



## James A. Hurd

January 28, 1947 - July 20, 2023

James A. (Jim) Hurd  
Saginaw, Michigan

Jim was called home to his Lord and Savior on July 20, 2023, at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Michigan. He was 76 years old. Mr. Hurd was born in Detroit, Michigan on January 28, 1947, and was confirmed at Riverside Lutheran Church. He began his college education at Concordia Junior College in Ann Arbor and finished his Bachelor of Science degree at Concordia Teacher's College in Seward, Nebraska. It was at Concordia that he met the love of his life, Loraine. They were married on August 22, 1970, in Orange, California. Mr. Hurd's teaching career began in January of 1970, where he took his very first call at Holy Cross Lutheran School in Saginaw, Michigan. During his years at Holy Cross, Mr. Hurd taught various grades. He also served as Assistant Principal for many years, and worked as Youth Director, Bible Study Leader, Family Life Director, Athletic Director and Coach, Safety Patrol Director, Class Trip Planner, and as an Elder, having served on several curriculum and accreditation committees, and in various other capacities as needed. He would often be seen running the popcorn machine at Holy Cross Basketball games. Most important, however, was Mr. Hurd's service as a Disciple of Christ. He had been like a "Father Figure" to his students, as a brother and mentor to his colleagues, and a great friend to thousands of people he had come into contact with at Holy Cross and in the community.

Following his retirement, Jim spent most of his summers in Traverse City, MI. He loved to clean up litter as he walked all around the city. He also loved helping with Steve's BBQ. Jim is survived by his wife, Loraine; his sister, Lorann (Frank) Murphy; his in-laws, Howard Einspahr, Leroy Einspahr, Harley Einspahr, as well as Radke and Lundin Cousins; extended family members and many dear friends.

The Celebration of Jim's Life will be held 11:00 a.m. on Monday, July 24, 2023, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 600 Court St., Saginaw, MI.

Jim's funeral service will be broadcast live on the church's YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/@holycrosslutheranchurch-sa5348/streams>

Pastor Robert Riggs will officiate. Friends are welcome to visit with the family at the Church on Sunday, July 23, from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., then on

Monday from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service. In lieu of flowers, those planning an expression of sympathy may consider a donation to Holy Cross Lutheran Church and School. Those wishing to express their memories and sympathies of Jim may share them on his memorial website at

[WakemanFuneralHome.com](http://WakemanFuneralHome.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 23. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
600 Court St.  
Saginaw, MI 48602

## Visitation

JUL 24. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
600 Court St.  
Saginaw, MI 48602

## Celebration of Life

JUL 24. 11:00 AM (ET)

Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
600 Court St.  
Saginaw, MI 48602

# Tribute Wall

MP

“*Mr. Hurd, later he asked me to call him “Jim” was a fixture at Holy Cross Lutheran School and as a member of the congregation and as a true neighbor. I remember he and Lorraine had a huge Alaskan Malamute that was so sweet and gentle.*

*Jim was, and is, everything a Christian gentleman should be. I know that Jesus was particularly fond of Jim, and Jim certainly reflected Jesus’ loving kindness as well as any person could.*

*It is my hope in Christ that I’ll get to enjoy Jim’s company again.*

*With condolences to all who loved Jim,  
Matt Pelkki*

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**Matthew Pelkki** - August 01, 2023 at 05:20 PM

TH

“*Lorraine,  
Judy and I want you to know that we are lifting you up in prayer during this time of loss, yet knowing that Jim's earthly departure certainly is heaven's gain! God blessed the two of you with a very special relationship throughout all those years of marriage. You were ideal helpmates. We also can't say enough for the love and kindness both of you showed us during our sojourn at Holy Cross... fresh out of seminary! God blessed both of you with a heart for service in His Kingdom and a contagious faith filled with joy that bubbled over into many other people's lives, such as our own. May our gracious Lord watch over you with His grace and peace as we look forward to the day when all of His redeemed can rejoice in His eternal presence.*

*Pastor Tim & Judy Huber  
Pine Grove, CA*

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**Tim Huber** - July 29, 2023 at 12:58 AM

KS

“ *Mr. And Mrs. Hurd stayed at our hotel recently. The Hampton Inn in Madison Heights, Mi.*

