



## Jim F. Goodwin

April 20, 2025

Jim F. Goodwin of Odessa, N.Y., passed away on April 20, 2025, at the Chemung County Nursing Facility in Elmira, N.Y. He was a dedicated teacher, a much-loved father, grandfather, uncle, and a friend to many, including Bill W. for 63 years.

Jim was born in Towanda, PA, to James and Frances Huffman Goodwin (Newman), who predeceased him. He was also predeceased by his brother, John Richard Goodwin and his stepfather, Rexford Newman.

Jim graduated from Towanda High School, Then, at the age of 35, Jim began his formal education, graduating from Corning Community College then continuing with his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Education at Elmira College. He finished at Mansfield University with his Principal Certification.

His passion was for teaching at the Elmira Correctional facility, Monterey Shock Program, and Willard Correctional Institution and his commitment to his students was evident throughout his career. He touched many lives with his kindness, wisdom, and unwavering support.

Jim was also an avid photographer who loved to capture the beauty of nature and the cherished moments with his loved ones. His stunning images will be treasured by his family and friends.

Jim is survived by the woman he called "the love of his life," Patricia Forbes, with whom he spent 35 wonderful years traveling and enjoying life. He leaves behind Pat's two daughters Kim Bloome (Chris) of Liverpool, NY, and Jen Forbes (David Weller) of Lansing NY. Jim spent a lot of time with his youngest granddaughter, Julie Bloome , creating many cherished memories.

Jim is survived by his loving family, including his children: Mike Goodwin (Jodie Vargas) of Burdett NY, Ivy Darawa of Florida, Rexford Goodwin of South Carolina, Lorie Schultz (Peter) of Florida, and James Goodwin of South Carolina, He is also survived by his grandchildren: Allison, Gregory, Jonathan, Erin, David, Cheryl, Andre, and Chelsea, and several great grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister-in-law Patricia Goodwin and his loving nephews: JR, Christopher, William, and James, all of the Elmira area.

He will be deeply missed by all who knew him. Per Jim's wishes, no memorial service will be held. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Southern Tier Food Bank. 388 Upper Oakwood Avenue, Elmira, New York 14903 [www.foodbankst.org](http://www.foodbankst.org)

Memories and condolences may be expressed by visiting [www.bowenfuneralhomes.com](http://www.bowenfuneralhomes.com)

# Tribute Wall

WE

“ I met Jim sixteen years ago at a meeting in Odessa. Jim struck me as a calm simple man. After many meetings and conversations about 'Friday night meetings in Ithaca', I asked Jim if he would show me where these meetings were held. So, we began traveling together on Friday nights. I liked many of Jim's friends, and we always had the "meeting after the meeting". Even the ride home involved many more conversations. Somewhere in time Mike's name came up, and I was able to see the whole picture of Jim's family. Our families were connected in many ways; Jim's wife Rose was my Mother-in-Law's best friend, his children went to school with my wife and I. Trust and common experience brought us closer and closer.

Jim was an excellent driver, and I trusted him so much I followed his guidance in selecting vehicles for my family. Jim and I grew very close, he helped me and I helped him. We talked about our work experiences, and were able to find similarities that brought us closer. We visited friends together, and shared the loss of these friends many times.

I was impressed with Jim's ability of drawing people to him. He was often asked to attend meetings in other locations as an "old timer"; Elmira Prison, Corning and many more. Jim was a man to be admired.

We knew this day was coming for a while. It got to the point there wasn't much I could do for Jim but ask for peace and comfort for him. Jim was a great friend and confidante. We miss you Jim.

