



# James Alan LaBuhn

DEC 27, 1950 - MAY 21, 2015



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## **James Alan LaBuhn**

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**J**ames Alan LaBuhn, age 64, of St. Clair Twp., Michigan died May 21, 2015 in Bay City, Michigan while hosting one of his infamous golf outings. Jim was born December 27, 1950 in St. Clair Hospital to the late Ervin “Biff” and Ruth (Krieg) LaBuhn.

Jim graduated from Marine City High School in 1969 and from Michigan State University in 1972 with a degree in Criminal Justice. Jim retired in 2000 from the City of Mt. Clemens where he held positions of police officer, firefighter and retired as the city’s fire inspector. He was currently employed as director of the Michigan Arson Prevention Committee since 2000.

Jim was a member of many organizations including P.O.A.M., IAAI (Past President) and current Executive Director of MAPC. He was also a member of St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, St. Clair. Jim was active with Marine City High School Football, serving as their statistician for over 30 years during the good and bad years and eventually 2 state championships. He was a true Mariner and Spartan.

Jim is survived by his children; Jeannine LaBuhn, Jesse and Courtney LaBuhn, Jenna and Jason Duetsch, Brian and Kaylee December and Matthew December, grandchildren; Jax and Julia Giannosa, Mackenzie, Blake and Easton LaBuhn, Gage, Tobin and Stella Jaymes Duetsch and Joanna December, brothers and sisters; Mike LaBuhn, Sharon and Woody Flemming and Carol and Scott Werden and their daughters Lesley and Kelly. The mother of his children Janet Canode, mother in law; Ruth Morgan, brother in law; Phil and Karen Morgan, sister in law; Karen Morgan and many nieces and nephews. Jim had a large circle of wonderful caring friends who have helped him over the last 18 months of his illness.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Marsha LaBuhn, his mother and father and father in law, Rev. LaVern Morgan.

Jimmy was a loving father, papa, brother, uncle and friend. Once you were Jim’s



## Obituary

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friend there is nothing he wouldn't do for you. He was in constant motion, playing or watching sports or spending time with his family and friends.

Funeral services will be held Monday May 25th at 1:00 p.m. at the East China Stadium, 1585 Meisner Rd. East China, MI 48054. Visiting hours are Saturday 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday 2:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Young Funeral Home, China Twp.

Memorials in lieu of flowers may be made to the Marine City Football Program or Marine City Little League. To leave a message of comfort please visit [www.youngcolonial.com](http://www.youngcolonial.com)



# Events

**James Alan LaBuhn**

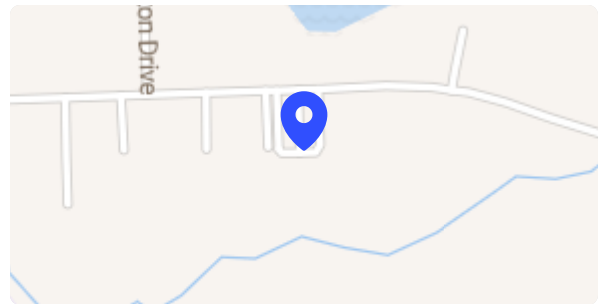
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## Visitation

**Saturday**, May 23, 2015

2:00 PM - 5:00 PM ET

**Young Colonial Chapel Funeral Home, Inc.**  
4061 Saint Clair Hwy, East China MI 48054

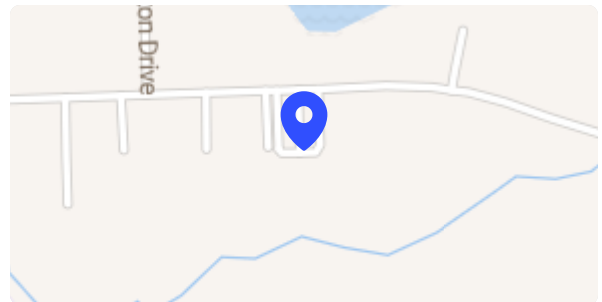


## Visitation

**Sunday**, May 24, 2015

2:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET

**Young Colonial Chapel Funeral Home, Inc.**  
4061 Saint Clair Hwy, East China MI 48054

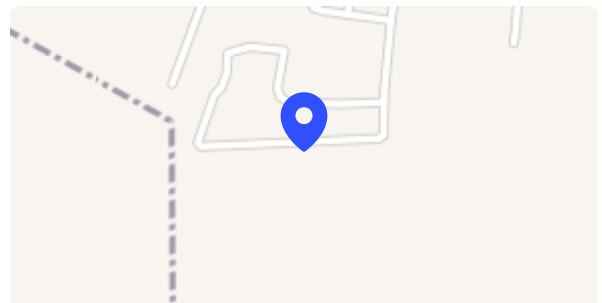


## Service

**Monday**, May 25, 2015

1:00 PM ET

**East China Stadium**  
1585 Meisner Rd., East China Twp. MI 48054



## Cemetery Details

Cremation



## Tribute Wall

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VB

**Valencia Brooks** lit a candle in honor of James.

Jim was always the same as when I first met him, friendly, outgoing, funny, always full of energy, he was a great person. I feel blessed to have known him. To the family I send my sincere condolences. Valencia Brooks

