



James R. Fox Jr.

October 7, 1947 - May 21, 2022

James R. Fox, Jr., 74, of Murrysville, PA., passed away on Saturday, May 21, 2022. Jim was born on October 7, 1947, to James R. Fox Sr. and Jean (Conway) Fox. Jim grew up in Pitcairn, PA., where he still has many friends. Jim was the founder of the Fox's Pizza Den franchise which he started in 1971. His first store was located in Pitcairn, PA. He built his first pizza oven from parts he found in a junk yard. He was one of the first pizza makers in Allegheny County to offer the concept of pizza delivery. His ingenuity, hard work and business mind led to that small store becoming several small stores and today the Fox's Pizza chain spans 22 states and over 200 franchises. Jim loved his franchisees very much and considered each one a part of the "Fox Family." He was a very friendly man and loved to chat with everyone he met. His greeting of "Hey buddy! How ya doin!" will be greatly missed. On August 22, 1977, Jim married Joyce Gross, she survives. Also surviving is his son, James R. Fox, III. and his wife, Deana, of Murrysville, PA., a granddaughter, Lola and a sister, Judy Crosby. Friends will be received on Tuesday, May 24th from 6-9 p.m. and Wednesday, May 25th from 2-4 & 6-9 p.m. at the GENE H. CORL FUNERAL CHAPEL AND CREMATION SERVICES OF MONROEVILLE, 4335 Northern Pike (412-372-2100). Funeral service at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 26, 2022, at the funeral chapel. Entombment following in Restland Memorial Park. Memorial contributions may be made to Children's Hospital at: UPMC Children's Hospital Foundation, P.O. Box 535240, Pittsburgh, PA. 15253-9926. Condolences may be made at www.corlf

uneralchapel.com.

Cemetery Details

Restland Memorial Park

990 Patton St. Ext.
Monroeville, PA 15146

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 24. 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Gene H. Corl Funeral Chapel Inc.
4335 Northern Pike
Monroeville, PA 15146
(412) 372-2100
ghcorl@comcast.net
<https://corlfuneralchapel.com>

Visitation

MAY 25. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Gene H. Corl Funeral Chapel Inc.
4335 Northern Pike
Monroeville, PA 15146
(412) 372-2100
ghcorl@comcast.net
<https://corlfuneralchapel.com>

Visitation

MAY **25**. 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Gene H. Corl Funeral Chapel Inc.
4335 Northern Pike
Monroeville, PA 15146
(412) 372-2100
ghcorl@comcast.net
<https://corlfuneralchapel.com>

Tribute Wall

DV

“ Met Jim one time thru a mutual friend. 20 years later, he approached me with a big smile and a handshake greeting me using my name. Heck of a nice guy. My condolences to the entire Fox family.

Darryl Vasquez - May 28, 2022 at 10:22 AM

PN

“ Jim was a wonderful person, a great friend, and a great business man. He is one of the hardest working and most dedicated individuals I have met in my career. I worked with him and Jimmy for over 20 years. Of the nine states I cover, Jim was one of my top three favorite individuals in the industry. Words that describe him- strong work ethic, kind, generous, loyal friendship, always willing to help someone if he could. Salt of the earth type of guy. I will miss hearing "Hey Buddy" when I walked into the Fox's Office. He always made time to sit and chat and I will miss that too. It is easy to see why he was so successful. Prayers and thoughts were with him constantly as he was trying to recover. My sympathy goes out to Jimmy and the entire Fox Family. Jim will be forever missed and never forgotten. Rest in peace my dear friend.

Pam Neighbors
Brakebush Brothers Inc.

Pam Neighbors - May 26, 2022 at 07:34 AM

JM

“ Our condolences to the Fox Family on Jimmy passing. Jim was a neighbor of ours in Kelly Wood Plum. Jim would patronize our restaurant in Oakmont or we would see him walking the Monroeville Mall. Our prayers go out for Jim. He was a very special person as a neighbor or as a business person.

*The Monaco Family
(Hoffstot's former owner)*

Jerry Monaco - May 25, 2022 at 10:22 PM

MW

“ I didn't know Jim but he sounds like quite the character! He raised money for my son and other victims at Franklin Regional in 2014. We are grateful for that. Coincidentally, my son's girlfriend helped take care of him this past spring but she couldn't tell him of their connection because of HIPPA.

