



Jimmy Dean Van Rossum

March 9, 1947 - January 11, 2022

Jimmy Dean Van Rossum of Boulder Junction died peacefully on January 11, 2022 at Aurora Medical Center in Burlington, WI.

He was born March 9, 1947, to Dean and Marlice Van Rossum in Green Bay. There he attended both Elementary and High School before heading off to complete general education courses at UW-Platteville. From there he completed training at the USMC-Naval Air Technical Training Center in 1967. During his tour with the USMC, Jimmy Dean attended Class A Aviation Mechanical Fundamentals School and the Class A Aviation Machinists Mate Jet Engine Course, graduating in the top 10%. He also worked at the Commissioned Officers Club in Cherry Point, North Carolina. Jimmy Dean received the Good Conduct Medal and the National Defense Service Medal. He received his F4B A/C System Fundamentals and became crew chief in 1968 and completed 3M technical training in 1969. He was also a decorated marksman.

In 1976, he attended the Culinary Institute of America in New York, majoring as a Professional Chef and becoming a Certified Working Chef and Executive Chef by the American Culinary Federation. He then went on for 3 years at Fox Valley Technical Institute in Appleton, WI, majoring in Hotel/Restaurant Cookery and Service Management.

He worked as the Manager/Executive Chef at both The Riverview Country Club in Appleton ('78-'80) and at Banc Restaurant and Catering in Green Bay ('81-'83). He then established The Guides Inn in Boulder Junction as Owner/Chef in February of 1984 and successfully ran the restaurant until his passing. Additionally, he purchased The Boulder Beer Bar with his son, Jesse, in 2005. Most recently, he was a major part in the acquisition of the PI Pub in Presque Isle.

Jimmy Dean's passion for teaching was evident in his everyday life, taking any opportunity to share his knowledge with anyone willing to learn. He was a true professional businessman. Jimmy Dean never missed an opportunity to be involved in anything community related, from making/providing rolls every July to the BJFD to preparing meals for the Vilas County ADRC Senior Meals for 13 years and everything in between. He became involved in International Student/Work Programs and provided opportunities and financial support for Students from many countries. He traveled internationally on several occasions to share his culinary arts and skills, thereby enhancing opportunities for foreign students to come to the United States.

Jimmy Dean is survived by his three sons, James (Karen) Van Rossum Jr of Green Bay; Jesse Van Rossum of Boulder Junction, and Joey (Brenda) Van Rossum of Madison. He is further survived by his grandchildren, Stephanie (Christopher) Serbousek, Hannah (Steven) Hesse, Dominic Van Rossum, Dakota and Scarlett Van Rossum; great-grandchildren, Olin, Jensen, Nova, Saphira, Harper, Serenity, Sadee, Ethan and Ellie and many nieces and nephews.

There will be a service held at the Boulder Junction Community Church, 10445 Main Street, Boulder Junction, at 1:00 PM on Sunday, January 23, 2022. Immediately following there will be a gathering at The Boulder Beer Bar & Restaurant, 5509 Cty Hwy M, Boulder Junction. In lieu of flowers, donations

may be made to the Boulder Junction Historical Society. Bolger Cremation and Funeral Services is assisting the family, www.bolgerfuneral.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 23. 1:00 PM (CT)

Community Church of Boulder Junction
10445 Main St
Boulder Junction, WI 54512
<http://www.commchbj.org>

Tribute Wall

K.

“ *Rip my friend.*

K.P - January 21, 2022 at 08:06 PM

DP

Jimmy was a master chef with the gift of hospitality. Special occasions were made more special when held at the Guides Inn. Now Jimmy is sitting at the eternal banquet with the saints above. Well done (not the lamb) good and faithful servant.

David Patterson - January 24, 2022 at 03:20 PM

VB

“ *Thank You for the many Special and Fabulous dinners at our favorite, Guides Inn. Jimmy made everyone feel welcome! The Blankenheim Family.*



Victoria Blankenheim - January 21, 2022 at 02:30 PM

TS

“ *This past summer, we celebrated our 60th Wedding Anniversary with our family and friends at the Guides Inn. Jimmy, as always went to great lengths to accommodate us. We had a wonderful dinner, made even more special by Jimmy helping us celebrate. Sally and I and our family have been dining at the Guides Inn for many years. We mourn Jimmy's passing.*
Tom & Sally Basting

