



## Jim Daggs

February 18, 1956 - October 2, 2020

Obituary for Jim Daggs, age 64, long-time business owner and former Mayor of Ackley:

James Burnell "Jim" Daggs passed away peacefully Friday afternoon, October 2, 2020, at Mary Greeley Hospital in Ames, Iowa, with his wife, Pat, by his side.

He was born February 18, 1956, in Eldora, Iowa, to Curtis "Bus" and Marcia Daggs, who preceded him in death. He married Patricia Yaw of Lake Park, Iowa, on July 20, 2002.

Jim is survived by his wife, Pat of Ackley, Iowa; brother, Steve (Carol) Daggs of Washington, Illinois; Pat's daughters, Jamie (Ryan) Van Erem and their children, Jack and Jersey, of Waterloo and Audra (Justin) Crispin and their children, Sydney and Kennedy, of Alamogordo, New Mexico. He is also survived by his nephews, Chris (Monica) Daggs of Des Moines, Iowa, and Nick Daggs of Nashville, Tennessee.

He had a lifelong interest in printing, acquiring his first letter press at fourteen which found its home in the basement of Daggs Sport Shop in Eldora. After graduating from Eldora Community High School, he worked for several commercial printing companies.

At the age of twenty, he partnered with Charles Dunham to acquire the Ackley Publishing Company and the Ackley World Journal. Later, he bought out Dunham's interest and in 1992 sold the Ackley World Journal to focus on his growing commercial printing business which continues today under Pat's management.

Over his fifty year printing career, Jim assembled one of the nation's largest collections of letter presses, Ludlow presses, Linotype machines, Heidelberg "Windmill" presses and associated printing equipment under one roof. He was an expert in operating and restoring old Heidelberg's and wrote several manuals for their operation.

He shared this expertise, hosting workshops for art students from the University of Iowa and Iowa State University to experience typesetting, letter press printing and the use of wooden type.

Jim was a long time member of the Amalgamated Printers Association, an international hobby printer's group, holding various leadership roles and serving as its president from 2011-2014.

Jim served five terms as mayor of Ackley from 2005 to 2015. During his tenure, Ackley built a new medical center.

Jim had a love for kids. He never had any of his own, but he was a foster father to many young boys and would give everything he had to help a child. Jim was a mentor to many young adults wanting to learn the printing trade and many now have a business of their own as a printer.

No services are planned at this time. In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to a charity of the donor's choice.



# Tribute Wall



“ *Employment memories*

*Mary Rameyer*

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**Mary Rameyer** - August 13, 2025 at 10:29 PM



“ *Many great memories of driving up to Ackley for AFCA gatherings. Jim was so generous and really made you feel part of the community. I'll never forget that. Rest in Peace my friend.....*

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**William Comley** - October 17, 2020 at 12:36 PM



“ *He was an amazing friend. I will miss him. My deepest sympathy to the family.*

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**Joerg Rochlitzer** - October 09, 2020 at 08:18 PM



“ *Will miss him. He was a great person. I worked with him on his mailings he would make through the Post Office years ago. God be with you in your loss.*

*Larry J. Bolhuis. ( Postmaster retired)*

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**Lj Bolhuis** - October 09, 2020 at 07:44 AM

PP

“ Pat  
*I am sorry for your loss. I have known Jim for many years.  
I worked at Dagg's Sport Shop when Jim got his first printing press.  
Let me just say that getting it into the basement of the store was a  
Herculean effort.  
Then a few years later it was moved to the store's new location.  
As you know, when you live in a small town every one is family.  
My Willig cousin lived near the Daggs family. Jim, Steve, Marcia,  
and Buss are precious friends to me, even if we haven't seen each  
other for years.  
Again my sympathies go to you at this time.*

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**Paul Piper** - October 07, 2020 at 05:35 PM

DT

“ *I am so sorry to hear the news. I have many fond memories of Jim.  
My stepfather, Chuck Dunham, and Jim were great friends many  
years. I remember helping Jim load up printing presses and cases  
of type he built from Chuck over the years. -- Dave Thompson*

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**David Thompson** - October 06, 2020 at 10:46 PM

