



James "Jack" Reed

November 2, 1932 - September 21, 2024

James A. "Jack" Reed, Sr., age 91, of Gratz, passed away on September 21, 2024, at his home. He was born in Gratz on November 2, 1932, a son of the late Iva A. (Troutman) Reed and the late Marlin S. Reed, Sr. Jack was the retired owner of James A. Reed Funeral Home, Pillow and Reed's Fine Furniture, Gratz. He was a member of Good Shepherd EC Church, Gratz, Gideon's International, and a Gratz Fair Board member. He enjoyed traveling, going out to eat, playing cards and spending time with his family and friends.

Jack is survived by two sons, James A. (Cathy) Reed Jr., William A. Reed; a daughter, Pamela K. (Dave) Snyder; grandson, James (Megan) Reed III; three granddaughters, Jennifer Reed, Abigail Conrad, Taylor Conrad; one great-granddaughter, Hanna Reed; and a brother, Marlin Reed, Jr. He was preceded in death by his wife, Eleanor L. (Starr) Reed, brothers, William Reed and Joseph Reed, sisters, Betty Headdings and Polly Bonawitz.

A viewing will be held on Friday, September 27, 2024 from 10:00 am to 11:00 am at James A. Reed Funeral Home, Pillow. Funeral Service will be held on Friday, September 27, 2024, at 11:00 am at the James A. Reed Funeral Home, Pillow. Interment will take place in the Gratz Union Cemetery, Gratz.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Gideon's International or to Good Sheppard EC Church.

Cemetery Details

Gratz Union Cemetery

173 N Center St
Gratz, PA 17030

Previous Events

Viewing

SEP 27. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

James A. Reed Funeral Home
137 Market St
Pillow, PA 17080

Funeral Service

SEP 27. 11:00 AM (ET)

James A. Reed Funeral Home
137 Market St
Pillow, PA 17080

Tribute Wall

PL

“ *Patti Lower lit a candle in memory of James "Jack" Reed*



Patti Lower - October 02, 2024 at 02:33 PM

AG

“ *Bill, Jim, Pam & family's
So sorry for your loss. Jack was
Such a nice man and had a great personality
He will be missed.
Ann & Carole*

Ann Grose - September 27, 2024 at 01:30 PM

AP

“ *I remember when my parents sold our childhood home, and my brother and I were in the attic having a good cry, Jack came up and had a good cry with us. He showed us what empathy looks like. Uncle Jack had the best hugs and a heart of gold, peace and love.*

Andrea Perez - September 26, 2024 at 11:45 PM

DP

“ *Jack always made me feel like part of the family, even though he called me Nixon instead of Dixon. I know he was teasing. He was a good man.*

Dixon Perez - September 26, 2024 at 11:39 PM

SL

“ *Our sincere condolences to Jack's family.
Suzette & Glenn Leitzel*



Suzette & Glenn Leitzel - September 25, 2024 at 02:19 PM

CB

“ *Carla Bohner lit a candle in memory of James
"Jack" Reed*



Carla Bohner - September 24, 2024 at 08:43 AM

MK

“ *Condolences to Jack's family. I got to know Jack thru the Gideons International. He was instrumental in growing the ministry in Pa. He was a mentor, and a friend. We had good times together. That if thou shall confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in thine our heart that God has raised him from the dead, though shalt be saved. Romans 10:9 Mitch Keath, Lebanon East Gideons International.*

Mitch Keath - September 23, 2024 at 09:07 PM

FR

“ *Family of Marlin (Budd) Reed purchased the Full
Of Love Bouquet for the family of James "Jack"
Reed.*



Family of Marlin (Budd) Reed - September 23, 2024 at 06:42 PM

YF

“ Your Koppys Propane Family purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of James "Jack" Reed.



Your Koppys Propane Family - September 23, 2024 at 03:30 PM

YF

“ Your Koppys Propane Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James "Jack" Reed.

