



# James "Jim" Stoner

SEP 21, 1960 - JUL 10, 2013



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## **James "Jim" Stoner**

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**J**im Stoner, born September 21, 1960, passed away too soon on July 10, 2013 of a heart attack. Raised on a farm in Buchanan Michigan, Jim graduated from Graceland College in Lamoni Iowa where he met his future wife of 29 years DeAnn DeLong. They ultimately moved to San Mateo, California where they raised their three beautiful children. Jim was a devoted father, very active in his children's activities and family adventures. He coached Delaney and Jordan's softball teams, taking both girls and several teams to Nationals. He continued coaching after the girls retired and became the President of the San Mateo Youth Softball Association. He also coached Luke's teams in the American Youth Soccer Organization. In his 25 years running JRS Bookkeeping, Jim could often be found bicycle commuting to his clients' locations throughout the Bay Area. Along with his wife, DeAnn, daughters Delaney and Jordan and son Luke, he is also survived by 3 siblings, Ruth Smith (Deb Sloan) of Independence, Mo, Dr. Janis Stoner (William Gekakis) of Hillsborough, CA, Bob Stoner (Steve Haught) of Oak Park, Il, and numerous nieces and nephews. A celebration of Jim's life will take place Thursday, July 18, 2013, at Skylawn Funeral Home, Hwy 92 at Skyline Blvd, San Mateo, CA 94402. The family will receive guests at 5 PM prior to the celebration at 6pm. In honor of Jim's dress style, casual attire is encouraged. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made into the James R Stoner Memorial Fund dedicated to creating a commuter bicycle related memorial in San Mateo; Wells Fargo, Account Number: 1412766873, 100 E. 4th St, San Mateo, CA 94401



## Tribute Wall

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BW

**Beth Walsh** posted:

I only met Jim a few times and am sad to hear of his passing. He seemed to be a caring man, very much committed to his family. Be at peace Mr Stoner. Your family loved you. Beth Walsh

December 7 at 6:18 AM

TR

**Tim Roehm** posted:

I just received a notice from Jayson Benanti about Jim's passing. I am stunned. I first met Jim when Delaney and my daughter Rebecca were in fourth grade together and I encouraged Jim to help me coach the Wildcats. He was very enthusiastic and completely committed. We were blessed with a great group of girls and ultimately won the SMYSA championship (2001). Jim was a joy to coach with as he always came up with insights that were new and innovative (and effective, I should add!) and I'm sure I taught him a few things that helped him. It is with a heavy heart that I acknowledge his passing. He will surely be missed by many!

July 28 at 6:28 AM

TR

**Tim Roehm** posted:

Courtney: such wonderful comments about Jim. I just found out about his passing today (July 27). Jim & I coached the Wildcats in 2001; we had such a great time together. He was wonderful. And I remember you when you were on a team with my daughter Rebecca. Hope all is well with you! Tim Roehm

July 28 at 6:17 AM



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CM

**Caitlin Mccann** posted:

As mentioned by a few others, I was also coached by Jim. In my time playing for him on the Slammers, we went to St. Louis for Nationals. Like many of the other girls on the team, that week was one to remember. I'll never forget blasting "Car Wash" any time we were in the team van. But my favorite thing about Coach Stoner was that he always believed in us. I can remember being up at bat, swinging at a bad pitch and turning to look down at the 3rd base box, dreading the reaction I was about to get. But every time he would point to his head and say with an encouraging smile, "good idea!" He always saw the positive no matter what we did. Although that doesn't mean he didn't demand a lot of us. As ten year olds, we learned a lot from Jim. I can remember running multiple laps even before practice had started. He had a vision and he knew how to get there, we just needed to put in the effort. The skills and lessons that I learned from Jim are things I still use today. He taught us that hard work, determination, and sacrifice would get us to where we wanted to go. But most importantly, he brought us together as a unit. Players, coaches, parents, siblings; we were all a part of the Slammers and we need to work together to achieve our goal. Overall, Jim was an amazing coach and played a crucial role in my growth as a softball player, but more importantly, as a person. My heart goes out to DeAnn, Delaney, Jordan, Luke and the rest of the Stoner family. Jim was wonderful person. He was cherished and will be missed by all who knew him.

July 18 at 12:02 PM

MD

**Melissa DeLong** posted:

Jim was always a comrade when a DeLong reunion took place. Us outlaws needed to stick together and he was a breath of fresh air. I enjoyed a good talk on politics, especially when a DeLong was in earshot! LOL. Thanks for the memories Jim and thanks for speaking to me through the song "The Other Side". I'm glad we were able to party in Napa last October as it was a great time and a memory we will cherish!