June 1 at 9:33 AM



GW

**Gordie Wilczynski** posted:

Jimmy LaBuhn was the tiger of Mount Clemens, I considered him a good friend and we often talked about fire safety, arson investigation and his beloved Spartans. He will be missed by many, many friends. No one who ever met Jimmy has forgotten him. Rest in Peace, Jim. Heaven now is a better place.

May 26 at 6:19 PM

TI

**Ted And Judy Iselli** posted:

We were so shocked to hear about Jim's passing. We lived across the street from Jim and Janet in the 70's and attended all the parties they hosted. We always had a blast. Jim and Janet were great neighbors and Jim was always available with a smile whenever we needed help with anything. He loved getting everyone on the street together for every occasion. He was a great guy in every aspect, the nicest person to everyone and a very hard working guy involved in everything. Our deepest condolences to Janet and all their children and all his other family and friends. He will be deeply missed. Ted and Judy Iselli

May 26 at 3:04 PM

KR

**Kristy** posted:

So sorry to hear about Mr. LaBuhn's passing. I remembering him hanging out with my dad, Jack Geier, in the garage... talking for hours with all the other fire buddies. I am sure they are all smiling and sharing stories once again! My condolences to the family. Kristy (Geier) Taormina

May 26 at 5:23 AM



## Tribute Wall

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AK

**Allan Klann** posted:

What a shock it was to hear of Jim passing away way too soon.. The picture in obit is how I remember him always a smile and an enjoyment of life. I had the pleasure to attend quite a few classes and training with him. He always made us all feel welcome. A genuine fun loving down to earth person.. Dedicated to the fire service. May he rest in peace. Allan Klann ret. FM WarrenFD

May 25 at 6:04 AM

RT

**Robert J. Trenkle** posted:

I've known Jim since he was a young inspector with Mt. Clemens F.D. Was with him at one of his first fire investigations. He was probably the most likeable human being I have ever known. I never heard him ever say a bad work about anyone. He was an exceptionally hard worker and a fantastic planner and leader. He will be greatly missed by the entire community who knew him.  
From Bob Trenkle

May 25 at 5:15 AM

AK

**Andrew Kapusta, Jr.** posted:

Jim, I am glad to say you were a friend of mine. A warm and friendly handshake and smile was always your calling card. I am glad we met while I was a deputy sheriff with Macomb County. God Bless and Rest in Peace.

May 25 at 1:04 AM

BB

**Brian Beauchamp** posted:

What a sad day for all of us that grew up with Jim and shared so many wonderful, fun sporty escapades-a really great guy passing way too early. Love to the family from us both-Brian Beauchamp and Stephane

May 24 at 7:47 PM

VY

**Verbon Yancy** posted:

There are few people you meet for the first time and feel comfortable, accepted, like family or even better than that. Jim was that person. Knowledgeable, generous, kind and caring, one of the best I have known. You will be missed. Rest in peace my friend. Verbon Yancy, Retired Chief, MCVFD-3

May 24 at 6:03 PM



# Tribute Wall

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**Casey Ernst** posted:

When I think of Mr. Labuhn, I always think of a man who was a blast to be around! Many of my best memories from my childhood involve spending time with my dad and Mr. Labuhn. From the softball tournaments to the high school football games, spending time with Jim was always fun. From one Spartan fan to another, God bless you, Mr. Labuhn and my prayers go out to you and your family. Go Green!Love,Casey and Jaclyn Ernst

May 24 at 3:28 PM



**Charles DeBruyne** posted:

To a very dear friend that I had the pleasure of knowing for 35 years. We had lots of laughs and fond memories as we traveled and vacationed together, especially on the softball tournaments.. Your humor and friendship will be missed, but your memories will be with me forever. My condolences to your family and friends, RIP my brother Jim !!Charles DeBruyne, SCSPD, Retired

May 24 at 8:26 AM



**Sharon L. Young** posted:

I knew Jim through IAAI. He always had a smile and kind words. He was so gentlemanly. In one of the more recent May Training schools, he invited me to sit with he and his wife so I would not be unaccompanied. He will be a person who is missed from here on. Sending prayers and blessings to his family on this very sad occasion.Sincerely,Sharon L. Young

May 24 at 8:22 AM



**Sharon L. Young** May 24 at 8:25 AM

P.S. He did a great job at the Pizza eating contest at the Capital One Bowl in Orlando too.