Your Koppys Propane Family - September 23, 2024 at 03:30 PM

RS

“ Jack will be remembered as a man after God's own heart. Jack was a great encouragement to me and my family when we had the privilege of serving as the pastor of Good Shepherd EC Church. Jack and Ellie had us in their home and did all they could to encourage us along as a young couple in ministry. Jack served the Evangelical Congregational Church for many years as a Lay Delegate and on other committees. Jack was always well respected and appreciated by the greater EC family. We thank God for his love, generous spirit and integrity.
-Randy Sizemore, Bishop

Randall Sizemore - September 23, 2024 at 08:27 AM

BR

“ As these days pass, I am remembering fun times I had with Jack, Eleanor and his brother Budd (Marlin II). Including many nights of table games, a late night trip to Harrisburg for a hamburger and standing in a long line in the cold, in DC, to pay tribute to JFK. Also one Easter, the entire Reed family was present to take communion together at a local church. Bonita Reed

Bonita Reed - September 22, 2024 at 10:17 PM

LH

“ Love Rick and Karen Headdings purchased the Love's Journey for the family of James "Jack" Reed.



Love Rick and Karen Headdings - September 22, 2024 at 05:13 PM

JB

“ It has been an honor and privilege to know Jack Reed, a superlative man of God, for the last 59 years. Jack and Eleanore committed their lives to serving God fully and faithfully in every way they could. Although best known as a funeral director, Jack also managed both retail furniture/flooring and propane service businesses. In the church, Jack assumed leadership roles early and continued for as many years as he was able. As a Gideon, Jack contributed time and resources to support the spread of Gods word as widely as possible.

Jack's Christianity was apparent to anyone who got to know him. It is an understatement to say that although Jack's Christianity was deep and strong, Jack's love and concern for everyone he encountered was sincere, kind and loving. Whether running his businesses, providing leadership in the church, or socializing in his community, Jack was loving, generous and gracious.

I got to know Jack initially as a teenager in the Gratz E. C. Church, and as a result, also observed his generous, gracious and loving kindness in many other contexts, including the Herndon Campmeeting, The Gratz Fair, Church Delegate to Conference, and as a customer and collaborative worker in multiple programs. Jack also played a key role in establishing The Good Sheperd Church for the combined congregations of the former Gratz, Berrysburg and Pillow Pastoral Charge. During the restart and unification of that new church, Jack was a pragmatic visionary, stabilizing leader, untiring worker and contributor.

In every context, Jack was always known and respected as a highly generous contributor and dependable supporter. Jack's whole-hearted integrity, practical and true spirituality, and kind generosity set a standard I could admire throughout my entire life. Thank God for Jack and the exemplary life he lived!

James Bean

James Bean - September 22, 2024 at 02:38 PM

VF

“ Our condolences to all the Reed family and friends. Jack was a truly nice man & good friend to so many. He was so kind & caring and always made you smile. We will remember all the happy times shared with Jack.

Vincent & Evelyn Shepley & family - September 22, 2024 at 09:30 AM

PB

“ Jack was always a perfect gentleman. I always enjoyed him in our evening church services. He will be missed in the Gratz community.
Pastor Bubb

Pastor Bubb - September 22, 2024 at 09:26 AM

LS

“ Condolences to the family and friends. We got to know the Reeds through the Gideons meetings. We have many happy memories of the 2 "Jacks". Jack Altland and Jack Reed. He was also a part of funerals of family. He liked to tell jokes and "prank" us. He will be missed.

Les and Louise Stence - September 22, 2024 at 08:20 AM

DM

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the Reed family.

Dale Mace - September 22, 2024 at 07:51 AM



“ I have no words now for my cousins. My love and prayers are with you Jim, Bill, and Pam. I will be in touch. I loved my uncle Jack as only you can understand.

Stewart Reed - September 21, 2024 at 10:30 PM

PZ

“ Sending my deepest sympathy and prayers for the entire family. I am so very sorry for the loss of your dad and grandfather

Patti Zerby - September 21, 2024 at 09:02 PM

SS

“ Sending our condolences to the Reed family, May Jack rest in peace, wonderful friend!

Shirley J. Schreffler - September 21, 2024 at 07:36 PM

BB

“ Rest in Peace Jack. Many memories at the Gratz Fair, always made us laugh. He will be missed.



Brenda Bower - September 21, 2024 at 05:11 PM

AL

“ Rest in peace Jack you were a good friend all my life uncle to my late wife Dee you will missed again RIP

Allen leitzel - September 21, 2024 at 04:23 PM

KB

“ Kim Lauver Bower lit a candle in memory of James "Jack" Reed



Kim Lauver Bower - September 21, 2024 at 04:21 PM

TM

“ *Tim Matter sent a virtual gift in memory of James "Jack" Reed*



Tim Matter - September 21, 2024 at 04:13 PM

PK

“ *Sincere condolences to the entire family what a nice man, our prayers are with you 🙏*

Patsy Klouser - September 21, 2024 at 03:57 PM