*Although Mr. and Mrs. Hurd stayed with us for a brief period of time, we were all saddened by the news of Mr. Hurds passing. My teammates and I all found it very easy to get to know this amazing couple through the eyes of Mrs. Hurd. From Ms. Hurd, we learned what a kind and generous man Mr. Hurd was. We also learned of his deep love for his community and the people of Holy Cross Lutheran School in Saginaw, Michigan.*

*We are grateful to have had the opportunity to have Mr. and Mrs. Hurd in our lives. Even if it was just for a brief period of time.*

*Our Hampton Family sends all our love, prayers and deep condolences on the loss of such a wonderful man.*

*Hampton Inn - Madison Heights Michigan*

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**kara stachowicz** - July 24, 2023 at 05:27 PM

SH

“ *Our family was saddened to hear about Mr. Hurd. My daughter Kala Williams had fond memories of him. The last time I saw him he was selling popcorn. I will always remember his sweet smile that greeted us whenever met. Mrs. Hurd you are in our prayers. Kala Williams, mom and family.*



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**Sherry Hannah** - July 24, 2023 at 09:03 AM

VF

“ Jim was such a wonderful man! Jim and Loraine made our visit to Traverse City a special event. He was the unofficial Clinch Park Harbor Master, he took great pride in over seeing everything from making coffee to emptying the trash cans, and purchasing supplies. Clinch Park will never be the same. RIP our dear friend ❤️

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**Victoria Figg** - July 23, 2023 at 05:19 PM

CM

Guy and I were so sorry to hear of Jim passing. We will miss seeing him at the Clinch marina. He was a great man . Prayers to you Lorraine.  
Cathy and Guy McDonald

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**cathy mcdonald** - August 14, 2023 at 08:52 PM

CH

“ Jim and Loraine were always favorites of mine when I was operating fundraising programs at Holy Cross Lutheran School in Saginaw.  
I always loved seeing them both on my visits to the school.  
Jim was a wonderful teacher, friend, family man, and person overall.  
He will be missed by all who knew him.

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**Cortland Hillman** - July 23, 2023 at 01:06 PM

CH

“ Mrs. Hurd & family I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. I had Mr. Hurd in second grade and we had to bring in our dogs footprint so we could make a mold and my dog's footprint was so big he was quite surprised at the size and because it was so much bigger than my classmates we just didn't have enough plaster to do the print, I know he felt bad.

My nephew Jason and I had just been talking about Mr. Hurd a few weeks ago and my nephew was telling me how much Mr. Hurd had helped him over the years and how much he like him for everything he had done to help him through some tough tiimes, he said he would just listen and the advise him on things.

Thank you Mr. Hurd for being there for my nephew and everyone else you have helped over the years, you will be greatly missed.

Christine Shaft Cronkright



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Christine - July 23, 2023 at 08:24 AM

LH

“ I guess the event that stands out the most was when I was dating my now husband and my brother was being a brat as usual and Frank had had enough one evening when the three of us were in the basement and Jim would not leave so Frank picked him up and threw him out the opened basement window. He did not bother us again. Not that he hasn't been a bother the rest of our lives, sort of just kidding. If you know Jim you know what I mean. LOL

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Lorann Hurd - July 22, 2023 at 06:47 PM

LH

“ 3 files added to the album Jim and sister Lorann Hurd



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**Lorann Hurd** - July 22, 2023 at 06:37 PM

OK

“ I was fortunate to become dear friends of Jim and Loraine during their 1st year at Holy Cross, as my class was the 1st class to graduate from the then "New School" in 1970. During the ensuing years, Jim and Loraine took over the Holy Cross Youth Group (Walter League) and were a huge draw for teens that needed a mentor and friend (like me and so many other 14 to 18 yr olds). They helped shape the values of many young people at such a pivotal time of life. Their home on South Andre St. was always so welcoming to us and we spent a great deal of time with the Hurds - instead of getting into trouble. I remember canoe trips, softball and basketball games back in the day. But most of all, I remember spending lots of time just hanging out at their home, hugging their beloved dog, "Kayak", cookouts and all kinds of functions at Holy Cross. Our hearts go out to sweet Loraine. May God's Peace be with you. All our love and deepest sympathies! Buzz Krohn - Noblesville, Indiana

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**Otto W Krohn** - July 22, 2023 at 03:11 PM

MG

“ *Very sorry to hear about Mr.Hurd. He was a good teacher and follower of God our Father. He,God,Jesus and the Holy Spirit will be always with you through this time and always*