July 17 at 3:06 PM

ML

**M. Luzzy** posted:

I knew the Stoner family the whole time the kids were growing up. Jim was the cutest little boy ever! To this day I judge every little boy against little Jim. And he was so sweet too! Love M. Luzzy

July 17 at 7:11 AM



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BO

**Brigid Oddy** posted:

I wish we lived closer together so we could have seen the Stoner family more. Jim was always my uncle—I can't remember a family event without him. It was always him and DeAnn out playing with the cousins at grandma's house. I'll always remember his huge smile and how quick to laugh he was—he was always so full of life! Love to the Stoners! Thinking of you everyday...Love, Brigid

July 17 at 6:43 AM

DN

**Drea Nelson** posted:

Your dad was one of the best coaches I've ever had! He taught me everything I needed to know to grow as a player from the Lions all the way up to Aragon. He pushed me to be the best player that I could be and even helped to perfect my bunting skills. I wouldn't have wanted to spend summer after summer with any other coach, even after all of the conditioning and fruit eating practices we had! Not only was he an amazing coach but he is an incredible person! He was always so personable and you could always count on him to make you laugh and put that smile on your face! Even though we haven't been the closest lately, and I haven't seen Jim since our senior prom, the memories and the love were always there! Your father (along with the helps of some others) created a little softball family and I am so grateful that I got to be apart of it! With Love, Drea

July 17 at 6:23 AM

FW

**Frederick Williams** posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this rough time... Fred Williams & family

July 17 at 6:23 AM

VP

**Vince Piña** posted:

Just wanted to share a memory I had of your dad that always stayed with me. Every year on valentines day your Dad would hand deliver something special for Jordan, Delaney, and Luke at Curious Kids. He never forgot and that stayed with me. I told myself if I ever had kids, that I would copy what he did. It was so nice to see how much he loved his kids. He took the time to leave work go to the store I buy balloons and a stuffed animal then bring it to you guys and hug and kiss you. I've been teaching almost 20 years and no other parent has ever done that. That was a special moment that I remember about your Dad. He will truly be missed!!!! Vince Piña

July 17 at 4:30 AM



## Tribute Wall

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**Tori Lovell** posted:

I have many memories of Jim Stoner from out on the softball field from the crazy conditioning, to shaving his beard half way off to jamin' to the song car wash in our team van. First thing I would have to say that that man was CRAZY, but a great coach. I played for Jim for the all star teams when Jordan and I played SMYSA. I always bring Jim up when we talk about softball just because of the things he made us do. At first we thought that he was crazy or joking when he said things sometimes but he was dead serious. I will never forget being on his all-star team and training for nationals that would take place in St Louis, Missouri and he made us run with our practice clothes on and a sweatshirt and sweats over it around the field (it wasn't cold out either it was really hot). He also told us we had to bring a banana or spinach salad with us and eat it in front of him to help prevent injuries and prove we were eating it. Ya some may say it was extreme but let me tell you that guy produced wins for us and still till this day I tell that story about him. He was just an amazing coach. Another memory I wont forget about Jim is when he decided to just shave half of his beard off, straight down the middle. Poor Jordan she was so embarrassed. He didn't care what others thought. He just wanted us to play the best we could and win. He told us that he would shave the other half off when we won. Jim being my softball coach he taught me many great things about softball, but he also taught me things to take on with me throughout life. He was a person that hated when people came late to practice or games. I will never forget him telling us "if your on time your late; If your early you on time". If you were late according to Jim then you ran to the scoreboard and back. Still to this day I think about that. And believe it or not, now I hate being late. I live by that rule he taught me when I was 10 and still tell people that. I just could go on and on with how many memories I have from playing ball back when I was younger with Jim as my coach. He really had impacted me when I was younger in such great ways. Whenever the song car wash comes on I think about Jim and that season. I will never forget Jlm and even though he is gone, his memories will always be alive in my heart.

July 16 at 3:43 PM



## Tribute Wall

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CL

**Courtney Louie** posted:

Your dad, Jim, was a great man and a great coach. My mom reminded me that after each game he would ask us "Did they beat us? Or did we beat ourselves?" He was able to really help us concentrate on not just winning and losing, but playing our personal bests and being the best versions of ourselves. He was so incredibly dedicated to helping the team move forward. I remember when we had to run laps with our jackets on to prepare us for Missouri. I honestly loved going to practice every day because he was such a fun and fair coach. We always knew exactly why we were doing something and how it would help us. And he was such a nice, fun man to be around. I remember when I slept over at your house one time, we played some card game that involved a lot of shouting and trading, it was so fun! I don't even know how that game really worked but it was fun because your dad made it fun. He was always very welcoming as we spent nights at your house and I am so sorry to hear he has passed away. I will try to remember more stories and send them to you as they come to me!! Stay strong, I love you!! Courtney

July 17 at 3:47 AM

DD

**Denise Day** posted:

Oh, I am soooooo sorry to hear of your loss. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers! much too young to leave us. God Bless you Stoners!!!!!!!

July 17 at 3:28 AM

SF

**Sue Fitz** posted:

Jim was one heck of a nice guy all through our high school years. The world needs more people like Jim. so sorry for your loss. I bet he was one fun Dad! God Bless.

July 17 at 2:37 AM

MM

**Mike Marazita** posted:

Dear Cousins, We are so sorry for your (and our) loss. Since I didn't really know Jim as an adult my memories are confined to his childhood; holidays/picnics at the farm,our apple fights in the barn, snowmobiling, board games at Uncle Melvin's and Aunt Olive's, playing football at our house (Jim was pretty good), and baseball.We'll all miss Jim. Love. Mike & Susie Marazita

July 17 at 1:02 AM



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**Michelle Matias** posted:

DeAnn, Delaney, Jordan and luke, Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family, at this very difficult time...So sorry for your loss. The Matias Family

July 16 at 3:43 PM



# **Memories only last if you share them**

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



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