Wayne and Sandy Eccleston

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Wayne Eccleston - June 20, 2025 at 09:58 AM

WD

“ This is a beautiful tribute to an amazing man, whose fine qualities are many to list. In my far too short time knowing Jim, his willingness to share his experience, strength and hope shone like a beacon. Never overbearing, always kind, following a conversation with Jim, one was left with a feeling of serenity and as if everything would be alright. My deepest condolences to the family. Anyone who knew Jim was indeed fortunate. Wendy Drake

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**Wendy Drake** - May 31, 2025 at 02:08 PM

LL

“ Jim you were truly a wonderful person and will be greatly missed by all.  
I remember you with great fondness of the time you and Pat were with me.  
Laurie Lamb

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**Laurie Lamb-Tinkham** - May 01, 2025 at 02:48 PM

GG

“ I was lucky to meet Jim and Pat when I worked at the Peterson Library in Odessa. They were great library friends and supporters. I am sending my condolences to Pat and all of Jim's family.  
In sympathy, Gayle Maatta Greuber

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**Gayle Greuber** - April 30, 2025 at 04:45 PM

JA

“ My name is Jan Avery. I was a dear friend of Jim and Patty Jim was a client of mine for over 50 years and he took pride in having his hair just so. I can remember the first time he called for appointment, he talked in length making sure I knew what he wanted. Upon arriving, I knew privacy was important so I made sure he was away from the main stream of traffic. From that day on, we became friends. He named my grandson, Logan “the general” for Logan also collected his money and thanked him for coming. Jim always asked about him when he saw me. He will be missed for many reason and glad to have called him my friend

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jan avery - April 29, 2025 at 10:47 AM

RS

“ Jim was a long time member of the Friday Nights meeting of AA here in Ithaca . He was a very active member of the group. When I first came into the "program " , Jim was there . Each year we celebrated another AA birthday with Jim . Pat always made the cake . His wisdom and life story aided many of us . Jim was humble , patient and took an active interest in everyone he met . His longevity in sobriety was tempered by the following statement , "Who ever got up the earliest today , has the most sobriety ." Jim will be missed by all of us . His memory will live on . Thank you Jim .

Ron S.

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Ron Schoneman - April 29, 2025 at 09:21 AM

MG

Thank you, Ron. Dad lived and breathed the program and always was grateful for the help he got from people like you.

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Michael Goodwin - May 02, 2025 at 05:50 PM

MG

“ I'm Michael...Jims oldest son. I have to say that his obituary was beautiful, truthful, and well written...thank you Pat for a great job. However, I feel I must add that Dad was a 63 year plus member of Alcoholics Anonymous and credited any success he had in life to the program. As the eldest of his 5 children, I can attest to this as I'm old enough to remember the changes that he went through in his quest for recovery. And he DID recover. It was a beautiful thing and his life of sobriety is a testament to the AA program and the possibilities it created for him and many around him. Dad, you had 63 great years of sober living and you helped countless people along your journey...both in the AA program and out as a teacher. Thank you Dad for everything... the joyful times, the Christmases and birthdays, your love and wisdom. We all love you and miss you very much. Rest in peace.

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**Michael Goodwin** - April 28, 2025 at 08:28 PM

DW

*Dear Mike, I am so sorry for the loss of your father. He sounded like a wonderful man. I would have loved to have met him. Your comment was beautiful. I often wondered how you were and where. I wish you and yours all the best and peace of heart. Donna Cleveland*

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**Donna Weigel** - May 02, 2025 at 11:21 PM

CP

*I was Jim's neighbor. Although we lived in fairly close proximity, my husband and I mostly saw Jim in downtown Odessa, either at the post office or at the Dandy Mart. We always enjoyed running into him; he was such a sweet, affable guy. He could talk effortlessly about anything. He reminded me a lot of my own dad. Sometime after my husband passed away, Jim, Pat and I decided to go to the local tea house in Watkins. I was surprised to learn that Jim really enjoyed tea (I considered him a connoisseur!) and that there was a tea house in FL that he like to frequent when he was there. We had a great visit. I always intended to get together with him and Pat more often, but life usually interfered. I will miss seeing you, Jim, but I know you are in a better place, where the golf greens are waiting and Joe B. is beckoning with a golf club in one hand and a camera in the other. My thoughts and prayers are with you, Pat, and also with Jim's family. He was truly one of a kind, and I consider myself lucky to have known him.*

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**Carol Peters** - May 05, 2025 at 10:25 AM