



James Gierke

January 15, 1947 - December 20, 2011

Mr. James Alan Gierke, 64, of Sunrise Beach, Missouri formerly of Louisiana, Missouri passed away on Tuesday, December 20, 2011 at the Washington Regional Hospital in Fayetteville, Arkansas after a valiant 2 month long battle against a brain aneurysm suffered in October. Jim was born in Louisiana, Missouri on January 15, 1947, the son of Victor Albert Gierke and Laura Maxwell Gierke. He was preceded in death by his father on May 27, 1996, his mother on October 24, 1999, and 2 sons, Jacob Adam Gierke on July 17, 1989, and James Christian Gierke on May 3, 2010. He is survived by one son, Brent Alan Gierke of Bentonville, Arkansas, and his wife Sue and their 3 children, Jacob, Carly, and Rachael, as well as 2 sisters, Carolyn Neunuebel and husband Paul of Huntsville, Texas, and Margaret Crawford and husband Jim of McCall, Idaho. Funeral services will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 24th at the Collier Funeral Home in Louisiana, Missouri. Pastor Jeffrey Dock of Trinity Lutheran Church presiding. Burial will be at the Riverview Cemetery in Louisiana, Missouri. Visitation will be held from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Friday, December 23rd at the funeral home. Jim had been a life-long resident of Louisiana up until his retirement in 2002. He graduated from Louisiana High School in 1965 and attended Truman State University at Kirksville and the University of Missouri at Columbia. He was the former president and owner of the Louisiana Press-Journal, the Bowling Green Times, Press-Journal Printing, and weekly newspapers in Troy, Elsberry, Hermann, and New Haven. He was the founder

of the Lincoln County Journal in Troy, Missouri. He was a past president of the Louisiana Chamber of Commerce, the Louisiana Industrial Development Corporation, and several Missouri newspaper trade associations. He was a charter board member of the Missouri Press Foundation and a board member of the Missouri Press Association. He was also a member of the board of directors of the Columbia Missourian, the University of Missouri School of Journalism's student staffed newspaper. Jim also served on the board of directors of Mercantile Bank. He was a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church. Jim was a compassionate and generous man who helped many people both in public and in private. Two of his biggest joys in life were watching his grandkids grow up and spending quality time with his son Brent on their farm in southwest Missouri. His love, laugh, and kindhearted nature will be terribly missed, but never forgotten. Honorary Pallbearers will be Jim Grimm, Phil Smith, Karl Dewey, Paul McKenna, and Bruce Griffith. Active Pallbearers will be Jerry Webster, Barry Trost, Chuck Johns, Charlie Meyer, Ken Bowser, and Mack Elliott. Memorial donations may be given to the Trinity Lutheran Church in Louisiana, Missouri or the Missouri Press Foundation in Columbia, Missouri in care of Collier Funeral Homes, Inc., 117 Barnard Drive, Louisiana, Missouri 63353. On-line condolences may be sent at collierfuneral.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *James Gierke*

November 08, 2022 at 10:35 AM



“ *James Gierke*

November 08, 2022 at 08:46 AM



“ *My deepest sympathy goes out to the family and close friends of Jim. He was a very generous and intelligent man who had the ability to generate good will to all. His vast amount of friends is a testament to that. He will be missed by all who knew him.*

Bruce Griffith - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *I worked at the Hermann Advertiser-Courier newspaper when Jim owned the paper. He was a great boss, very generous and understanding. I am so sorry to hear of his passing. He will be missed by many.*

Angie Deaton - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Look unto God who will comfort you and give you the strength to carry on!*

Marty Carter - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ With heartfelt sympathy in the loss of your father, Brent; your brother, Carolyn and Margaret; and the father of your children, dear Brenda.

Jim's fight was valiant! As you go through life's greatest sorrow~the loss of someone you love so dearly~may your own faith in God sustain you. Praying for your comfort, peace and courage for tomorrow and the future. God be with each of you and your families.

Barbara Dewey Parker & Roger Parker - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Jim served on the Bank's Board of Directors for nearly 15 years. His intuition, common sense and business savvy were invaluable to the Bank. He was a promoter of our business and a friend to everyone here. We will miss him professionally and personally. God bless his family and all his close friends.

Directors, Officers, and Employees of The Mercantile Bank - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ Jim and I had been friends from around 1960 when he would be at press meetings with Vic and Laura. I had friends in Louisiana and visited there quite often in the 1960s and 70s and usually visited with Jim or Vic if they were in town.

Bob Wilson - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

EA

“ Shell-shocked! I didn't learn about Gierk's passing until today (Tuesday). I'm at a loss for words, but my deepest sympathy for all.

Eatock - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RA

“ *My deepest sympathy to Brent and all the family. You are in my thoughts and prayers. My love to all, Rita*

Rita Auwarter - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ *Brent,*

I don't know pain of losing a parent but I know you did everything within you power to make him comfortable. But sometimes we have to give them the wings to fly and you did the hardest thing of all. I pray God's peace for you and your family. You are in my thoughts and always my prayers.

Charlene Mattmann - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SE

“ *Sad day for everyone who had the pleasure of knowing Jim. Still remember our high school days.*

Sandy Mower Ely - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DA

“ *I was first acquainted with Jim as a paper carrier, then later as custodian at the Press-Journal while in high school.*

To borrow from a sympathy card I sent once:

*Saddened by your loss
Praying for your comfort*

Darrell Akers - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ SO VERY SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT JIM LEAVING US.I WISH I COULD OF MADE THE VISITATION AT LEAST. I REMEMBER JIM AS A GOOD GUY AND A FUN GUY. WHILE I DID NOT KNOW HIM AFTER GRADUATION, I DID KNOW OF HIS ACKLISHMENTS. AND MY PRAYERS ARE WITH HIS FAMILY, WE ALL KNOW HE IS WATCHING US EVEN IN SORROW.

JOHN L ELLIOTT - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ I am saddened to hear of Jim's passing. Such a caring, generous employer when I worked for him at the Advertiser-Courier in Hermann. The entire staff adored his humor, sense of adventure, and compassion. We loved being on his team. My condolences to his family.

Katy Wehrle - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM