



Jim Pingel

July 29, 1969 - December 19, 2024

James Thomas Pingel Jr., 55, formerly of Cedar Falls, IA, died on Thursday, December 19, 2024, in Springfield, WI.

Jim was born on July 29, 1969, in Ft. Sill, OK, the son of James “Tom” and Kristine (Thomas) Pingel. He attended Maquoketa Valley High School in Delhi, IA, and graduated from Cedar Falls High School in 1988. He attended Kirkwood Community College for a short time before being interrupted by a deployment with the Army National Guard.

Jim enlisted in the Army National Guard in March 1987, and retired in October 2008 after 21 years of service. During that time, he was a helicopter maintenance mechanic, crew chief, and pilot. In 2004, he attended the Warrant Officer Candidate and Flight Schools where he was trained to fly various types of aircraft. He also became an aviation safety officer and aircraft armament maintenance officer. Jim participated in the Counter Drug Task Force from 2006 to 2008 and Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2007 to 2008 as a Bell Jet Ranger instructor pilot for the Iraqi Air Force.

Besides his military service, Jim worked as a DJ for a radio station in Cedar Rapids, IA, Salesperson at Reed Cadillac in Waterloo, IA and Smitty’s Tire and Appliance in Cedar Falls, IA, Medivac pilot for Air Methods, and owner of Cedar Valley Alarm and Sound Advice Vac & Video. He was also an active

member of the communities of Cedar Falls, IA and Waunakee, WI.

On October 8, 1993, he was united in marriage to Linda Maiers at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earlville, IA. They started dating after running into each other in May 1991 at Iowa State University's VEISHA weekend when both were there visiting friends. Through their 31 years together they lived in Davenport, IA; Ft. Rucker, AL; Cedar Falls, IA; Delhi, IA; and Waunakee, WI. They enjoyed traveling, spending time on their boat and entertaining at their cabin at Lake Delhi.

Their daughter, Harlie, was born on November 3, 2004, in Waterloo, IA. As a family they enjoyed traveling to warm locations, visiting military bases and museums, water skiing at Lake Delhi and on Show Ski Teams (Hartwick Huskys in Delhi, Waterloo Waterhawks, and Mad-City Ski Team in Madison, WI), watching movies, and cooking together, especially when making homemade pasta, rolling sushi, grilling and homemade pizzas. Jim also taught Harlie many life skills that she may have to teach a future husband someday.

Jim enjoyed flying helicopters, snow skiing, snowmobiling, ice skating, scuba diving, cooking, grilling, music including Hawaiian radio, Reggae, Frank Sinatra, and Fleetwood Mac, a good cigar, making friends with any dog he met, and, above all, helping the people around him.

He was also a man of faith, and we are grateful for our church families: Delhi United Methodist Church in Delhi, IA; First United Methodist Church in Cedar Falls, IA; and Crossroads United Methodist Church in Waunakee, WI.

Jim is survived by his wife, Linda; daughter, Harlie; father, Tom (Cathy) Pingel; mother, Kristine Cooley; sisters, Carrie Rogers and Jennie (Justin) Hansel; brothers, Jody and Ryan (Brooke) Cooley; parents-in-law, Elmer and Norma Jean Maiers; sisters-in-law, Nancy (Randy) Hollenbeck, Brenda (Rick) Becker,

and Renee (Trent) Stewart; brother-in-law, Dan (Amy) Maiers; nieces and nephews, Zach Rogers, Emma Hansel, Evan Hansel, Eli Hansel, Aubrey Cooley, Kinley Cooley, Amelia Stackley Cooley, Brantley Cooley, Emmy Cooley, Clare Hollenbeck, Jacob Hollenbeck, Sienna (Logan) Fronatt, Blake Becker, Mason Maiers, Zach Maiers, Kenzie Maiers, and Tyler Stewart; many aunts, uncles, cousins, close friends; and his beloved dog, Bailey.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Fred and Dorothy Thomas, Eulah and Glenn Wyckoff, Marvin Pingel, Archie Cooley, Marcheta and Bill Lux; and stepfather, William Cooley.

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m. Saturday, December 28, 2024, at Richardson Funeral Service in Cedar Falls. Visitation will be 4:00-7:00 p.m. Friday, December 27th at Richardson Funeral Service and one hour prior to the service. Interment at 12:30 p.m. Monday, December 30, 2024 at the Iowa Veterans Cemetery in Adel.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Wounded Warrior Project or a military agency to benefit veterans in your area (American Legion, AMVETS, VFW, etc.).

Cemetery Details

Iowa Veterans Cemetery

34024 Veterans Memorial Drive
Adel, IA 50003

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 27. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Richardson Funeral Service
615 Main Street
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 266-3525
richardsonfuneralservice@gmail.com
<http://richardson.funeralplan2.com>

Visitation

DEC 28. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Richardson Funeral Service
615 Main Street
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 266-3525
richardsonfuneralservice@gmail.com
<http://richardson.funeralplan2.com>

Funeral Service

DEC **28**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Richardson Funeral Service
615 Main Street
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 266-3525
richardsonfuneralservice@gmail.com
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Tribute Wall

CP

“ Just called for Jim and learned of his passing. We were partners in selling Panasonic and Spectrum VOIP and I am very saddened to hear he is gone. We shared a lot of laughs together and he was a good partner. Loved to hear his stories of his service to our country and flying BlackHawk helicopters. Best wishes to the family. He was always a bright light for me. :(

Carl L Peiffer - January 29, 2025 at 03:08 PM

CS

“ I am so incredibly sad and sorry for your loss, Linda. Praying for all the peace and strength to you. Please know that you, Harlie and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.

