



James "Jim" Tinsley

March 22, 1967 - June 8, 2024

James Brian "Jim" Tinsley, 57, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, June 8, 2024, at his home in Topeka, Kansas.

Jim was born March 22, 1967, in Topeka to William and Bernice (Koper) Tinsley, the youngest of their ten children.

He graduated from Hayden High School in 1985 and attended Washburn University before embarking on his 33-year professional career, first as a Control Room Operator at Tecumseh Energy Center and then as a Transmission System Operator for Evergy, before retiring in 2022.

Jim was one of the hardest workers you'd ever meet. All 33 years of his career were spent working a shift work schedule, switching every two weeks from day shift to afternoon shift to night shift, and then the cycle would repeat. Even with his rigorous work schedule, he always made time to play with his children and grandchildren, including sword fights, Lego building, story time, scavenger hunts (which included detailed clue maps that he would create himself), and trips to the Zoo.

Jim had so many talents, and one of them was his construction ability. Over the years, he built three new homes for his family, overseeing every detail of the building process, and making sure it was done right. There were only a

handful of things that he needed to sub-out to contractors. Everything else he did himself, along with the help of his lifelong friend, Gary D. Smith, and his brother-in-law, Scott; and the quality of the work was top notch! He also spent countless hours on yard work, and the lawn was the envy of the neighborhood.

Jim's love for music was ignited while working for Mother Earth Records while in high school. He was a member and a volunteer of Topeka Blues Society, doing his part to help keep the blues alive in Northeast Kansas. He attended hundreds of concerts during his lifetime, in which he kept every ticket stub! His favorite concert venue is Red Rocks Amphitheatre in Morrison, Colorado, and no visit to Morrison was complete without stopping to eat at Tony Rigatoni's Italian Kitchen and taking the traditional picture in front of the tree.

Through his vibrant personality and ability to light up and command a room, Jim made countless life-long friends, many of whom shared his passion for a cold craft beer, finely brewed coffee, live music, and a good – and perhaps often-told – story. To know Jim, was to love him, and he reciprocated that love in how he lived his life, always being there through good times and bad to lend a hand, an ear, or advice. His impact on everyone he met was great and he'll be sorely missed by all those who loved him.

Jim is survived by his three children, John Tinsley (Rebekah) of Excelsior, MN, Alexa Tinsley of Topeka, and Dylan Tinsley of Lawrence; two grandchildren, Andrew Tinsley and Luke Tinsley; seven siblings, David (Jenny) Tinsley of Topeka; Anne (Barry) Stark of West Chicago, IL, Gerry (Debbie) Tinsley of Topeka, Bill Tinsley of Topeka, Cathie (Mike) Halpin of Topeka, Barb (Scott) DeWalt of Topeka, and Bob Tinsley (Steve Barstow) of Baltimore, MD; and 15 nieces and nephews to whom he was an uncle, godfather, brother, father, and best friend, all wrapped into one.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents and two of his siblings, Rita Summers and Michael Tinsley.

To honor Jim's memory, services will be held on Friday, June 21, 2024, at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614. Family will greet friends from 12:30 p.m. until 2 p.m. when the Rosary will be prayed. A Celebration of Jim's Life will begin at 2:30 p.m., all at the funeral home.

Named as honorary pall bearers are some of Jim's best friends, Cleo Roehrman, Richard von Soosten, Steve Lingard, Tom Hedges, Rick Jolly, Gary Smith, Brian Littrell and Scott Pearson.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Jim's memory to the Topeka Blues Society or to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and send in care of the funeral home.

Condolences may be sent online to www.kevinbrennanfamily.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 21. 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
(785) 272-7888
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

Rosary

JUN 21. 2:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
(785) 272-7888
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

Memorial Service

JUN 21. 2:30 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
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(785) 272-7888
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Tribute Wall



“ Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of James "Jim" Tinsley



Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - June 19, 2024 at 03:21 PM

KW

Jim and I worked together at Tecumseh for over 25 years. He was always great to work with and fun to have on your shift. His intellect in to power plants was always a great asset to us all. Condolences to all his family. Rest in peace Jim.