DR

“ *Pat I am so sorry for your loss. Prayers for you my friend. Just me  
Dara*

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**Dara retting** - October 06, 2020 at 06:41 PM

CS

“ *So sorry, prayers to your family. Hadn't seen Jim for years but  
Marcia was a great family member. My mom was Betty Lou  
Hubbard Hutchins.*

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**Carol Strabala** - October 06, 2020 at 09:02 AM



“ *The Wellsburg Historical Foundation is saddened at the passing of Jim and send Pat and their family our condolences. Ackley Publishing provided many services since the forming of the Foundation in the 90's; Always helpful regardless of the project. He will be greatly missed.*

*Loretta Jones, Terry and Tammy Mount, Marcia Beving, Burdette Walters, Arnold Nederhoff, Dave Geerdes, Donna Blythe, Thelma Rueter (Present & Auxillary Board Members)*

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**Loretta Jones** - October 05, 2020 at 12:09 AM

JR

“ *Jim was my neighbor, a fellow fisherman, and a math student. I am so sorry for the loss of a special man.*  
*Jim Riggs*

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**Jim Riggs** - October 04, 2020 at 02:42 PM

DD

“ So -

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**Dale Brass** [d.brass@mch](mailto:d.brass@mch) - October 04, 2020 at 02:14 PM

TO

“ *Fellow letterpress printer. APA #963. I didn't know Jim personally but I always admired his printing and humor. My deepest condolences.*

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**Ted Ollier** - October 04, 2020 at 09:39 AM

PD

“ Heartfelt sympathy and condolences to Pat and the rest of Jim’s family. So sad to read of his passing. Jim was kind and generous, and one of the most optimistic people around. He was such an asset to the community.

*Phyllis and Larry Dorn*

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**Phyllis Hohenstein Dorn** - October 03, 2020 at 07:56 PM

DB

*So sorry- I spent many hours with J*

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**Dale Brass** - October 04, 2020 at 02:16 PM

CK

“ Pat, and family, My heart was saddened to hear of the passing of Jim. Jim was so dedicated to his work, the city of Ackley, and most of all to his family. He will be greatly missed. Our prayers are with you.

*Craig and Jane Karr Estes Park, Colorado*

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**Craig Karr** - October 03, 2020 at 04:56 PM

BL

“ So very sorry to hear this!! It was so sudden, my heart goes out to you Pat ,and your family. He was a very sweet man.

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**Beckie Lasorella** - October 03, 2020 at 01:28 PM

MS

“ We are so sorry for your loss Pat. Heaven has a great soldier!  
Continued prayers.

*Kenny & Mary Smith*

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**Mary Smith** - October 03, 2020 at 09:19 AM

PA

“ Wonderful memories of Jim & his print shop. He was so knowledgeable! I am so sorry for your loss, Pat. My sympathies to you & the family.

Penny Anderson - October 03, 2020 at 09:15 AM

DR

“ I always loved seeing he and Lu when I went into the newspaper office. Such a nice man! Sending prayers up for the family. Rest In Peace Sir.  
Dee Roelfs

Dee Roelfs - October 02, 2020 at 11:28 PM

JR

He was an amazing and wonderful friend. Was always fun working with him on projects and learning letter press printing from him. Rest is Peace my friend. I will miss him. Sending prayers to the family. Joerg Rochlitzer

Joerg Rochlitzer - October 03, 2020 at 09:15 AM

DH

May I. Its an honor,A composing room tribute.I go back to about 1969.

Mr.Daggs worked in Grundy Center at Spokesman Press. He was totally in love with old linotypes and presses.At a very young age too..I was more on the editorial side.Later Mr.Daggs took up running the World Journal. a great weekly which fought for subscriptions to stay on top in Hardin County for legal publishing. Soon Chuck Dunham from Deep River came to Ackley.He drove a small flat beed with a ugly linotype on the bed of the truck.,,They were friends. I volunteered columns to the Journal.Jim paid me great.Nothing.But was fun.Small town newspapering...sold old type cases=California case.did job printing...so many things he did well. Will remember Mr.Daggs.So sorry his time came. Never know. Will be missed.Glad we knew him. We need a moment.....thanks Lord...

Dave Hubbard - October 06, 2020 at 09:51 PM