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**Mike Gottschalk** - July 22, 2023 at 01:26 PM

KS

“ *Jim hurd kept in contact with me over the years since i left holy cross in june 1971. Its been a journey in my life but he never judged or had a bad word to say. He was a mentor to me and a cheer leader in my corner. He was incredibly proud of me when i was able to be a federal law enforcement officer for the justice department, a fire chief in california and an emergency medical technician that i still do today. I had the honor to address his classes as a former student and where i ended up in life . I am just sorry i didnt get to meet up with him later this summer when i planned a trip to saginaw. Jim, you will always be my mentor. I cherish our visits and talks on the internet. Have fair winds and following seas my brother. I salute you sir and raise a glass to your memory*

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**kevin sedlak** - July 22, 2023 at 10:39 AM

KK

*Kevin, I think my older sister, Wilma, might have been in your sister's class at HCLS. (Was her name Linda?) I was so moved by what you wrote. What a blessing Mr. Hurd will always be to you & to the hundreds of other HCLS students he taught, coached, cared about & loved during the decades he devoted to serving God at Holy Cross, right up until God called him Home this past week.*

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**Karol Krohn** - July 22, 2023 at 04:03 PM

FG

*Our family was blessed and honored to know Jim and have him at Holy Cross Lutheran. Franck Geuder*

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**Franck Geuder** - July 23, 2023 at 08:28 PM

LF

“ Love, the Spence family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James A. Hurd.

Love, the Spence family - July 22, 2023 at 09:45 AM

LF

“ Love, the Spence family purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of James A. Hurd.



Love, the Spence family - July 22, 2023 at 09:45 AM

RW

“ So sorry to hear of Jim's passing. We always cherish our years together at Holy Cross and friendship over the years. May our Lord give you His peace, love, and comfort, Loraine.

Ron and Mary Warnke - July 22, 2023 at 08:42 AM

RO

“ Ron lit a candle in memory of James A. Hurd



Ron - July 22, 2023 at 08:11 AM

RR

“ *Mr. Jim will truly be missed in the community. My husband & I met Jim 19 years ago. He was uplifting and always expressed God’s kindness , love, and purpose. Jim was a gift to this earth.*

*Neighbors  
Ren & Ron*

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**Ren & Ronnie** - July 22, 2023 at 08:06 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James A. Hurd.*



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July 21, 2023 at 11:26 PM

JS

“ *Mr. Hurd certainly made an eternal legacy. I am fortunate to be one of the many that was forever impacted by his teaching, coaching and mentoring. If Holy Cross had a Wall of Fame for their faculty, Mr Hurd would most certainly be at the top! Well done! A true good and faithful servant.*

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**Jason Simmons** - July 21, 2023 at 09:59 PM

KK

*Jason: Thank you for sharing your loving thoughts about Mr. Hurd! I was a student at HCLS when he & Loraine started teaching there. The students all loved both of them! Since my family moved to Indiana 2 or 3 years after the Hurds' arrival, it's such a blessing for me to read about the profound & lasting impact Mr. Hurd had on your life & your faith in the years that followed. Thanks for confirming what I was certain would be true: Jim excelled in teaching & all the extra-curricular roles he shouldered during his many decades at HCLS. As I read his obituary & again as I read your message, I was struck by how much Mr. Hurd's impact on students mirrored that of another former great HCLS teacher & coach: George Krach, who in turn followed in the treasured footsteps of Mr. Burke, who turned his coaching duties over to George Krach while my family was still in Saginaw, living about a block away from Holy Cross. Thanks for catching me up on Mr. Hurd's lasting & Christ-focused legacy at Holy Cross! God bless you & all the other youth Jim impacted at HCLS, whose turn it is now to continue witnessing to others about God's great love & forgiveness for all!*

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**Karol Krohn** - July 22, 2023 at 03:49 PM

SA

*Mrs. Hurd and family my deepest condolences. Just learning of your loss out West here.*

*We are grateful for his gifts to those Holy Cross students like my late brother Steve (and me) who he coached and my brother adored. Just a great guy all around.*

*If there is a HCL Hall of Fame he is surely in it.*

*Scott Alles*

*Scottsdale*

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**scott alles** - July 26, 2023 at 06:15 PM

MR

“ *We will miss a dear friend. But we know he is with the Lord.* ”



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**Mike & Deb Ross** - July 21, 2023 at 09:24 PM