



James K. Rill

January 1, 2022

It is with great sadness to announce that James K. Rill passed away peacefully in his sleep on Saturday, January 1, 2022, at the age of 80. He was a McCaskey High School graduate, received his BS from Penn State University in Electrical Engineering, and taught computer science at PSU, IUP, and UVA. He received his calling and then earned his Master of Divinity in 1976 serving as a Lutheran minister for 14 congregations in Virginia and Pennsylvania. He was pursuing his doctorate up until his death. He loved all aspects of his service but delivering the children's sermons was his favorite.

Jim was predeceased by parents, Elmer K. Rill and Ruth Bealler Rill. He is survived by his younger brothers, Ronald, and David.

He is also survived by his loving wife of 59 years, Tere Schaller Rill, and their three children/spouses: Hans Rill (Heather), Chris Rill (Heather) and Katy Bazerque (Joe), 6 grandchildren/spouses: Jay (Annie), Zeffen (Kait), Brielle, Skyler, Kendall and Griffen and 3 great-grandchildren: Logan, Rowan, and Shay. Jim and Tere also hosted eleven exchange students whom Jim loved as his own "Rill" Family. Jim liked to brag that he officiated the weddings of his children, 2 of his grandchildren and a few of his exchange students.

Jim is no doubt with God in Heaven playing ball with the other loves of his life; his dogs, Mandie, Millie, Dutch and Muffin. You may still be able to hear him

cheering for Penn State football from the heavens above!

A Celebration of Life will occur later in 2022.

In lieu of flowers, the family is asking to consider a donation in memory of Pastor Jim for the St. John's Childhood Center in Millheim, Pa which he helped found and was one of his proudest accomplishments. Send donations to 101 Mill Street, Millheim, PA 16854. (814) 349-5349.

Tribute Wall

MW

“ To the Rill Family,
My condolences to you on the passing of Pastor Rill. I met him in 2013 when he officiated at my father's, Rev. Vitolds Gobins, funeral at United Lutheran Church in Sunbury, PA. I was very grateful for his gentle perspective as I grieved my father's passing. I also appreciated his sense of humor and love of dogs. May peace follow you all the days your lives.... Marina Gobins Walchli

Marina Gobins Walchli - January 10, 2022 at 11:59 AM

JD

“ While working with the children at Saint John's, I decided to attempt an April 1st prank on Jim. With the children hiding outside, I rushed into his office and told him the engine in his car was smoking. As he hurried outside, the kids yelled, "April Fools!"
I believe his initial thoughts toward me may not have been Christian, however, when he saw how much the little ones were enjoying the gag, he began laughing and told them, "You got me!"
Sleep easy, Jim!
John Dubosky

John Dubosky - January 07, 2022 at 10:32 AM

CF

“ Very sad to hear the passing of Pastor Rill. He officiated at my wedding along with Tere and purchased many automobiles from me when I was in the sales business. He even rode with me in a sports car rally, however my driving did not sit well with his dinner I'm afraid. A gentle man, a funny soul, often shared his wit and life knowledge. You will be missed Jim.

Charlie Faris - January 06, 2022 at 12:18 PM

CH

“ Puppet ministry, handbells, walks with Jim and Dutch along Penns Creek, youth Sunday school, and just talking about God in those quiet moments. There's another tear in the curtain.....<><biff

Carroll Healy - January 06, 2022 at 06:52 AM

MP

“ My fondest memory of Jim (Pop Pop as I knew him), was when I heard him preach to the children he invited to come sit at the alter with him. His eyes twinkled and his was soft and gentle to each child as they answered and asked questions. Rest easy with your puppies..in Jesus name I pray He keep you with Him for eternity. ❤️
Michelle

Michelle Passeri - January 04, 2022 at 07:52 PM