



## James E. Belak

September 2, 1933 - January 10, 2021

James E. Belak, 87, of North Huntingdon, died Sunday January 10, 2021, due to complications from the covid virus. He was born September 2, 1933 in Penn Township, the son of the late Charles and Mary (Belak) Valero. In addition to his parents he is also preceded in death by his beloved son Brett C. Belak. He was the founder of Belak Flowers which he started on November 1, 1960 in Irwin where he worked until his semi-retirement at the age of 65. He greeted everyone with a smile, kind word, and encouragement. In recent years he had an online business selling mosaics called Mosaics by Kaleb. He was loved by many and will be missed by everyone. Jim graduated from Penn-Joint High School, Class of 1951, where he played basketball and football. He also took a few business classes at Penn State University. He was a member of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Irwin, where he served on church council for many years. He was a longtime member and past president of the Norwin Rotary Club, a member of the Norwin Chamber of Commerce, and served on the board of directors of Union Cemetery. He was also a member of Shidle Lodge No. 601, F&M, Irwin and participated in the Bromas Club bowling and golf leagues. He was a member of the Norwin Art League, volunteered for Meals on Wheels, enjoyed playing in couple's golf leagues, and had in recent years developed a love for trap shooting. He is survived by his loving wife of 58 years, Rochelle (Hudson) Belak; his son Eric Belak (Joyce Dean); daughter in law Jera Belak; and his grandchildren Jason, Sarah, Ethan, John, and Eric Belak Jr. Friends will be received from 2 to 4 and

6 to 8 p.m. Thursday at the William Snyder Funeral Home, 521 Main Street, Irwin. A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday in Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Interment will follow in Union Cemetery, North Huntingdon. For online condolences please visit [www.snyderfuneralservices.com](http://www.snyderfuneralservices.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Irwin Union Cemetery

431 Bridge St  
Irwin, PA 15642

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 14. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

William Snyder Funeral Home, Inc.  
521 Main Street  
Irwin, PA 15642  
(724) 863-1200  
<https://williamsnyderfuneralhome.com/>

## Visitation

JAN 14. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

William Snyder Funeral Home, Inc.  
521 Main Street  
Irwin, PA 15642  
(724) 863-1200  
<https://williamsnyderfuneralhome.com/>

## Funeral Ceremony

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JAN 15. 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
502 Main Street  
Irwin, PA 15642

# Tribute Wall



“ *James E. Belak*

October 07, 2023 at 10:37 AM



“ *James E. Belak*

August 23, 2022 at 04:00 PM



“ *Bob Jackson lit a candle in memory of James E. Belak*



**Bob Jackson** - January 14, 2021 at 04:29 PM



“ *Vern Kirow. So sorry for your lose. Jim was a great customer and very supportive of me. We would often chat daily about life in general. He mentored me through some of my dark times. A gentle being that will be missed. RIP.*

**Vern Kirow** - January 13, 2021 at 08:59 PM



“ *We are very sorry for your loss. You have our deepest sympathy. From Bob and Linda Stouffer*

**Terri Stouffer** - January 12, 2021 at 03:06 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of James E. Belak.



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January 12, 2021 at 02:08 PM



“ Tom and I are deeply saddened by the loss of a dear man we've known so many years. Love and prayers+ to Rochelle, Eric and all the Belak family 🙏

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**Tom and Karen Legenzoff** - January 12, 2021 at 12:46 PM



“ Dearest Belak Family,  
We send you our deepest sympathy, love, thoughts, and hugs. We are always thankful for our time and memories together. With love  
Michele, Mikayla, Matthew

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**Michele Mikayla Matthew** - January 12, 2021 at 11:47 AM

RH

“ Rochelle is our cousin, and in our youth we often spent time with them at family get-togethers at various homes. We were always greeted by Jim with genuine warmth, with interest in us, and with a buoyancy about life that made these occasions very special. That he was a florist was different from most in the family, and we were impressed with his success and expertise in this area. Over the years I often kidded them by noting their anniversary on February 2, as that is Groundhog Day and we had a shared sense of humor about this. They both loved and enjoyed life . . .

*Thank you, Jim, for the person you have been to all of us, one who made a most positive difference in the lives of so many. One of my regrets is that I moved away from Western Pennsylvania after college, and thus missed so many opportunities to be with Jim and Rochelle. I, my wife, and my siblings all love you . . .*

*- Dick Hudson  
Athens, Georgia*

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**Richard A Hudson** - January 12, 2021 at 11:13 AM

JL

“ Jim was truly a "gentle" man. He was always helpful and courteous. Howard and I enjoyed the many occasions we spent with him and Rochelle. They were a dedicated couple, showing love and respect for each other.

*We send our sympathy to her and the family for losing him.*

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**Joan Leukhardt** - January 12, 2021 at 12:11 AM

TH

“ Jim was my cousin through marriage to Rochelle and we knew him as a soft spoken, good humored, sincere gentleman who deeply loved his wife. He will be greatly missed and fondly remembered. Thinking of good times we've had over the years and sorry I can't be there but know I'm sharing your loss. With generous love to the whole family.

Tom Hudson  
Athens, GA

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**Tom Hudson** - January 11, 2021 at 11:48 PM

CS

So sorry for your loss my deepest sympathy to you and your family 🌸

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**Carolyn (Bickerstaff) Stofko** - January 13, 2021 at 06:41 AM

BP

It is with great sadness to learn of the passing of Jim, a great friend from my youth. When I think of Jim I think about his love of boating and water skiing, and all the good times we had at Cheat Lake along with Bill and Regis Mahoy, Bill Schiffler, Jerry Urbani, and families and friends. Jim had a great zest for life which was reflected in everything he did.

To Rochelle and family: you have my deepest sympathies.

Bob Pasipanki

Rougemont, NC

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**Bob Pasipanki** - January 14, 2021 at 11:30 AM

WR

*Rochelle, Eric and all the Belak Family - Bill and I are so heartbroken. We have such beautiful memories of all our many times together, our trip to our favorite Georgetowne restaurant tops the list for travels but all the hours spent together because that is where we chose to be -- with each other. All our love*

*Bill and Mary Lou Rothwell*

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**William and Mary Lou Rothwell** - January 15, 2021 at 09:16 AM