Thomas J Basting Sr - January 21, 2022 at 12:25 PM

PO

“ *Preston Overshiner lit a candle in memory of Jimmy Dean Van Rossum*



preston overshiner - January 21, 2022 at 08:33 AM

BJ

“ *He will be missed!*



Brian Jahns - January 20, 2022 at 04:36 PM

BB

“ *My memory of Jimmy Dean is that he was always willing to help, to be of service to his community and its people. He was a true professional, excellent at everything he did. Going to The Guides Inn was not a dinner out - it was a special event, even if it was just a dinner out. He will be greatly missed by many and remembered by more. Deepest sympathies to his family.*

barb boston - January 19, 2022 at 08:57 PM

CA

“ I went to school with Jim from, I think, first grade on through our senior year in high school. I also lived about a block and a half from his house, and would join him now and then, on the amazing merry-go-round in his back yard, which he said his dad built. It had handlebars at each seat that you pulled and pushed to generate the circular motion of the merry-go-round, and it could really go fast. We had a ball playing on that gig.

We dined at the Banque Supper Club and Jim came out and surprised us by chatting with us at our table. He fixed me a delicious roast pheasant with rice, and it was spectacular.

But my wife and I and friends loved going to The Guide's Inn, up in Boulder Junction, and really enjoying the supper club atmosphere that so many Wisconsinites remember from their childhoods. The food was great, Jim came out to chat with everyone, and the place ran like a Swiss watch.

Jim's personality was perfect for his work as a chef. He always had a smile on his face.

We are very sad to hear of his passing.

Curt and Linda Andersen

Curt Andersen - January 18, 2022 at 11:53 AM

TD

We will miss you visiting us at our table. Thanks for being a great host at our favorite 'up north' eatery. Rest in peace Chef. Tom and Laura

Tom Davis - January 20, 2022 at 04:10 PM

LS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Linda Saveland - January 16, 2022 at 01:41 AM

PH

“ *Our favorite place to bring family and friends for wonderful meals and good conversation. Jimmy and the staff made things look easy from the perfect meals to the attentive service. The highlight was always a visit with Jimmy when he would stop and visit each table. We are so sorry for his family's loss. He left us too soon.*

Peter & Mary Jane Hoag

Peter & Mary Jane Hoag - January 15, 2022 at 07:25 PM

DS

“ *My parents and I have been going to the Guide's Inn for around 20 years, Jimmy will definitely be missed. He would always ensure that he came to pay a visit to each and every table to make certain you were happy with the food and the service. I certainly hope you can use the restaurant to help heal and ease the pain of losing such a wonderful individual as people come in and share their memories and even shed a tear of their own. Sympathy and Prayers to all of Jimmy's family.*

Denise Schmidt

Denise Schmidt - January 15, 2022 at 11:32 AM

DE

“ For nearly 15 years we would travel to Boulder Junction and discovered the Guide's Inn. The pan fried walleye and homemade ice cream kept us coming back to the restaurant every year. Jimmy was always very personable and made sure to visit each table to visit. He will definitely be missed. I certainly hope you can keep the restaurant going and use that to help ease the pain. You have my deepest sympathy and condolences. Sincerely, Denise S.

Denise - January 14, 2022 at 07:23 PM

RS

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album

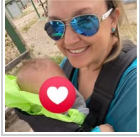


Ralph Strozza - January 14, 2022 at 02:17 PM

LS

“ I knew Jim since kindergarten through high school in Green Bay. One time he sang that song, "Goin' to the chapel and we're gonna get married..." We had some adventures over the years. He came to Minneapolis once and we had dinner together. A few years ago I moved up close to Boulder Junction and visited Jim at the Guides Inn. Always the same smiling, happy, busy, friendly, authentic Friend to All. Since I moved back to the Hudson area, Jim and I have kept in touch occasionally. I am saddened and will miss seeing him Up North. My sympathy to Jimmy's Family and his many Friends. He was a one in a million guy. R.I.P. and God Bless, Jim.

Linda Saveland - January 14, 2022 at 10:52 AM



“ Our hearts are so heavy as we learned in the past day about the passing of our dear friend and mentor, Jimmy Dean. We waited to share this information with all of you until it was made public. We would like to dedicate the first issue of *The Northwoods Review* in February to Jimmy and his legacy in the Northwoods and around the world. He touched so many lives and always reminded us to "be the bridge". "You will bring the communities together. I have great faith in you" These are thing memories and encouragements that will last a lifetime in our hearts and minds. Praying for your family and the Northwoods during this difficult time.

Rebecca Nelsen - January 13, 2022 at 10:27 PM

JP

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Jennifer (Jim) Payne - January 13, 2022 at 08:47 PM

BO

“ Our family has been going to *The Guides Inn* since our kids were very small. They are now nearing 40. We have NEVER had a bad meal, not even close, and almost every trip there had a good heart to heart with Jimmy.