My condolences.

Mary Warwick

Mary Alice Warwick - May 25, 2022 at 01:57 PM

RD

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with Jim's family, friends, and the other den families. We are so fortunate to have known Jim and to be a part of the franchise family. Many prayers with the family as they navigate through the upcoming days. May you rest easily Jim.

----Robin Doolan & the Westernport Fox's Pizza Den Family

Robin Doolan - May 25, 2022 at 12:54 PM

JF

“ I grew up in Plum and have frequented the store on Rt 286. I've moved all over the tri-county area and it always felt like home with a 'Fox's Pizza Den' nearby. Now I'm up in Zelienople and everyday my husband drives our son to school, he insists that they go down "Fox Pizza Road". Funny thing how a pizza shop can bring so many people and memories together. May Mr. Fox rest in peace and my sympathy and prayers for the family.

Jessie Faust - May 24, 2022 at 10:23 PM

LL

“ Our deepest condolences to the family, friends, & Fox's families of Mr. Fox. I met Jim for the first time in Las Vegas at a pizza convention years ago. My husband and I were new franchise owners only in our mid 20's at the time. He immediately made us feel so welcome & offered any advice & help he could. Throughout the past 25 years when we would see him he always made us laugh & asked how our store was doing. A few years back we talked about his son & he was very proud of him. He was a thoughtful, kind man that I had the pleasure of knowing. Prayers to his family during this difficult time.

Lisa Lonas - May 24, 2022 at 06:06 PM

GG

“ Sympathies to the Fox Family. We shared a lot of good Family times over Fox's Pizza Very good Pizza, Thank you!

Gary Glantz - May 24, 2022 at 04:52 PM

RB

“ Our Deepest Sympathy to Jimmy Jr's Family, Friends, The Fox's Pizza Org, and Franchisees' for your loss.

"HEY BUDDY", You will be sorrowfully missed and nobody can compare to the "BIG DADDY" of personality and generosity you shared with the people around you!

Rob & Rose, Steve & Nicole Burns

Jen Nathan

Staff @ Express Press

RBurns - May 24, 2022 at 03:03 PM

JR

“ Sincere condolences to Jim's family and franchise owners. I remember standing in the building that would become Fox's Pizza Den One. We talked while Jim was organizing things and thinking about how to obtain an oven which he felt was essential in the making of a good pizza. He turned to face me and declared he was seriously thinking about franchiseing. I replied " Fox your crazy! How can you possibly compete with the bigger pizza houses." But almost two years later he opened a second shop in Harrison City and things just seemed to take off from there. He offered my wife and I a chance to run that second shop but we both had other jobs and a young baby. We just couldn't make that big of a commitment at the time. Jim was a success because of his larger than life personality. He seemed to know everyone and made strangers feel he had known him forever. He never forgot his friends or his home town. I've known Jim since Highschool and recall many fond memories of all crazy times we spent together along with our other partners in crime. (lol) I eventually met my wife Sandy while Jim and I were hanging out at the original Eat'n Park on Rt. 22 in Monroeville. We've been married 51 years now. I also remember his '64 Impala convertible cruising through the park as we called it. We were about 20 yrs. Old at that time. Boy time flies and when I look back on those times I wonder how we all survived. Rest in peace my dear friend I've prayed for you almost every day since your accident but I guess the good Lord is in need of some good pizza and your the one to make it for Him. Everyone who has ever known you has an empty spot in their hearts at this time.

Jim Reech - May 24, 2022 at 01:33 PM

SJ

“ I worked for Jim back in the mid 70s at his 286 location. I will never forget the prankster he was, putting salt in our drinks and anchovies under our pizza cheese. I always knew something was up when he started giggling. He would let me use his vehicles or go swimming at his house in Plum anytime, that's how generous Jim was. Although I haven't seen Jim in a few years I will miss him dearly. Our condolences to his family and friends from the McDade Family.

Sam McDade jr - May 24, 2022 at 12:34 PM

DS

“ My deepest sympathies to the Fox family. All 3 of my children worked at our local Foxes in Latrobe Pa while they were in highschool and college.



