



## James R. VanAlstyne

June 5, 1932 - February 21, 2026

James R Van Alstyne, 93, of Hudson New York passed away peacefully at his home on Saturday February 21, 2026. Born June 5, 1932 in Hudson to Martha Day and Harry Van Alstyne, Jim graduated from Hudson High School in 1949. He attended SUNY Oneonta, where he graduated with a Bachelors and Masters degrees. He served in the US Army from 1953 to 1955 and was stationed in Korea. After that, he spent over 20 years as an educator, first as a teacher and coach at Germantown Central School, then as Principal at Stottville Union Free School and John L. Edwards Elementary School in Hudson. James then served as Commissioner of the Columbia County Social Services Department from 1975 to 1992. He was a proud member of the Hudson Elks, VFW and AB Shaw Firehouse. Jim was a man of many talents and interests. He had a passion for harness horse racing; owning, training, breeding, driving and racing them most of his life. He touched many people from all walks of life, and he welcomed everyone as a friend and was a friend to everyone he met. He had a joy for life and lived each day to the fullest, enjoying his family, many friends, horse racing, his vegetable garden and the Mets. He was loved by so many and will be deeply missed and never forgotten. His spirit, resilience and unwavering patience, positivity and optimism will continue to inspire all who knew him and will forever remain in our hearts.

Jim is survived by two daughters Meg Brown of Stuyvesant, NY and Amy Quinn of Conroe, Texas, two grandchildren Justin Brown of Kinderhook and

Brittnay Roche of East Greenbush as well as his longtime companion of 29 years Linda Schabot. Calling hours at the Sacco Funeral Home, 700 Town Hall Dr. Hudson will be on Saturday March 7, 2026 from 2 to 5 PM with a prayer service offered at 4 PM. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the AB Shaw Fire Company 67 NY 23 Claverack, NY 12513. A Celebration of Life Ceremony will be held at a later date with details to be announced.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visiting Hours

MAR 7. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Sacco Funeral Home  
700 Town Hall Dr  
Hudson, NY 12534  
(518) 828-5000  
smvfh700@gmail.com  
<https://www.saccofuneralhome.com/>

## Prayers

MAR 7. 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM (ET)

Sacco Funeral Home  
700 Town Hall Dr  
Hudson, NY 12534  
(518) 828-5000  
smvfh700@gmail.com  
<https://www.saccofuneralhome.com/>

# Tribute Wall

SN

“ Have known Jim for many years. Always a great guy- my sympathies to the family



Sheila Nytransky - March 05 at 10:14 AM



“ Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of James R. VanAlstyne.

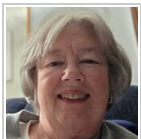


March 04 at 01:03 PM

BB

“ Always sorry to lose an old friend.. My sincere condolences.

Bob Brenzel - February 28 at 03:10 PM



“ Linda...thinking of you at this sad time. Jim certainly had a life full of experiences. God bless you. Becky (Meicht) Siegel

Cgl Bgl - February 28 at 12:28 PM

WC

“ Jimmy was a great guy. I was fortunate to be able to have lunch with him this summer when i was in Hudson. He taught me a great deal about horses. I will surely miss him. Rest in peace Jimmy.

wayne lee cuckerstein - February 27 at 06:54 PM

DT

“ I grew up in Stottville and went to the elementary school when Mr VA ( as we referred to him) was principal. And even though I got the paddle twice while there (I did deserve it). I always liked him. He was a great guy and always put the students first. RIP Mr VA.

Donald (Dewey) Tillson - February 26 at 09:27 AM

RH

“ Fly high Jim Jam. I was always a pleasure chatting with you.

Rhonda - February 25 at 06:23 AM

MF

“ Michael Ferrari lit a candle in memory of James VanAlstyne



Michael Ferrari - February 24 at 07:45 PM



In memory of James from Marjorie and pat tanzillo family

Michelle Smith-Tanzillo - March 02 at 11:24 AM