



James Sandala

September 16, 2016

James Sandala

Age 63, of Houston, Texas, formerly of Monroeville, passed away peacefully on Friday, September 16, 2016, after a long, courageous battle with cancer. He is survived by his parents, James and Billie Sandala; his siblings, Mike, Dennis, Tom, and John Sandala, Sue Jacobs and Beth Walsh and their families. Jimmy was born on April 21, 1953 in Akron, Ohio. He graduated from Gateway High School in 1971 and attended both Toledo and Penn State Universities. He was currently living in Houston, TX, where he worked as a special education teacher at Sterling High School for the past 19 years. Jimmy was a gentle soul with a big heart. He touched many lives and found true happiness helping the kids he taught. Friends will be received Monday from 2-8 p.m. at the GENE H. CORL INC. FUNERAL CHAPEL AND CREMATION SERVICES OF MONROEVILLE, 4335 Northern Pike (412-372-2100). Mass of Christian Burial 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, September 20, 2016 at North American Martyrs Church. (Everyone please meet at the church). Interment will be private. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Sterling High School, 11625 Martindale Road, Houston, Texas, 77048; memo: Breakfast Club Scholarship/Jim Sandala. For more information, please visit www.corlfuneralchapel.com

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **19**. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

Mass of Christian Burial

SEP **20**. 10:30 AM (ET)

North American Martyrs Church
Haymaker Road
Monroeville, PA

Tribute Wall

BR

“ I worked with James when I was chairperson of special ed at Sterling High School. He was a conscientious wonderful teacher who cared for the students rather than play politics with the administration. I once told him he should have been a priest. But then I realized and told him he was a priest of humankind. If there are Saints in heaven, he is one of them. Thank you James for all you did Betty reisman

Betty Reisman - November 19, 2016 at 12:25 PM

MS

“ Mr. Sandala will truly be missed. He was an awesme true friend. He was there for me when i was down he lifted me so kind rest n peace mr. Sandala

Melissa Sanchez - September 20, 2016 at 03:46 PM

CY

“ During the many years of working at Sterling I had the privilege of being with so many special people. James Sandala was one of the best.

Camille Yoder

Camille Yoder - September 19, 2016 at 02:50 PM

RM

“ Jimmy was always a wonderful friend to me. We first became acquainted in 1990 and from that day on, he was a dear friend, confidant and very special. I sorely missed him when he moved to Texas but very happy knowing that he truly loved his vocation, his school and especially his students. He cared about them all and talked of them often. I will miss his quiet yet sassy humor, his gentleness, his loyalty and never ending friendship. I never talked to him that he didn't tell me that he loved me and I knew that he did. He was one of a kind...I adored him. RIP Jimmy <3
My most sincere condolences to Jimmy's family that he truly loved, spoke of often and bragged about endlessly. I am so very sorry for your loss.



Robert Miles - September 19, 2016 at 10:36 AM

GC

“ I will also remember our college dorm years. I believe I became a Cat Stevens fan from listening to your music. Yes...also all the football games, the Brass Bell, the false fire alarms in the dorm, tornado watches, ordering pizza & watching TV... I enjoyed your friendship & will also remember our time together. We will all miss you.

George Chow - September 18, 2016 at 10:43 AM

JL


“ My sincerest condolences to Mr. Sandala's family on and off campus. It was a pleasure to work with him and I'm grateful for the opportunity I was provided to know him.

Jhacole LeGrand-Dunn - September 18, 2016 at 08:09 AM

LE

“ It was such an honor to know and work with someone as gentle, kind, and awesome as James Sandala. Though you will be truly missed, heaven has received one of GOD'S BEST angels, RIH~

Linda Flanagan Evans - September 18, 2016 at 12:08 AM

 Louise Adams

“ I'm going to miss you sand man and true friend!

Louise Adams - September 17, 2016 at 09:40 PM

BA

“ A true friend! I'm going to miss you sand man and the prerogies!

Brandy Adams - September 17, 2016 at 09:39 PM

DB

“ I worked with Mr.Sandala for 5 years at Sterling HS as the Special Education Chair. He was a great friend and coworker. Whenever I needed additional support he didn't hesitate to lend a hand. May he rest in HEAVEN free from pain. Praying for the families strength and understanding during this time. Thankful to have known him,
D.Broaden-Lewis

Demetria Broaden-Lewis - September 17, 2016 at 07:07 PM

EL

“ May your soul Rest... You will truly be missed!!!! God has your loved one covered go head and rest.....

Elnora - September 17, 2016 at 04:04 PM

JW

“ We shared a certain student that we refused to let sabotage himself. We supported Adam and we called him our son. EVERY morning he would greet me as Mama! I have missed him saying that and I will always remember it!! Love ya Poppa!!!!

*Jamie Lyn Watson
Houston ISD*

Jamie L Watson - September 17, 2016 at 03:27 PM

BS

He always shared these stories with us and you could tell how much he loved you and the students

Betsy Sandala - September 17, 2016 at 07:52 PM



I My sincere condolences to Mr. Sandala's family, He was such a kind and gentle hearted person, it was a priviledge to work with him . Cleo Smith- Retired Houston ISD

Cleo Brown - September 18, 2016 at 09:25 PM

PN

Unfortunately, we tend to remember the dates when something terrible happened; September 1, 1939; December 7, 1941; and September 11, 2001. We should begin a new tradition of remembering more joyous events. On April 21, 1953, James Sandala quietly arrived to grow into one of the kindest men who ever lived.

To many, teaching is a job. To Jim it was unqualified, loving service to some the most troubled individuals on campus. When colleagues were stricken by layoffs and illness, he routinely gave them his money. I learned this not from him, but from them. In all the time I knew him, he never said one unkind word about anyone, even those who richly deserved it.

Jim was a very welcome guest whenever my wife, Loretta, and I had a party. He always brought a present for our little dog, Tuco, and since the creature cannot write, sent us Christmas cards in his name.

September 16, 2016 became a very sad day when in a phone call Melissa Garcia informed me that man's and dog's best friend had passed away. He departed as quietly as he had come, but in his own way made a mark far greater than that of most people of greater notoriety. Sandman, you are one of a kind. Rest in peace, good brother.

Peter Nagy - September 20, 2016 at 05:07 PM