoyed visiting with his former students and catching up on what they were doing.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, Rueben and Hilda Tvester; brothers Rolland Tvester and Jerome Tvester; sister, Arlos Adams; in-laws, Martin and Alma Sande; brothers-in-law, Curtis Sande, Douglas Sande and Bill Adams.

He is survived by his wife, Joyce, of 54 years of Watford City; three children, daughter JeAnne (Shane) Homiston and their children, Justine of Watford City; Jaryn and his fiancée, Andrea, of Fargo; and Jessen of Watford City; son Jayme (Danielle) Tvester and their children, Ashton and Kaylee of Rapid City, SD; and son Jayson Tvester and his children Joselyn and Jayson Jr. of Watford City and Rapid City, SD.; brother Dean (Lois) Tvester of NewTown, ND; brother Shannon (Cindy) Tvester of Dunnellon, FL; and sister Shelly (Clif) Sundt of Williston, ND; along with great-grandchildren Jenna, Jordy, and Jace, as well as many nieces and nephews.

Jim was loved dearly and will be greatly missed by many. Jim's family extends heartfelt thanks to Dr. Ramage, Dr. Mundorf, Dr. Kazim, all hospital staff, all spiritual leaders, and his many friends for their loving care and kindness shown to him and his family during his illness.

In lieu of flowers, Jim's family asks that you consider memorials to the McKenzie County Veterans Memorial Park, Veterans Service Office, 201 5th St. NW, Suite 1036, Watford City, ND 58854, or to a charity of your choice.



JIM TVETER

BORN TO RUEBEN & HILDA TVETER
AUGUST 20, 1943 - POWERS LAKE, ND

PASSED AWAY
FEBRUARY 13, 2021 - WATFORD CITY, ND

SERVICES
11:00AM SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2021
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
WATFORD CITY, NORTH DAKOTA

OFFICIATING
PASTOR PAUL BALABAN

MUSIC
CAROLINE SCHWARTZ ANN JOHNSRUD

HONORARY CASKETBEARERS
JIM'S GRANDCHILDREN, FORMER STUDENTS,
AND ATHLETES

USHERS
DAVID BERG BRIAN ANDERSON

MILITARY HONORS
UNITED STATES ARMY HONOR GUARD
CARL E. ROGAN POST #49

FINAL RESTING PLACE
NORTH DAKOTA VETERANS CEMETERY
MANDAN, NORTH DAKOTA

LUNCHEON WILL BE SERVED AT THE CHURCH
FOLLOWING THE MEMORIAL SERVICE

*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only
begotten Son, that whosoever believeth
in Him should not perish,
but have everlasting life.*
John 3:16

*God saw him getting tired,
and a cure was not to be.
So He put His arms around him
and whispered, "Come with Me,"
With tearful eyes we watched him suffer,
and saw him fade away.
Although we loved him dearly,
we could not make him stay.
A golden heart stopped beating,
hard working hands to rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us
He only takes the best.*

