



James E. Kingston

August 1, 1943 - February 15, 2022

James E. Kingston, age 78, of Paxton, passed away on Tuesday, February 15, 2022. He was born on August 1, 1943 in Paxton, the son of Lewis and Pauline Kingston. Mr. Kingston married Iva Jean (Jeannie) Thompson on January 26, 1961; and she survives in Paxton.

Along with his wife, Jeannie, he is survived by a daughter, Laurie (David) Eckerty of Paxton; a son, Greg (Carrie) Kingston of Tolono; three grandchildren, Alaina (Craig) Kief of Paxton, Jamie Kingston of Champaign, and Lewis Kingston of Tolono; two great-grandchildren, Gavin Kief and Kameron Kief of Paxton; and a brother-in-law, John (Cindy) Thompson of Lexington, SC.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and a grandson, Wes Eckerty.

For 28 years (1977-2005), Mr. Kingston was Mayor of the City of Paxton. He also served Paxton as an Alderman and Police Officer. While Mayor, he served as President on the Illinois Municipal League Board of Directors and served on the Illinois Police Training and Standards Board. Mr. Kingston was also a member of the Paxton Masonic Lodge, Loda Sportsmans Club, and the Loda Post of the Sons of the American Legion. He retired from Ameren on January 1, 2006.

A private family burial will be held at Glen Cemetery in Paxton.
Memorials may be made to the Evangelical Covenant Church in Paxton.

If you would like to extend your sympathy to the family, you may mail cards to:
The Kingston Family
c/o Cox-Knapp Funeral Home
142 W. Patton St.
Paxton, IL 60957

Cemetery Details

Glen Cemetery

602 E. Summer St.
Paxton, IL 60957

Tribute Wall

KA

“ As one goes through life one has occasion to meet outstanding individuals. As the past Director of the Illinois Municipal League I would have to say that Jim was one of those outstanding individuals. In the majority of his public life he was dedicated to serving others. He was a man of consideration - thoughtful of others opinions, feelings and and possibly their biases. When making decisions he tried to make those that served to make our and his communities better. He never assumed he knew best and sought advice and input to bring about the best results possible. His family was a treasure he deeply loved. His passing is a loss to his family, friends and I would venture to say, even those who didn't know him. He was, as I said, an outstanding individual and I was blessed to know him and have him as a friend.

Kenneth A. Alderson - February 22, 2022 at 12:47 PM

RP

“ I knew Jim for many years and remember when he started dating Jeannie.
He stepped up to contribute to Paxton in a number of ways.

We offer our condolences to Jeannie and family. You can be proud of the legacy Jim has left.

Sharon & Rod Parks

Rod Parks - February 21, 2022 at 03:55 PM

MK

“ I worked with Jim in the Municipal League while a Gifford Village Trustee. My late husband Jerry knew Jim through the Masonic Lodge. My deepest sympathy and condolences and prayers for his wife Jeannie and the family.

Martha King

Martha A King - February 19, 2022 at 06:43 PM

DC

“ Both Jim and Jeannie were my classmates, graduating Paxton High School 1961. I spent many hours each year with Iva and Ed Thompson. Ate meals with, even went on Vacation with the wonderful family. Each year, I phoned Jim on his birthday as well as my daughter and My nephew, Darrell Lee's birthday on August 1st. Jim was so kind to all of his family and friends. He will be greatly missed. With Love, Donna Johnson Craft.

Donna Craft - February 18, 2022 at 06:45 PM

JM

“ I remember Jim as a policeman in Paxton and then as the mayor for so many years. He and his beautiful wife, Jeannie, were such a striking couple. Years after I moved away my parents would tell me about what Jim had done as mayor with the city along with my dad, Glenn Miller, on the City Council. What a loss Jim's passing is to Paxton. My sympathies to Jeannie and all his family.