**Kip Reaves (Retired Fire Chief)** lit a candle in honor of James.

So very sorry to hear of Jim's passing. He was a good guy. May he rest in peace

May 24 at 7:53 AM





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TH

**Ted Hendrick** posted:

We all grew up together in the neighborhood from Kindergarten through High School. I always remember Jimmy as a fun loving quick witted guy. A big teddy bear who was like a big brother to all his friends. I use to see him occasionally at the Police Academy whenever I went for recertification classes. I will always miss Jimmy's enthusiasm and happy go lucky spirit. God Bless my Friend.Ted Hendrick

May 24 at 5:43 AM

DJ

**Darek A. Jones** sent a Country Basket Blooms to the LaBuhn family.



May 24 at 3:48 AM

MB

**Melissa Chisholm Barber** posted:

Jim was the best kind of man and will be missed by many. He was generous and thoughtful and was a great friend to my family. I am grateful to have known him.

May 23 at 6:51 PM

FM

**Frank Matthews** posted:

Jimmy was one of the best guys I ever have known, he could be serious and humorous at the same time once he became your friend he was there for ever. I met Jim at the Fire Inspectors School back in 1984 he was my room mate for a couple of weeks what a great time was had by the whole group of great guys and when we went to dinner one night and Jim met Capt. Bill Rusinski wow wish I could tell you the story but maybe another time and and when you got him and John Wiekert together Katie bar the door. He will greatly missed through out the Fire Fighting Community God Bless your Family Buddy.

May 23 at 4:54 PM

RD

**Rosann Dreske** posted:

Dear Brian, Matt and Family, We are so deeply sorry for the loss of Jim. He was a great man and next-door neighbor to us on Meadow Lane. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.Love, George & Rosann Dreske & Family

May 23 at 2:45 PM



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AW

**Aj Wilson** posted:

In the three years that I managed the International Association of Arson Investigators (2007-2010) I had the pleasure of getting to know Jim. He was not only a wonderful leader and ambassador for the Michigan Chapter but was a man that was delightful to know. I regret that we have lost such a wonderful person. My condolences to his wife and family. AJ Wilson, IAAI Executive Director retired.

May 23 at 10:38 AM

GU

**Gary & Michelle Urbanczyk** posted:

We have known Jim for almost 40 years. During that time we have come to know him as extremely generous, funny and thoughtful. But the tie that bound us was our love of Michigan State Football. We went to games together, through thick and thin and loved everything about MSU. We will deeply miss Jim and his contagious personality and love for his kids and grandchildren. We know that Jim was going through a rough period over the last year, especially the last few months. It was deeply regrettable that he passed during a golf outing, but in a way fitting that he was with his friends in doing things he loved. There will not be another Jim LaBuhn. We were very happy and blessed to know him. Gary & Michelle Urbanczyk

May 23 at 9:41 AM

NC

**Nancy Cole** posted:

Our families, the LaBuhn's and Ladensack's have always been close for more than 60 years since Michael and I were in K-garten...we both had 3 siblings and Jimmy La Buhn and my brother Jimmy were the best of friends for many years til the end...Our families have both lost our Mother's and a brother and for the LaBuhn family their father. Memories and love and a celebration of this wonderful Jim...

May 23 at 8:11 AM

RK

**Robert Kramer** sent a virtual gift in honor of James.

Jim was a great friend who was always fun to be with. Once at a seminar in Florida he took security's hat and impersonated a WWF wrestler. I will miss you Sgt. Slaughter. Michigan's loss is Heaven's gain.

May 23 at 7:39 AM





## Tribute Wall

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**Tim Galvin** posted:

We will miss Jim everyday and his friendship. Jim was a true Mariner and Spartan. Jim touched and helped many people. God Bless Jim and his family. Sincerely, Tim and Karen Galvin

May 23 at 5:47 AM



**Terri, Wesley, And Logan** posted:

We will always be grateful for knowing him, and I know he will be incredibly missed, our prayers are with you! Thank you Papa Jim for the Disney memories! He was a great man, father, and grandfather....generous, kind, and a friend to everyone. Terri, Wesley, and Logan

May 23 at 5:32 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the LaBuhn family.



May 23 at 4:56 AM



**Dennis Ladd** posted:

Jim was a great friend we traveled a lot together no matter where we went he knew someone. He was a larger than life person and when he walked in a room without trying he seemed to be in control of the room. Missing him does not come close to what we as his friends will feel he has left a big hole in our hearts. God Bless his family. YOUR FRIENDS FOREVER DENNIS & MARSHA LADD

May 23 at 3:42 AM



**Donald & Jennifer Hinkson** posted:

Lord God, almighty Father, you have made the cross for us a sign of strength and marked us as yours in the sacrament of the resurrection. Now that you have freed our brother, James from this mortal life make him one with your saints in heaven. Lord of mercy hear our prayer. May our brother James, whom you called your son on earth, enter the kingdom of peace and light, where your saints live in glory. The sadness of death gives way to the bright promise of immortality. When the body of our earthly dwelling lies in death we gain an everlasting dwelling place in heaven. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your son.

