



James (Jim) Joseph Korzan

May 2, 1950 - December 27, 2020

Jim Korzan of Stratford, Oklahoma was born May 2, 1950 in Mitchell, South Dakota to Floyd James Korzan and Rita Marie (Labrecque) Korzan. He joined the United States Air Force after college and served our country. Stationed in Vietnam for a year and half as a Vietnamese translator. After being wounded in action he came back to the States. He was a member of the Catholic faith. He married Debbie Dempsey on July 4, 2012 in Stratford. Jim was a member of the American Legion Post 191 where he was very active. He loved to serve in his community by helping where ever he could.

Preceded by: his parents, and one sister Monica Korzan.

Survived by: his wife Debbie of the home in Stratford

Daughters: Amanda Gustovic, Kellie Edwards & husband Jason all of Stratford, Shelia Thompson of Mustang, Oklahoma.

Sons: Jason Korzan & wife Jaime of Stratford,

Mike Milliken & wife Julie of Wonder Lake, Illinois, and Branum Dempsey & wife Elizabeth of Stratford.

brothers & sisters: Mike Korzan & wife Carol of Minneapolis, Minnesota, John Korzan & wife Karren of Hartford, South Dakota, Pat Woodraska & husband Wayne of Kimball, South Dakota, Margaret Korzan of Boston, Massachusetts, Matt Korzan & wife Bam of Mitchell, South Dakota, Charlie Korzan & wife Cheryl of Kimball, South Dakota, Joe Korzan & wife Lisa of Watertown, South Dakota. 23 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren,

Visitation: Wednesday December 30, 2020 at DeArman/Pickard Funeral Home from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Services: 2:00 pm Thursday December 31, 2020 in the Stratford High School Auditorium. Officiating: Bill Jones. Burial will be in Corley Cemetery south of Stratford on highway 177.

Tribute Wall



“ It’s been 4 years since my grandpa passed. I miss him greatly. Now there’s no one to shoot turtles with, or to get me out of school. He was the best grandpa in the world. He was always there for me and my siblings, even in hard times. I remember when we used to help him put up flags, after that we’d eat at McGees and laugh at how many stickers we got. We loved when pop came over to babysit us. We would always watch Indiana jones, and he would sit in our green chair. Sometimes he’d even snore part way through, but we didn’t care. We loved him. Oh, how I miss you grandpa.

-Chloe Gustovic. Stratford, Oklahoma

Chloe Gustovic - August 22, 2024 at 09:27 PM



“ James (Jim) Joseph Korzan

October 05, 2023 at 07:47 PM



“ I don’t guess I remember a time that I didn’t know who Jim was. He was a close friend to my Uncle Alvin Mulliniks and Friends with my Father in Law Stan Bellew. All 3 mechanics, no doubt talking about cars in Heaven. Jim was a good person. He always greeted you with a Hello or Hey! How are you doin. I miss him.



Kimberly Clements Bellew - September 28, 2021 at 07:11 PM

LD

“ *Liz Dillon lit a candle in memory of James (Jim) Joseph Korzan*



Liz Dillon - January 12, 2021 at 02:56 AM

VT

“ *I met Jim in the fall of '75 at McClellan AFB in CA. I was from Kimball, MN and he was from Kimball , SD. From there we clicked - I followed him like a pup. He was my big brother - always in my heart - I will never forget him.*

Virgil Truenow

Virgil Truenow - January 05, 2021 at 09:08 PM



“ *I am heart broken over Jim's passing. I met Jim in the Air Force and we served together in Southeast Asia. We remained life-long friends.*

I admired Jim as a warrior and as a man. He was always generous to all he met.

Angel Departure: James J. Korzan, proceed heading two seven zero, cleared to climb altitude and speed unlimited, monitor Guard. Fly High, Fly Long.