Janene Mattingly - February 18, 2022 at 04:54 PM

DL

“ Jim welcomed me more to Paxton than anybody else. He was a father-figure of whom I have the greatest respect. The first city council meeting I covered for WPXN, Jim invited me across the street after the meeting “for a Coke”. I thought “why to I want to go with him, Jack Martin, and Jay Nuss for a Coke?” Well, the “Coke” came in a pitcher and tasted a lot like Bud Lite. He and I closed the place down. From there, I rode with he, Jeannie and Dave to a playoff football game. And I got sick in their Caddie on the way home. It was years later before Jim partially admitted that I may not have gotten the door open all the way. He and Jeannie welcomed me into their home for bumper pool and always had a sarcastic (and funny) comment when we met. I am a better person for having known him. May God’s peace surround you all!

dave lithgow - February 18, 2022 at 01:58 PM

RN

“ I was so sorry to hear of Jim's passing. I always enjoyed any time that I spent visiting with him. He was a community leader and role model for many. My prayers are with the family for comfort and peace during this time of great loss.
Rick Nelson

Rick Nelson - February 18, 2022 at 01:34 PM

TO

So very sorry hearing of Jim's passing, he was a gentleman and great friend to many. I will truly miss our conversations, and occasional bantering back and forth. My prayers are with Jeanie, Lori, Greg, and their families.
Tadd Ostendorf

Tadd Ostendorf - February 18, 2022 at 10:02 PM

DS

“ Jim & I made some great memories together. I worked with him when we were both Paxton police patrolmen. He appointed me Chief of Police in 1977 when he was the Mayor. He was my boss until I retired in 1998. He was a great friend & mentor throughout this entire time. He will be sorely missed. My sincere condolences to all of his family and friends. 🙏

dennis schneider - February 18, 2022 at 11:45 AM

KS

“ Our deepest sympathy and prayers Jeannie and family. Ron enjoyed working and knowing Jim in the good old CIPS years. RIP Jim 🙏🙏

Karen Shepard - February 18, 2022 at 10:34 AM

GG

“ Jeannie, Greg and all the Kingstons Sorry to hear about Jim we had been friends a long time but I had not seen him recently. He always had a smile and a good word for everyone. I remember the good times at Willeys May He Rest In Peace.

Greg Grady
Monticello IL

Greg Grady - February 18, 2022 at 09:44 AM

DD

“ Dear Jeannie and family, I am so sorry for your loss and am praying that Jim's reward in heaven is great and that we will all see him again one day. A kind and gentle man who always took time to visit with me and others in my family...prayers for all of you, God bless.
Dan Daugherity

Dan Daugherity - February 18, 2022 at 09:17 AM

CS

“ One of the nicest men we ever met. No matter where you saw him and Jeannie they were both always friendly, always said hi and asked how my husband was doing, My heart goes out to Jeannie and the family, he will trully be missed...Carol and John Shaw



Carol Shaw - February 17, 2022 at 07:58 PM

AR

“ My heart is truly broken. He was a great human being who always had a kind word for everyone. He made me laugh & always showed patience when my brain had the dumb. The World is truly darker without him in it. My deepest condolences to Jeannie & the rest of his family



April Ransom - February 17, 2022 at 05:53 PM

KS

“ Jim was the nicest man I think I've ever met... always had a smile on his face....I'm so lucky I got to know him....RIP my dear friend

Kelly Schmidt - February 17, 2022 at 05:33 PM

WM

“ As a fellow Mayor, I had the pleasure of getting to know this fine gentleman. As a fellow member of the Illinois Municipal League who served as Mayor Kingston's Vice President, I had the pleasure of seeing his patience, knowledge, personality, kindness and leadership. He was truly a leader of leaders. Most importantly he was a person of integrity and a great friend. Our thoughts prayers and sympathy are with his wonderful wife, Jeannie and the family.

*Bill Murphy
Woodridge, IL*

William F Murphy - February 17, 2022 at 05:01 PM

BK

“ We send our sincere sympathy to all of you
It seemed we met at the post office most often
And always a friendly smile and how are you
We'll miss him in the community and for all he did and stood for
Gods blessings to all 🙏🙏🌺🌸🌻

bonnie kaeb - February 17, 2022 at 04:51 PM

TE

“ Dick and Phyllis Cliff send their heart felt condolences to all of Jim's family. They have been reminiscing about spending time with him and his wife. I enjoyed working with Jim on the tree crew for CIPS. Top shelf of a man and family.

teena - February 17, 2022 at 04:41 PM

RS

“ May Jim be at peace and you the family find strength during this great time of sorrow 🙏
Yours Friends Reuben and Sharon 🙏

Reuben Shiits - February 17, 2022 at 03:59 PM

TF

“ A wonderful neighbor for 28+ years. We will miss Jim. We'll miss hearing “Hi neighbor “ every time we see him. Sending our love and prayers to Jeannie, Laurie, Greg, and their families. Rest In Peace Jim. You will be missed.

The Brocato famiy - February 17, 2022 at 03:33 PM