May 23 at 3:10 AM



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**Gerald Warkentien** posted:

You are a dear friend and I will miss you. Jerry Warkentien

May 23 at 2:46 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses to the LaBuhn family.



May 23 at 12:57 AM



**Pierre** posted:

Jeannine, During this time, please be mindful that God understands and feels your pain and sorrow, and weeps with you and your family. But remember, He will be by your side, to be your rock and your comforter. Your Dad is on his new journey with the Lord, and he is well, he is whole and having a ball. As long as you have him in your heart, he will always have his arms around you. The smiles and laughter will return. Just Believe. Praying For You and Your Family, Nicole & PP

May 22 at 5:48 PM



**Corey Ernst** posted:

Jim was like a member of our family for more than 30 years. He was the cool uncle that we would meet up with every year for the high school championships in Pontiac, Tiger games, and every Metro Macomb softball tournament. There is not enough space to truly explain the impact he had on so many lives, especially mine. Jim was a friend to all, respected and treasured for his friendship and loyalty. The thought of a world with out Jim is one that won't be as happy, but we who knew him are better for knowing him and having him in our lives. My deepest sympathy go out to his family. He was a great man who I will miss dearly. Corey Ernst

May 22 at 5:17 PM



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**Jim Tuller** posted:

Jim was a great friend who I came to know through the Basic School at the Kett Center in Tustin several years ago, My wife Cheri and I stayed at his home as guests when in the area for teaching and meetings from time to time. He was a gracious host who would never let me pay for a Gar burger or anything else. When visiting he would tour Cheri and I around St. Clair showing us the sights and telling us about all of the mischief he and his schoolmates got into. Everywhere we would go, he knew people who were always happy to see him. I lost a dinner bet regarding a bridge with his family's name on it. Of course, he insisted on buying dinner that time too. After visiting, I always came home with a sweatshirt or some other gift. He was a very sincere, giving and caring person. I've met some really great people through Jim whose friendship I value and appreciate. I wish I would have met him a lot earlier to have known him longer.(Chief) Jim & Cheri Tuller, Traverse City.

May 22 at 4:36 PM



**Mike Vandeginste** posted:

My most sincere condolences to Jim's family and close friends. My wife and I shared many a laugh and good time with Jim while playing with the Macomb Metro Police Softball Club. Mike Vandeginste, Inspector Grosse Pointe Woods DPS(retired)

May 22 at 4:22 PM



**Georgeann Belanger** sent a virtual gift in honor of James.

An extraordinarily awesome gentleman, friend, father and son. Jim will remain in our memories forever. May Our Lord take Jim into the Eternal Kingdom and forever hold him in peace and comfort. God Bless the friends and family of this outstanding Gentleman. Jim LaBuhn, you will be missed forever and a day.  
Georgeann (Klieman) Belanger



May 22 at 3:27 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the LaBuhn family.



May 22 at 12:07 PM



# Tribute Wall

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**Roxann Fatchett-Harrington** posted:

Dear LaBuhn family~I told Jeannine: my heart is completely broken. Jim was so funny, kind, sweet, fabulous and larger than life in every single thing he was involved in and our world was made better with him in it...and it will never ever be the same again without him. I cannot begin to imagine the sadness you are feeling. Jim's love for his family and friends was immeasurable. My love to everyone, now and always. xoxo, Rox (aka Roxann Fatchett-Harrington)

May 22 at 11:26 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Secret Garden Basket to the LaBuhn family.



May 22 at 10:30 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the LaBuhn family.



May 22 at 10:08 AM



**Darek Jones** lit a candle in honor of James.



May 22 at 9:19 AM



**Ken Doroh** May 25 at 1:23 PM

Jim was always a trusted Friend and will be greatly missed.I have known Jim thru my Carrier as a Full Time Fire Lieutenant and Investigator.As a Investigator for Herndon & Assoc. Jim was always there to help ..God has 2 of our best with Jim and Dale Hardy they are probably working on things in heavenTo the family may God Bless you during these time Jim will be missed.Respectfully Kenneth L. Doroh CFIHerndon & Assoc.



**Darek Jones** May 22 at 9:22 AM

With our deepest sympathy, our thoughts and prayers are with you, your family, and your friends. Jim, you will truly be missed and never forgotten



## Tribute Wall

**James Alan LaBuhn**  
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**Anonymous** sent a Strength & Solace Spray to the LaBuhn family.

May 22 at 8:44 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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