Daniel Culbertson - January 03, 2021 at 05:35 PM

JN

“ Jim was a very special man. We always enjoyed our visits when he came to SD. He was a friend and a classmate of ours. So many good memories of our reunion. God bless you, Chuck and Joyce Nedved

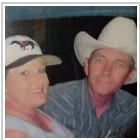
Joyce Nedved - December 31, 2020 at 03:00 PM

KK

“ When I was very young Jim and my parents bought a house together. I thought it was completely normal to have a cool car loving uncle living at your house. He was on the road working a great deal of time but when he was home it was a nonstop excitement when all the brothers were together, police occasionally visited. I will miss him, especially when pheasant season arrives. In his memory, lift a tall glass and tell a story that is what Jim would have done. Rest in Peace uncle Jim.

Wayne Korzan
Boise, ID

Karen Korzan - December 30, 2020 at 06:29 PM



“ He always serviced the ambulance when we had problems. I remember Leslie accidentally put gas instead of diesel in the ambulance because we were so busy with calls all day. Lucky he didn't start it but costed to Jim's shop. He teased Leslie, but was able to drain all the gas. He even filled it up with the diesel so we would not have to wait and the unit was ready to go quickly. He was a good man.

Donna Schmidt Wood - December 30, 2020 at 05:25 PM

BL

“ I am so sorry to hear of Jim's passing. I meet him when my daughter was singing. He had her sing for him at the VFW and at the Stratford School at a VFW program that he put on. He wanted some of her music but he didn't have a CD. We made him a cassette to listen to in his truck. He always wanted to know if Jillian was still singing. We got to talk cars when we saw each other over the years "I loved his Nova". I remember him popping a wheelie at the Pauls Valley Police car show in the Nova. Somehow Police and Wheelie didn't fit but it that day! I imagine he touched a lot of lives as he did mine.

Billy LeMay - December 30, 2020 at 05:23 PM

JS

“ I shared a close personal friendship with Jim throughout my Air Force years, and beyond. We met at the end of basic training in San Antonio, were roommates in Monterey, CA and San Angelo, TX, and remained friends in the ensuing years. Jim was like another big brother to me. He was carefree and fun-loving, but he also cared deeply about people, issues, and injustices. He was passionate, a warrior, and a patriot. I am now more appreciative than ever that about ten years ago I was able to spend a weekend in Stratford with Jim, where I could experience for myself all that I respected about Jim had remained entrenched in how he went about his business and lived his life. Jim's legacy to me is simply that he left the world a better place for how he went about his life. Farewell, Jim.

John Selden - December 30, 2020 at 10:24 AM

DL

“ *Debbie Lee lit a candle in memory of James (Jim) Joseph Korzan*



Debbie Lee - December 29, 2020 at 07:53 PM

RE

“ *Jim was one of my best friends. We served in the USAF together, at language school in Monterey, CA and also in Thailand. We drank a lot of beer in those days. He was the main reason I moved to South Dakota in 1979. He left South Dakota and I stayed. He was the Best Man at my wedding in 1985. I always managed to see him for a few hours every October when he came back to SD to hunt pheasants. Lots of good memories!*

My sincere sympathies go out to all of his family and friends. He will certainly be missed.

*Anh cuar Anh va luon,
(brother of my brother forever)*

*Rick Ehrhardt
Brandon, SD*

Richard Ehrhardt - December 29, 2020 at 07:19 PM

RD

“ Going to miss you Uncle Jim. Such a great caring man. Thank you for your service



Rene Davis - December 29, 2020 at 12:49 PM

JM

“ Juanita Matthews lit a candle in memory of James (Jim) Joseph Korzan



Juanita Matthews - December 29, 2020 at 12:04 PM

DM

“ I am very sorry about the loss of Jim, a high school classmate. We had a wonderful conversation at our 50 year high school class reunion. I was amazed by how many stories he remembered from high school days. Kimball Kiotes! Class of 1968.
Donna Stadler McCullough, Omaha, NE

Donna McCullough - December 29, 2020 at 12:01 PM