

GH-R

4-26-2018 James M. 'Jim' Connealy

James M. "Jim" Connealy, 86, of Gilman died on April 24, 2018, at his home under hospice care.

A Celebration of Life service, with military honors, has been scheduled for 11:00 a.m. Friday at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with the Rev. John Epperson, Grinnell Regional Hospice Chaplain, officiating. Burial will be held at a later date in Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Visitation was held from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, April 26th, at the Smith Funeral Home with the family present from 6:00 to 8:00 Thursday evening.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Gilman Fire and Rescue or Grinnell Regional Hospice.

Jim was born on October 14, 1931, in Fargo, North Dakota, the son of Donal and Lillian Morris Connealy.

Jim served in the United States Navy during the Korean Conflict.

He was a graduate of the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. Following graduation, he was employed with the Department of Agriculture for a few years prior to working as a sales representative. His career took him to living in several states including Nebraska, Oklahoma, California and Oregon. After he retired from the sales field he became a truck driver for many years and held a love for driving over the road.

On June 11, 1955, he was united in marriage with Elizabeth Malloy, in Nebraska, and the couple raised five children together. They were later divorced. He was married to Ilene Davis on February 25, 1979, in Houston, Texas. The couple moved to Newburg in 1980 and later to Gilman in 2005.

Jim was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Gilman American Legion, Grinnell Eagles Club and was a former Boy Scout Leader.

Jim held a deep love for his family; he was very supportive and very proud of his children. His family came first throughout his life. He was a good dad and a good man! He enjoyed his family vacations to Nebraska and Yosemite National Park and the family weekend trips to Disneyland. He held a passion for woodworking and craftwork, attending Flea Markets, gardening, and dancing.

He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Ilene of Gilman; his children, Don (Penny) Connealy of Ninilchik, Alaska, Mark (Linda) Connealy of Woodburn, Oregon, Maureen Connealy of Portland, Oregon, Kari (David) Mollgaard of Salem, Oregon, Jean (Scott) Mateson of Salem, Oregon, and Shelley Klingsporn of Gilman; his grandchildren, Curtis Klingsporn of Gilman, Matt (Jamie) Halley of Iola, Texas, Crystal Van Gordon of Molalla, Oregon, Joseph (Charity) Connealy of Laredo, Texas, Katelyn Connealy of Portland, Oregon, Cole Connealy of Portland, Oregon, Jake Williamson of Salem, Oregon, Logan Williamson of Daytona Beach, Florida, and Carter Williamson, Salem, Oregon; and six great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and a son, Mark Halley.