Chandra Singh - January 14, 2025 at 03:22 PM

TH

“ As one of Jim's Georgia cousins I didn't see Jim often but Jim always kept in touch with his Uncle Bob Hennings who was a ww2 veteran. Jim went to the trouble to send Bob a flag from one of his oversea assignments. Very thoughtful man. So sorry about his early passing. Teresa Hennings

Teresa R Hennings - January 11, 2025 at 08:27 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Jim Pingel.



January 11, 2025 at 12:36 PM

TP

“ Linda, I am so incredibly sorry for your loss. Please know that you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.
Tammy Peter

Tammy Peter - January 10, 2025 at 02:29 PM

EC

Linda I also am devastated to hear. Please reach out if you need anything at all. - - Evonne Cash

Evonne Cash - January 10, 2025 at 03:49 PM

LM

Linda I am sorry for your lost me and my dad knew him

Lillian mcallister - January 14, 2025 at 05:45 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Jim Pingel.

January 06, 2025 at 03:18 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Jim Pingel.



January 06, 2025 at 03:18 PM

RB

“ Linda, I am so saddened and sorry for your loss. I never met Jim, but I can tell from reading his obituary that he was a wonderful and caring person. You, Harlie and your extended family are in my thoughts and prayers.

- Ray Boerke

Raymond Boerke - December 31, 2024 at 06:50 PM

LC

Linda, we knew Jim through several businesses and thought he was such a great guy. We were shocked to see that he passed. May the beautiful memories you have of your life together give you peace. God called him home too soon. David & Lonna Christie.

LONNA CHRISTIE - January 06, 2025 at 04:00 PM

MA

“ So sorry to hear the sad news. Jim, along with Linda, was a great help to the American Legion Post 360 in Waunakee. He will be greatly missed. Our deepest sympathies, Tom and Mary Acker



Mary - December 27, 2024 at 03:36 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Jim Pingel.



December 27, 2024 at 11:35 AM



“ Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Jim Pingel.



December 27, 2024 at 10:08 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Jim Pingel.

December 27, 2024 at 10:08 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jim Pingel.



December 27, 2024 at 09:45 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Jim Pingel.

December 26, 2024 at 08:03 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jim Pingel.



December 26, 2024 at 08:03 PM

B(

“ I knew Jim Pingel from my brother Mark Ward and Cedar Falls High School. We were in Drama Club together. He also had my brother work for him when my brother needed a job. Jim was very nice to my family. My condolences to his family.



Barbara Bushby (Ward) - December 26, 2024 at 02:27 PM

RB

I worked at Smitty's with Jim and he was a fun guy to work with, our condolences to Linda and the family.

Roger Butz - December 26, 2024 at 04:04 PM

BC

“ So sorry to hear the news. Jim was very likeable guy and so proud of his family. Sending love to themmay the special memories of better times bring them peace and comfort. RIP Jim.....fond memories from lake Delhi.

Barbara Carlson - December 26, 2024 at 09:00 AM

JR

“ Wishing you peace and strength during this time of need. My deepest condolences.



Jeegar Ranat - December 26, 2024 at 07:53 AM

TF

“ The Froemming family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Jim Pingel.



The Froemming family - December 25, 2024 at 02:03 PM

DB

“ Dave & Lynn Bixby planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jim Pingel.

Dave & Lynn Bixby - December 25, 2024 at 09:59 AM

DB

“ Dave & Lynn Bixby purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Jim Pingel.



Dave & Lynn Bixby - December 25, 2024 at 09:59 AM

RW

“ It was good sking by you.

Ryan Wagner - December 24, 2024 at 05:05 PM

RB

“ Ryan and Mary Butler planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jim Pingel.

Ryan and Mary Butler - December 24, 2024 at 04:09 PM

RB

“ Ryan and Mary Butler purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Jim Pingel.



Ryan and Mary Butler - December 24, 2024 at 04:09 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Jim Pingel.



December 24, 2024 at 12:26 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Jim Pingel.



December 24, 2024 at 12:03 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jim Pingel.



December 24, 2024 at 11:35 AM

T,

“ *The Cupp’s Rod, Wendy, Marina ,Presley purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Jim Pingel.*



The Cupp’s Rod, Wendy, Marina ,Presley - December 24, 2024 at 11:03 AM

LS

“ *Linda and all of your family So sorry to hear of Jim’s passing I have so many memories of us working together He made work FUN Holding you all in my prayers Lynn Stock*

Lynn Stock - December 24, 2024 at 10:49 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Jim Pingel.*



December 24, 2024 at 09:11 AM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Jim Pingel.*

December 24, 2024 at 09:11 AM

MD

“ Mike and Mary Hill Cedar Falls/ Delhi purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Jim Pingel.



Mike and Mary Hill Cedar Falls/ Delhi - December 24, 2024 at 12:35 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Jim Pingel.

December 23, 2024 at 08:46 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jim Pingel.



December 23, 2024 at 08:46 PM

TA

“ Team NW & Cox Auotmotive planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jim Pingel.

Team NW & Cox Auotmotive - December 23, 2024 at 06:17 PM

TA

“ *Team NW & Cox Auotmotive purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Jim Pingel.*



Team NW & Cox Auotmotive - December 23, 2024 at 06:17 PM