



James Charles Bauman

October 7, 1937 - February 18, 2021

James Bauman, 83, of Milburn, died on Thursday, February 18, 2021, after a months-long battle with complications from COVID-19.

James was born, October 7, 1937, in Hobart, Oklahoma, to E.J. and Lillian Bock Bauman. He spent most of his early years in Roosevelt, OK, and moved to Tishomingo when he was a senior in high school. James graduated from Tishomingo High School in 1956 and married Nina Rushing that same year on November 15, 1956 in Cordell, Oklahoma. He joined the National Guard in 1955.

Together, James and Nina combined their love of learning, teaching, and traveling, and they supported each other in their individual pursuits of higher education. James earned an associate degree from Murray State College in 1961, a Bachelor of Science from the University of Oklahoma in 1963, a Master of Science from the University of Oklahoma in 1966, and an associate degree in gunsmithing from Murray State College in 1988. James was a lifelong learner, fueled by a sincere curiosity about the world and every person he met.

This curiosity about people and places led James and Nina to work as educators in Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Alaska, where they taught in multiple communities, eventually settling in the remote Pribilof Islands. Anyone who has visited James and Nina's home can see through carefully displayed natural artifacts, artwork, jewelry, and books what an impact their time in Alaska had on their lives and what an important place it still holds in

their hearts.

James was a collector of special objects and people. He was curious about his students' lives and would often quiz them about their personal stories. He made friends for life, maintained a large Christmas card list, and kept in touch with an assorted cast of characters, family, and friends around the country.

James was an avid hunter and skilled gunsmith. He was a lifelong member of the NRA and an active member of the Single Action Shooting Society, a competitive shooting organization.

James loved animals at least as much as he loved people – a trait many in his family have inherited. In addition to innumerable beloved and well-fed dogs and cats over the years, James was also known to rescue the odd baby raccoon or skunk.

James had a tender, generous soul, cared deeply about the wellbeing of the people and animals in his life, and was always quick to offer support and encouragement to those in need. If you were among the many fortunate individuals to know James, be on his Christmas card list, or even to stand next to him in line at the grocery store, then you know the level of quiet attention and genuine curiosity he brought to each of his interactions. In James' final days, it was not possible for him to be physically surrounded by his loved ones. But just as so many of us carry loving memories of James and his positive impact on our lives, we believe that James knew just how many people loved him in return.

James is survived by his wife of 63 years, Nina Bauman; his daughter, Janet Stevenson; grandsons, James and Greg Stevenson; and nieces and nephews, Courtney Bauman, Kevin Bauman, Debbie Krebbs, Larry Krebbs, and their families. James is also survived by many additional special loved ones, including these individuals whom he greatly enjoyed mentoring over the years: Lee McMorries, Cheryl Davis, Zenaida Lestenkof, and Luke Kochutin. James was preceded in death by his brother, Ray Bauman.

Memorial services will be held at a later date.

Tribute Wall



“ *James Charles Bauman*

October 05, 2023 at 07:47 PM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss, Nina. James was a truly special man I know the heartbreak of losing a mate. My thoughts and prayers will be with you in the many rough days ahead.*
Mary Johnson

Mary Johnson - March 04, 2021 at 03:12 AM



“ *James was the best Uncle anyone could ever want. His knowledge of history and many other things were immense. I enjoyed sitting in the deer stand listening to his stories and his guidance on many issues or taking drives to different cemeteries where family were buried and learning the history behind it. I especially enjoyed time spent at Blue River where he'd tell me about a dog he had that would jump into the river and retrieve things for him. Last but not least going through his knife collection and some of the stories of where he found them. James had many collections of different tools he had altered, repaired, refurbished. So many wonderful things to be said and he will be greatly missed by anyone who had the pleasure of meeting him if only for a moment of their time. I'll miss you and our time spent together James you were a blessing in my life. Thank you!*

Kevin Bauman - February 27, 2021 at 08:20 PM

MM

“ I loved going out to James' barn and listening to his many stories. His collection of tools, books, lighters, rocks, knives were equal to no other. His stories were so interesting, and he loved to share them. Not long ago I helped James trim some tree limbs, we carried them down into the pasture with his Ranger. After about an hour he took me all over the property and told me every story that went with each place. We drove the Ranger through mud puddles, across ditches and I had a wonderful time. That was the last time I had the opportunity and pleasure of spending time with him, but I will always remember James as a wonderful friend and person. I personally will miss him greatly. James was the easiest person to do something for, he loved every gesture regardless of how size and always had a hug ready as a thank you.

Mary Jo Massey

Mary Jo Massey - February 23, 2021 at 10:39 AM