We own a cabin near *Lake Tomahawk* now and when we have any visitors their first question is what night are we going to *The Guides Inn*.

While we will miss the great food we will especially miss our conversations with Jimmy. Great chef and even better guy.

Bob - January 13, 2022 at 08:05 PM

AP

“ I have so many memories dining at the Guides Inn, always had the best experiences and food. Jimmy took pride in what he did and loved to make sure everyone was happy. He will be missed by many.

AP - January 13, 2022 at 07:30 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Jimmy Dean Van Rossum.



January 13, 2022 at 01:54 PM

BM

“ Briana Marston lit a candle in memory of Jimmy Dean Van Rossum



Briana Marston - January 13, 2022 at 10:14 AM

JJ

“ When we'd go to Guides Jimmy would always take time to come out and see if you were pleased with the meal always were will miss you Jimmy

jan & wes johnson - January 13, 2022 at 09:17 AM

DR

Will miss your visit at dinner. Bill has many great memories of Jimmy when they were younger back in Green Bay!

Diana and Bill Rose - January 13, 2022 at 04:23 PM

TB

Chef Jimmy always tantalized your taste buds ,and warmed your heart with every meal he prepared.for over 20 years we have enjoyed anniversary's, and birthdays at the Guides. My heart is Full of wonderful memories of fantastic food and friendship. We will truly miss him.

Teri and Steve Bubnik

teri bubnik - January 14, 2022 at 11:02 AM

JF

A legend. Best chef in the North. Condolences to his family.

john foster - January 14, 2022 at 11:32 AM

RS

We first dined at The Guides Inn in 2010 and always make a point to dine there every time we make it up to the Northwoods from Chicago. The food, of course, was always excellent, but we especially enjoyed talking with Jimmy Dean when he would come into the dining room (chef's hat always on!), going from table to table, greeting his guests, and taking time to talk with them. What an interesting, colorful, and talented fellow he was. We were lucky enough to get one of the three pups that his beloved Max sired back in July, 2016. Every time I look at Max's beautiful son, I think of Jimmy Dean. Rest in peace, Jimmy Dean. You will be so missed.

Ralph Strozza - January 14, 2022 at 02:07 PM

SJ

Pure Legend and Supper Clubs like Guides far and few. Many many wonderful meals, visits and pray he finally can take his chef hat off and be at peace. Love to his family/friends and staff he had so many years. His ex-wife Lynda Goben was gifted gorgeous greenhouses to her from Jimmy and preceded him in death 10 years ago. What a beautiful peaceful place to dine, view all the flowers, buy at the greenhouse. Rest easy Jimmy and ps. I got the blackening season recipe you wrote down for me and there is nothing like it. Wonder if you ever did cookbook seemed that when I came in Back kitchen to surprise you, driving up from Madison, you had no "book", "written directions, may they all remain a treasure and memory for him to keep close to his heart. Thank you Jimmy for the honor of knowing you :)

SJ

Sarah Jamieson - January 14, 2022 at 11:10 PM

VI

Jimmy, you will be missed by so many family and friends. We always enjoyed our visits and especially when you would come to our table and tell us all about your homemade ice cream that your were so passionate about. Loved your stories ❤️

Scott & Vickie Abraham

vickie - January 20, 2022 at 10:38 PM

TC

Did I really know Jimmy? No. I didn't. Jimmy was part of "up north", for me, for my wife and family, and undoubtedly for many others I am sure. I took my wife to the Guide's Inn the first time in 1987 on our honeymoon. "This place is classic and cool and the food is really good and you'll like it." Really? Yup. She did, and it was a classic, and we have been there every year since, often times with Jimmy paying a visit to our table and reminding him of when she first visited and why we kept coming. We knew Jimmy at the Beer Bar sweating over the grill for Musky Days and recently in the PI Pub too. The last time we saw him we talked about the pizza ovens at PI, and the quality of the crust... his enthusiasm was infectious, caring. He was part of it. Part of what makes Boulder Junction and the Northwoods special. I loved Jimmy for keeping it going, for his interest in serving you something he was proud of... for being a part of the community. We loved the Guide's Inn. We will miss him, very very much.

TC - January 20, 2022 at 11:56 PM

MM

Jimmy was a great chef, but also a great man. He will be missed. Prayers to the family.

Michael Mulleady - January 21, 2022 at 11:43 AM

GP

Always a good tableside conversation with De Chef and best blackened Beef Wellington ever! Also a great marksman! I enjoyed working for Jimmy years ago. Lots of fun memories. We will miss you very much. RIP Gary & Patty

Gary & Patty - January 22, 2022 at 06:40 PM