



James Richard Wray

MAY 14, 1950 - MAR 7, 2015



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James Richard Wray, age 64, passed away in Fort Myers, Florida on March 7, 2015. He was born in Columbus, Ohio, graduated from Ohio University, and furthered his career in the Washington, DC area before retiring to Fort Myers in 2006.

Longtime Republican Party activist on the local and national stage, he was honored to serve as a Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of Political Affairs under President George H.W. Bush. He later founded Wray and Associates, a firm specializing in major event planning and management as well as government affairs. He organized many high profile events for political organizations as well as private companies including national conventions, inaugurations, international summits and large company meetings. In retirement he enjoyed donating time and resources to his church and community. Preceded in death by parents Louis and Ruth Wray. He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Gale Townsend Wray; daughter Jennifer (James) McCann of Virginia and grandson James. He also leaves siblings Janice Wray Jacobs of Fort Worth, Texas and Jeffrey Wray of Camdenton, Missouri along with many beloved nieces and nephews from the Wray and Townsend families and their children. A celebration of life is to be held on Tuesday, March 17 at 1pm at Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church with light refreshments to follow. 8260 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33919. Private interment. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the George Bush School of Government and Public Policy at Texas A&M University. Please direct gifts to the President George H.W. Bush Endowed Fellowship Fund. Friends and family can honor Mr. Jim Wray by donating to the President George H.W. Bush Endowed Fellowship either by check or online gift. Checks should be made to the Texas A&M Foundation with "President Bush Fellowship – In memory of Jim Wray" in the memo line. They can be mailed to Jessica McCann's attention at 4220 TAMU, College Station, Texas 77843. Online gifts can be made via <https://securelb.imodules.com/s/1436/gid3give/2014/index.aspx?>



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[sid=1436&gid=3&pgid=367&cid=1044](#). Donors should select “Direct my gift to a specific account within the Bush School” and choose the President George H.W. Bush Endowed Fellowship Fund. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Fort Myers Memorial Gardens Funeral Home, 1589 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers, FL 33907, 239-936-0555. Online condolences may be made at:

www.fortmyersmemorial.com.



Tribute Wall

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CO

Carolee Oertel posted:

So sorry to learn of Jim's passing. His great sense of humor and gentle presence made it a pleasure to work with him. I was on the Brown for Governor committee and Jim was the campaign manager. We also had Steve Lee on staff – the combination of these two men was amazing and I enjoyed every minute. May God bless all who knew and were touched by Jim. Prayers to him wonderful family, Carolee Oertel

March 17 at 2:07 PM

PS

Pat Schoo posted:

I so looked forward to my Fridays at Bermuda Dunes that Jim would be there because I always knew that I would have a lot of laughs with him. Jim had such a great sense of humor and could turn any day into a good one. Just thinking of him brings a smile and I know the world was a better place with him in it and we all will miss him terribly. Jim also had a strong attitude of fairness and I loved when he would share his thoughts on the world around us. We will see each other again and have a lot of laughs again.

March 17 at 7:38 AM

RS

Roz & Nick Sileo posted:

Our deepest sympathies to Gale and the Wray family. Jim was a true friend and always willing to help us. We so respected him. He will be missed, but will always be in our hearts. Roz and Nick Sileo

March 16 at 10:20 AM

AM

Amy Maneval posted:

Jim gave so much of his life to our country. He was such a visionary and a good leader, yet down to earth. I feel privileged to have known him. My prayers are with Gale and the family during this difficult time. May God give you His peace. Amy Maneval

March 15 at 7:55 PM



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JD

Jackie Diaz posted:

My Deepest Sympathies are with the entire Wray Family. My Grandmother, Margaret, and Father, Bruce, always had kind words to say about Jim, Janice, and Jeff and their families. I have found memories of getting to meet him, and I truly loved his mom, dad and step mom. With all my love and support, Jackie (Close) Diaz xoxoxo

March 13 at 6:19 AM

JT

Julie Wood, Austin, Texas posted:

My heart and my prayers are with Jim's family during this sad time. Thank you for sharing him with the Republican Party and the country. It was a privilege to work with a man of such integrity. It is so hard to believe that both he and Steve are no longer with us. May God's loving peace surround you and sustain you as you say good-bye.

March 11 at 10:07 AM

BK

Barbara K posted:

Lit a candle in memory of James Richard Wray

March 11 at 7:32 AM

BO

Bonnie posted:

Jim was a wonderful man and we will miss seeing him. Always, a smile, even when sick. Gale and family are in our prayers as Jim was also. Bonnie & Bob

March 11 at 4:45 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring James by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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