

James J. Gotlewski

April 14, 1966 - October 26, 2025



James "Jim" John Gotlewski, of Schwenksville, passed away peacefully on Sunday, October 26th, 2025 in Philadelphia after a brief but fierce battle with a rare, incurable illness. His wife, Catherine, and family were by his side. He was 59 years old but if you asked he would say he was 29.

Born on April 14, 1966 in Delaware County, he was the son of Judith Gotlewski Viney and the late John J. Gotlewski. He is survived by his wife Catherine, mother, Judith Viney, brother, John(Wendy), sister Michelle sons, Joseph and Ibrahim, daughters Kate (Patrick), Emily (Michael), and Talitha grandchildren Evie and Declan, along with nieces Alyson, Caroline, Amanda, and Alexandra; nephews Brandon and John, and good friend and former spouse Laurie.

Jim spent his childhood in Telford. He was a graduate of Lansdale Catholic High School and Widener University where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology and later studied nursing at Montgomery County Community College. While at Widener, Jim was a member of the ROTC program. His military career spanned over thirty years. He was a Pennsylvania National Guardsman and Army Reservist. Among Jim's many accomplishments were finishing Airborne school and Ranger school. Several years were spent working special assignments with AFRICOM. His international deployments took him to places like Germany, Ecuador, Kenya and many other African countries. Jim retired in 2017 as a Lieutenant Colonel. He served with the 304th Civil Affairs Brigade and the 416th Civil Affairs Battalion in Iraq where he formed life-long bonds with his brothers-in-arms.

Jim's strong work ethic and passion for helping others were the perfect foundation for a compassionate and dedicated nurse. He worked in cardiac care at Lankenau Hospital in Bryn Mawr and was, most recently, employed at Living Branches Retirement Community. Jim had a special love for the elderly and quickly earned their trust and respect.

Jim was a long-time member of St. Mary's Church in Schwenksville. In addition to being active in his church, he enjoyed gardening, home restorations, traveling, history, and spending time with family. He was a member of Pennsylvania Live Steamers in Collegeville for 24 years.

He was preceded in death by his father John, sister, Amy Craine, step-father Robert Viney and dear friend Terrence "Terry" Evans.

Family and friends are invited to attend Jim's Mass of Christian Burial at 11 a.m., Saturday, November 1 at St. Rose of Lima Church Catholic Church, 424 South Main Street, North Wales, where the family will greet guests from 10 a.m., until the time of Mass. Interment will follow Mass at St. John Neumann's Cemetery, Chalfont, PA.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Jim's honor to the Sepsis Alliance, San Diego, CA or Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

William R. May Funeral Home - North Wales, PA