Kirk Wiscombe - June 19, 2024 at 07:28 PM

SS

I wasn't able to go to the service but wanted to you how sorry I am of Jim's passing. I went to high school with him and remember his easy going attitude, and his wonderful smile. Hold on to all the memories. You're in my prayers. Sheri Schiefelbein

Sheri Schiefelbein - June 21, 2024 at 06:40 PM

KO

“ I too knew Jim years ago in Topeka, we shared a lot of great times together. RIP old friend.

Kevin Overholt - August 09, 2024 at 11:42 AM

MR

“ No words can express to Jim’s family how sorry I am for your loss. Jim and I first met, working together at Mother Earth Records. We clicked instantly over our love for music. He was so much fun, always smiling, laughing, and joking around. Jim was also just so kind and sentimental. I’ll miss his distinctive voice and laugh. We didn’t always keep in touch well over the years, but could always pick right back up like no time had passed. I’m so saddened he’s not with us here, physically, anymore. Keep this wonderful man’s memory alive. He was one of the best and I’ll miss him forever.

Melissa Rangel - July 10, 2024 at 10:04 PM

VS

“ To Gerry and Ann, my dearest childhood friends. I didn’t have a chance to know your brother, but I know the heartache of losing someone so dear. Gerry, you were there for me when I lost Terry. I’m sending my love and prayers to you, Ann, and your entire family. Angels have been sent to watch over you.
Vicki Stafford-Looka

Vicki Stafford-Looka - June 26, 2024 at 07:10 PM

EO

“ Evergy Transmission Operations purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of James "Jim" Tinsley.



Evergy Transmission Operations - June 21, 2024 at 07:30 AM

DE

“ I was devastated when I learned about Jim... We were good friends for several years ... We had coffee together a lot, supported one another, shared our life's struggles, expressed our difficulties as well as shared much laughter!! Jim was also in a coffee group that I had for awhile and we would all meet at The Steam Engine coffee shop!... He was like a brother to me... and I will always miss him... I knew a lot about what he had been going through and it saddened me a great deal... He was kind, caring, intelligent, trustworthy, and fun loving... His family, son and close friends were important to him... Sadly he put up with too much toxicity from a few people that he would tell me about often...
A moment in Time ... that changed so many people's lives...
Love You, Jim

Deb - June 20, 2024 at 09:04 PM

JB

“ I knew Jim many , many years ago. Like Julienne's post above , its true , Jim had a wonderful smile. He was always friendly and kind others. My thoughts are with Jim's family and friends at this tragic time.

Most sincerely,

Joseph Bautts

Osaka , JP

Joseph Bautts - June 20, 2024 at 08:26 AM

JB

“ So very sorry. Jim was a fun guy and always had a smile for everyone. So so sorry.

julienne blake - June 18, 2024 at 07:54 PM

ST

“ I was so sorry to hear of Jim's passing. He was my first serious boyfriend when we were in high school. I met him when he worked at Mother Earth Records and we were together for a couple of years. I have many nice memories of him. My condolences to his family and friends.
Stacy

Stacy - June 18, 2024 at 04:56 PM

GT

“ Rest in Peace little bro and friend. Until we meet again.



Gerry/Debbie Tinsley - June 14, 2024 at 07:06 PM

MH

“ So sorry for your loss. My name is Mark Hooper, Jim and I were good friends in our younger age. He worked for us at Hooper Roofing for a few years. We had many good times working ,playing tennis or going to Clinton to swim and meet girls. He will be missed.

Mark hooper - June 14, 2024 at 03:04 PM

RF

“ To the Tinsley Family,

Si sorry for your loss. Jim was a good friend and fellow co-worker. I'm glad I got to know him.

Richard & Terie Jolly & Family - June 13, 2024 at 10:42 PM