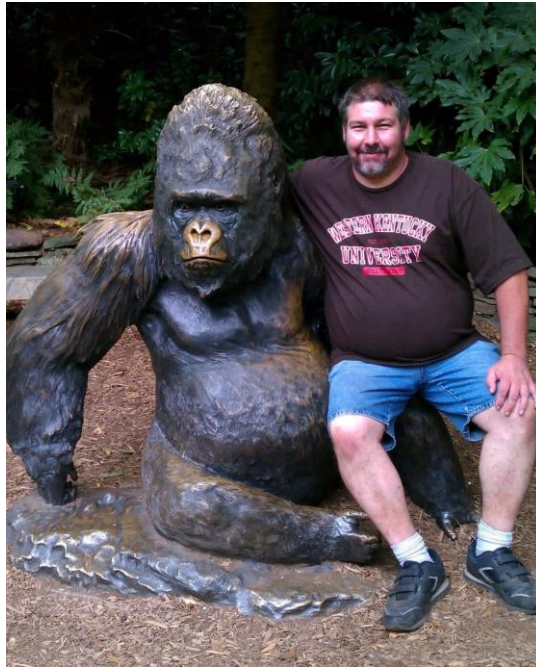




In Loving Memory of

James Franklin "Jim" Gagliano

November 30, 1966 – June 20, 2026



James Franklin "Jim" Gagliano, age 59, passed away peacefully on June 20, 2026, following complications of a prolonged illness.

Born on November 30, 1966, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Jim was raised in Milwaukee before making Chattanooga, Tennessee, his home more than 25 years ago. He will be remembered for his quiet strength, kind heart, unwavering devotion to his family, and the lasting impact he made on all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Jim was a loving husband, devoted father, proud grandfather, caring brother, and loyal friend. Family was the foundation of his life, and nothing brought him greater happiness than spending time with those he loved. His greatest joy came from watching his children and grandchildren grow, celebrating their accomplishments, and creating memories that will be treasured forever.

Jim was very mechanically inclined and had a remarkable ability to understand how things worked. Whether repairing equipment, solving a difficult problem, or helping someone in need, he approached every task with patience, determination, and humility.

Those who knew Jim will remember his warm smile, wonderful sense of humor, quiet wisdom, and genuine compassion.

Jim is lovingly remembered by his beloved wife of 38 years, Joyce Gagliano; his children, Samantha, Stephanie (Sean), and Nicholas (Elsie); his cherished grandchildren, Alicia, Abigail, Alexander, Jesse, Alyrria, Lincoln, Raider, and Kingston; his loving sister, Jean Trost (Brian); his sister-in-law, Diane Zettelmeier; his nieces, Sara Simes and Katie Mueller; his nephew, Daniel Trost; extended family, dear friends, and Gypsy.

He was preceded in death by his beloved parents, Frank and Sally Gagliano; his father-in-law, Gill Palkowski; and his mother-in-law, Veronica Palkowski.

Although our hearts are saddened by his passing, we are forever grateful for the love he shared, the wisdom he quietly imparted, and the countless lives he touched through his kindness and generosity.

Jim will be deeply missed, lovingly remembered, and forever held in the hearts of those who were blessed to know him.



*"Well done, good and faithful servant."
— Matthew 25:23*

Celebration of Life

Saturday, August 29, 2026
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Chattanooga Zoo
Education Center
301 North Holtzclaw Avenue
Chattanooga, TN 37404

Family and friends are warmly invited to celebrate Jim's life by sharing memories, fellowship, and honoring the legacy he leaves behind.

Guests are kindly asked to check in at the Education Center entrance upon arrival. Admission to the Chattanooga Zoo is included for all attendees, and guests are welcome to enjoy the zoo either before or following the Celebration of Life. A luncheon will be served during the gathering.

Jim had a lifelong love of nature and animals, making the Chattanooga Zoo a fitting place to celebrate his life. It is the family's hope that guests will take time to experience the beauty of the zoo, reflect on cherished memories, and enjoy the animals and natural surroundings that brought Jim so much happiness.

In Lieu of Flowers

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made directly to the Gagliano family to assist with final expenses and to honor Jim's memory. Your love, prayers, kindness, and support during this difficult time are deeply appreciated by the family.