



Mr. James John Palermo

August 8, 1945 - March 30, 2026

James John Palermo, known to Erie residents as “Tex,” of Marietta, Georgia, passed away on March 30, 2026, at Northside Hospital at the age of 80.

Born in Erie, Pennsylvania, on August 8, 1945, Jim was the son of Joseph and Mary Palermo. He was preceded in death by his parents and three siblings: Joe (Helen) Palermo, Angelo Palermo, and Mary (Bob) Fabrizio.

After graduating from Cathedral Prep and Gannon University, Jim left Erie in the early 1970s to pursue a career with Xerox in Atlanta, Georgia. After several successful years and the formation of many lasting friendships, he transitioned into commercial real estate. He then dedicated over 25 loyal years to CB Richard Ellis, where he was respected for his strong work ethic and the relationships he built along the way.

Jim is survived by his children: daughter Lauren (Brian) Griffin of Marietta, Georgia, and son Jason (Erin Gardner) Palermo of Arvada, Colorado, as well as four cherished grandchildren, Annaclaire and Carter Griffin, and Quinn and Jackson Palermo. He is also survived by his former wife, Julie Palermo, with whom he shared a lifelong relationship, as well as many members of the extended Palermo and Wolfe families.

He cherished his many friends from every season of his life, who remained constantly in touch. When his health began to fail, he received daily calls and texts from near and far. Transportation to church, doctor appointments, the pharmacy, and errands was always available. Most importantly, he had his daily lunches with “The Guys” to look forward to. Jim’s family will always

remember your generosity, kindness, and love.

Jim was truly loved by all who knew him. He lived freely and fiercely, with a generous spirit, a great sense of humor, and a deep appreciation for life's simple moments. He found happiness in the little things relaxing at the beach, tending to his patio garden, playing tennis, skiing in Colorado, riding his bike, golfing, enjoying all things Italy, cheering on Ole Miss football, and enjoying an ice-cold Coca-Cola. More than anything, he loved being with his friends and family, especially his grandchildren, who brought him tremendous joy. Meeting his twin grandbabies in Colorado on his 80th birthday was a gift he treasured. Life was simply fuller with Jim in it, and he will be deeply missed. His memory will live on in the stories shared, the laughter remembered, the advice he gave, and the many lives he touched. Jim's Catholic faith was a steady and guiding presence in his life, shaping who he was and how he cared for others. A funeral mass to honor Jim's life will be held on Friday, July 17, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at The Catholic Church of St. Ann, 4905 Roswell Road, Marietta, Georgia, followed by a reception at the church.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to place a memorial Garden Bench at the Chattahoochee Nature Center. Please click on the Chattahoochee Nature Center link below to make a donation to the memorial garden bench Chattahoochee Nature Center (<https://chattahoochee-naturecenter.humanitru.com/donate?page=garden-bench&amount=2500&options=0&tribute=true&ach=selected&address=required&timings=once&locale=en>)

Upcoming Events

Memorial Mass

JUL 17. 11:00 AM (ET)

Catholic Church of St. Ann
4905 Roswell Road
Marietta, GA 30062

Reception to follow service

JUL 17. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Catholic Church of St. Ann
4905 Roswell Road
Marietta, GA 30062

Tribute Wall

BH

“ I will certainly miss my good friend, Jim, and I cherish all the good memories I have of our times together as well as our many phone calls after I moved from Atlanta.

Jim was on my USO golf foursome for 15 years and his nickname was "Two Bags" because one year we came in second and were awarded Hooters golf bags. He wished he had 2 bags so he could give one to Jason, so I gave mine to him.

Jim gave me my nickname, "Tweet Tweet" for an occasional birdie so we always addressed each other by our nick names.

Enjoy that heavenly golf course, "Two Bags", my friend!

With Love, Brian "Tweet Tweet" Hogg

Brian Hogg - May 05 at 05:36 PM

SS

“ My deepest sympathy to the family...fond memories of good times in Erie PA.

Sharon Sullivan - April 27 at 02:56 PM

BB

“ Jim was genuinely a friend to all of us at Prep. God Bless you Jim, RIP, you have earned it gracefully.

My sincere prayers and heart felt wishes to all his family.

Bobby Baumann '64 Class

Bobby Baumann - April 20 at 10:15 AM

CK

“ He will never be forgotten. "Tex" is one of the best from our Class of '64 at Prep. We have so many wonderful memories. We LOVED that smile and his warm personality. Cathy and Pat Kloecker

Catherine and J. Patrick Kloecker - April 19 at 11:39 AM

FC

“ *Frank and Kathleen Chernek
Yuma, Arizona*

Like Eric Mchane I have been a friend of Jim since high school. During our 50th class reunion in 2014, we discussed making a trip to Italy. At the time we lived in Hong Kong and he lived in Atlanta. So making arrangements was not easy. In 2019 we decided to make the trip to Italy. Jim arranged and planned for the entire trip. All we had to do was pay our share and meet him in Milan. We have traveled over the world but the 30 days we spent with Jim in Italy was absolutely the best trip we have ever experienced in our life. We miss Jim and his warm friendly smile, he was a great person and a best friend. Giacomo as we warmly called him, we love and miss you.

Frank Chernek - April 18 at 06:54 PM

EM

“ *Eric McShane
St Petersburg FL*

I've been a friend of Jim since high school. Despite the separation in miles we remained close. Occasional visits, here and in Georgia. Frequent phone calls. Most recently, monthly zoom chats with friends in California and Arizona. Words are inadequate. No more pain Jim. I love and miss you.

Eric Mcshane - April 17 at 06:26 PM

DE

“ *I knew Jim early in my CRE career and he always had a kind word and joy to be around. Always a consummate gentleman and professional and glad to had know him. Rest well my friend.*

DAVID EICHENBLATT - April 16 at 07:33 PM