



James "Jim" Sternat

May 28, 1944 - August 12, 2025

James C. Sternat, age 81, passed away peacefully at home on August 12, 2025.

He was born on May 28, 1944, in Berlin, Wisconsin, to Lionel and Hilda Sternat. Jim grew up on the family farm alongside his two siblings and cherished the country life. He attended school in the Berlin School District and graduated from Berlin High School. During his school years, Jim was active in sports—playing football, wrestling, and he was on the track team. In 2022, he and his track team were inducted into the Berlin Indians Athletics Hall of Fame, a recognition that brought him great pride.

After his high school years, he met his former wife of 23 years, Barbara Sternat, and they had two wonderful children, James and Jennifer. Known affectionately as “Big Jim,” he worked as a welder at Oshkosh Truck Corporation for over 40 years until his retirement. Even after retiring, he never slowed down. Jim stayed busy with side jobs—building garages, pouring cement, helping friends on their farms, and welding anything that needed fixing. He was always ready to lend a helping hand. Jim was a hardworking man; a quality that deeply influenced his children in their work ethic and made him proud. Jim had a passion for hunting and continued to do so throughout his life. Whether with a bow or a gun, he loved being in the woods and telling stories, especially about the ones that got away. He shared this love with his son, creating memories filled with laughter and adventure. In his younger years, he was also an excellent trap shooter; clay pigeons were no match for his aim. A proud and supportive father, Jim, could always be found cheering from the sidelines at his kids' sporting events—coaching from the stands and offering rides to anyone who needed one. He often said, “Do your best in whatever you do,” and lived that message every day.

Jim will be deeply missed by all who knew him. He was generous, kind-hearted, always willing to help, and most of all, incredibly proud of his family.

He is survived by his son, James L.F. Sternat (Lyn); his granddaughter, Anna Sternat; his daughter, Jennifer E. Dorn (preceded in death by her husband, Michael); and his beloved

dog, Reggie. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, friends, and extended family.

He is reunited in heaven with his parents, Lionel and Hilda Sternat; his brother, Robert Sternat; his sister, Elaine Kafer; his son-in-law, Michael Dorn; the mother of his children, and dear friend, Barbara Sternat; his grandparents, and many other loved ones.

We like to think he finally got the big buck he was always chasing. We love you, Dad. We will miss your stories, your help, your humor, and your unwavering support.

Cards and messages of condolence may be sent to the funeral home

Cemetery Details

Nepeuskun Cemetery

Berlin, WI

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 15. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Wiecki-Skipchak Funeral Home
116 S Adams Ave
Berlin, WI 54923
(920) 361-2050

Tribute Wall



“ *Wiecki-Skipchak Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of James "Jim" Sternat*



Wiecki-Skipchak Funeral Home - November 12, 2025 at 02:18 PM



“ *100 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Wiecki-Skipchak Funeral Home - November 12, 2025 at 01:49 PM

FK

“ *Family of Kenneth & Elaine Kafer purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of James "Jim" Sternat.*



Family of Kenneth & Elaine Kafer - October 28, 2025 at 01:15 PM

DK

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Dennis Krueger - September 02, 2025 at 05:25 PM

KD

“ I met Jim when my son Mike was going out with Jenny. He was a very nice man, easy to talk to. He and Mike were very close. Now they are reunited in heaven, probably talking nonstop finding out what is going on down here. Jim I miss our talks when there were get together. 😭 You are a very knowledgeable guy, answers for everything. Tell Mike I miss and love him. Tell Barb I miss her also. I will miss you Jim. R.I.P. FLY HIGH WITH THE ANGELS!



Karen Dorn - August 19, 2025 at 09:30 PM

KD

“ Karen D. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James "Jim" Sternat.

Karen D. - August 19, 2025 at 09:16 PM

GS

“ Jim was the man who would give a person the shirt off his back. Even if he needed it.

Gary Schackow - August 19, 2025 at 07:59 AM

JD

“ Jimmy my friend, gods speed. We shared a lot of laughs work , hunting and fishing.you will be missed.

Jerry Downen - August 17, 2025 at 07:25 PM

NW

“ Although we have not met, I wanted to let you know that I knew Jim as a very caring person, always kind and so thoughtful. His heart was as big as the rest of him! 😊❤️. (Karin Wilterdink, oldest sister of Betty Cartwright)

Naomi (Karin) Wilterdink - August 16, 2025 at 08:42 PM

WW

“ I worked as a welder with Jimmy at Oshkosh Truck. He taught me some cool things. I also went to alot of auctions with him. He was a very nice guy. He will be missed. RIP Jimmy. I will always remember you.

Willy Wesner - August 16, 2025 at 10:22 AM

TP

Rest in peace my good friend. We have always known you to be a guy that would give the shirt off his back to help someone out and expect nothing in return for doing so.

Tom and Jean Pionke - August 19, 2025 at 08:17 PM