



James Michael Gaffney Sr.

OCT 27, 1927 - FEB 18, 2026



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James Michael Gaffney Sr.

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James Michael Gaffney, Sr., 98, of North Olmsted, peacefully passed away surrounded by family February 18, 2026. Born October 27, 1927 in Cleveland, “Red” was raised in North Royalton. After graduating from James Ford Rhodes High School in 1945, he was drafted into the U.S. Army in early ‘46 and served in the Panama Canal Zone. He was a talented basketball player in high school, the military, and at Baldwin Wallace College in Berea, from where he earned a bachelor’s in business. After a 40-year career in sales and purchasing with Cleveland Builders Supply Co., he retired in 1991. Mr. Gaffney was an avid reader who enjoyed swimming, playing bridge and classical music. He traveled extensively with wife Dorothy, visiting Paris, London, Rome, Russia, Jekyll Island, gardens of the south, and adventuring a train trip throughout the West and a cruise of the Caribbean.

James is survived by his children Robin Frank, James Michael Jr., Timothy and Terence (Heather) Gaffney; 10 grandchildren; 17 great grandchildren; 3 great-great grandchildren; many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 57 years, Dorothy (née Nowak); parents Lois (née Bratton) and William Gaffney; son-in-law Tony Frank; sisters Patricia, Noreen and Kathleen.

Private graveside inurnment will take place on February 27, 2026 at Evergreen Cemetery in Westlake. The family will host a celebration of life in June.



Events

James Michael Gaffney Sr.

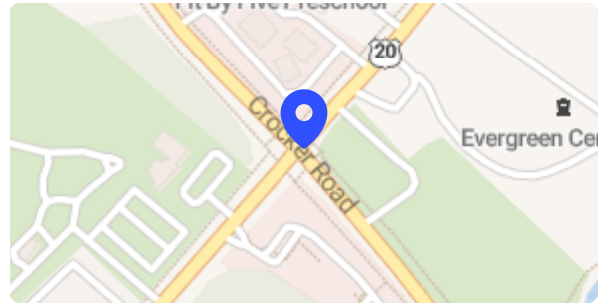
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Cemetery Details



Evergreen Cemetery

Corner of Crocker & Center Ridge Rd., Westlake





Tribute Wall

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KB

Kathy Bogner posted:

Hal and I cherished our friendship with Jim as I know his many friends would agree. Jim was smart, witty(always a joke to share), kind, and always competitive at the bridge table. We enjoyed many good times.He will be greatly missed.Our sympathy to his family.Hal and Kathy Bogner

February 22 at 7:32 AM

NG

Nancy Gavin February 26 at 11:45 AM

Jim was a friend and I enjoyed being with him. My deceased husband, Joe and I used to have dinner with our special friends, Nancy and Jim. He loved playing bridge and was very knowledgeable about sports and many other things. He was always fun and had good stories to share. I will never forget my great memories of Jim and miss him.

BN

Bev Neuman February 24 at 3:47 PM

Jim was a very special person and I thoroughly enjoyed his company. He loved musicals and singing. We went to Wooster a number of times to see plays. Also enjoyed dinners and playing bridge with him and Nancy. He was a great person and friend

NB

Nancy A Bowman February 24 at 5:52 AM

Jim and I were good friends for almost 10 years - we enjoyed the theatre, music, movies, plays and dinners out. I am missing him and his wonderful sense of humor. He was always able to make all of us in his extended family laugh - We all enjoyed his company. and his quick wit. Many of our bridge friends have been calling and sharing their stories and sympathy. He will be missed around the bridge tables by many also. May he rest in peace! Love to his family
Nancy Bowman



Memories only last if you share them

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



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