Diane Sheffler - May 24, 2022 at 10:29 AM

PM

“ I am truly at a loss for words! Loved Jim when we used to go to the pizza place in Garden City. We had many laughs and lots of fun. We moved away and I lost touch With him and a lot of friends! He was truly a great guy and will be missed. So sorry for your loss!

Patti Bartels Mcclung - May 24, 2022 at 09:05 AM

PM

“ Patti Bartels Mcclung lit a candle in memory of James R. Fox Jr.



Patti Bartels Mcclung - May 24, 2022 at 08:59 AM

JB

“ My deepest sympathy to the Fox family! My fondest memories are growing up with Jimmy & Judy! The good old days when kids played outside! Jimmy was always there for me like a “big brother”! As an adult I became an owner of a Fox’s Pizza in Florida 20 years ago! Funny, how he was always at the various Gateway class reunions! He was loved by all and is gone way too soon!
Judy Gibson Brumfield

Judy Gibson Brumfield - May 24, 2022 at 07:50 AM

DE

“ I had the honor of calling Jim a friend. My condolences to his family.

Darlene Ferrington Erney - May 24, 2022 at 06:39 AM

MV

“ Not much can be said but “Mr Fox” will be sorely missed by family friends and strangers alike. He was always so kind and went out of his way for everyone..., I miss you my friend..... say hello to my father when you see him upstairs 🎉

Michael Vesely and family

Michael Vesely - May 23, 2022 at 09:04 PM

PF

“ My deepest sympathy to Jim’s family and friends. Jim was a very visible person in our community, always a big smile for everyone. He was a kind, generous man that was loved by all who knew him! He will be deeply missed. My thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time.

Sincerely. Peggy Ferri

Peggy Ferri - May 23, 2022 at 07:37 PM

DP

“ *Jim worked for my sister Louise at the Little House of Pizza near miracle mile plaza. We worked together. This is basically where he got his start. My prayers this family. RIP Jim.*

Debbie perino - May 23, 2022 at 01:54 PM



“ *Deepest sympathy to Jim's son and family, as well as the Fox's Pizza family members. He was a Gateway High School classmate who never forgot the town of Pitcairn or his friends from there and Monroeville. We have posted his obituary on our class Facebook page and wanted you to know the impact he made on all of our class reunions. This is my personal memory I posted on our class page. We know the last months of his life were hard and and we were unable to be with him, but he was never forgotten.*

Gateway H.S. 1965 Facebook

Many of you may not be aware of how much Jimmy Fox contributed to the Class of 1965. He not only gave of his time, but he also made a lot of financial contributions. I can't list all of the items he donated over the years as well as money. Those members of the Reunion Committee were never permitted to pay for their own lunch when Jimmy was there. I remember kidding him when he came late once and asked if we had ordered lunch yet. I joked we weren't going to order food until we saw if he was going to show! I will miss his stories that never failed to shock and amuse me. He had a heart of gold and I, for one, will miss him. You left us too soon, Jimmy. Until our next reunion.....

Jackie Sober Nolle

Jacqueline Nolle - May 23, 2022 at 01:46 PM

SB

“ I will never forget the 1st time meeting Jim Sr at Fox's. Always had a big smile on his face and always a joke to make you laugh :)

Jim we will miss you and miss all the laughs and jokes may you rest in peace my friend :)

My deepest sympathy to Jim Jr and the Fox Family and Friends

Keep smiling Jim :)

Susan Battaglia - May 23, 2022 at 01:13 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of James R. Fox Jr..



May 23, 2022 at 11:21 AM

KH

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with all the family and friends of Jim. He was the most loving, kind, caring and generous man. He was the Best! He will be greatly missed.*

Kim Haraburda - May 23, 2022 at 10:10 AM

RB

Our Deepest Sympathy to Jimmy Jr's Family and the Fox's Pizza Franchisees for your loss.

"HEY BUDDY" You will be sorrowfully missed and nobody can compare to the "BIG DADDY" of personality and generosity you shared with the people around you!

*Rob & Rose, Steve & Nicole Burns
Jen Nathan,
Staff @ Express Press*

RBurns - May 24, 2022 at 02:10 PM