



## Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

*To everything there is a season,  
A time for every purpose under heaven:  
A time to be born, And a time to die;  
A time to plant, And a time to pluck what is planted;  
A time to kill, And a time to heal;  
A time to break down, And a time to build up;  
A time to weep, And a time to laugh;  
A time to mourn, And a time to dance;  
A time to cast away stones, And a time to gather stones;  
A time to embrace, And a time to refrain from embracing;  
A time to gain, And a time to lose;  
A time to keep, And a time to throw away;  
A time to tear, And a time to sew;  
A time to keep silence, And a time to speak;  
A time to love, And a time to hate;  
A time of war, And a time of peace.*

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

# James DeJong

**WHO WAS BORN**

March 10, 1960  
Milbank, South Dakota

**AND CALLED TO HIS ETERNAL HOME**

March 30, 2024  
Milbank, South Dakota

**FUNERAL SERVICE**

Saturday, April 6, 2024 - 10:30 a.m.  
Emanuel Lutheran Church  
Milbank, South Dakota

**OFFICIANT**

Chris Davis

**MUSICIAN**

Kris Street, Organist

**CASKET BEARERS**

Ian DeJong | Zachary DeJong | Jacob DeJong  
Tim DeJong | Dave DeJong | Dan DeJong | Mike Mach

**MILITARY HONORS**

American Legion Birch-Miller Post #9  
V.F.W. Grant County Post #3486  
V.V.A. Northeast SD Chapter #1054  
D.A.V. Chapter #19  
Sons of American Legion Post #9

**INTERMENT**

Milbank City Cemetery  
Milbank, South Dakota

**APPRECIATION**

Jim's family is grateful for your attendance at this service. Your expressions of kindness and love are deeply appreciated. Following the interment, please join the family for lunch and fellowship at the church dining hall.

**ARRANGEMENTS BY**

Mundwiler Funeral Home - Milbank, South Dakota

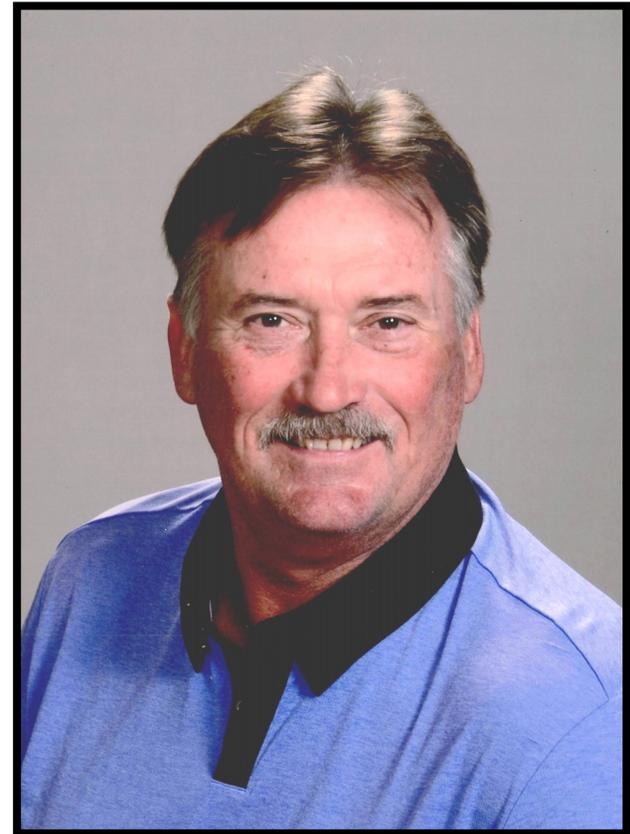


**J**ames Dean DeJong was born on March 10, 1960, to Lawrence and Margaret “Muggs” (Wattier) DeJong in Milbank, SD. He is the sixth of eight children born to Lawrence and Margaret. Jim's siblings always claimed he was a stinker growing up, but Jim said nothing was ever his fault. He considered every stunt to be hilarious. As a kid, he would often ride his bike 4-5 miles to his Koch cousins, to hang out and ride their horses. Jim graduated from Milbank High School in 1978. After his education Jim enlisted in the United States Navy in 1978 and was honorably discharged in 1996 as Chief Petty Officer. Jim was proud of his time in the service. Jim lived in many states over his life and worked numerous jobs which included Kroger Co., Construction, he was also a delivery truck driver, and most recently he worked for Valley Queen Cheese factory. Jim was diagnosed with Lymphoma and he retired in 2022.

Jim was united in marriage to Freda Post on June 10, 2017, at the Milbank Golf Course. The couple liked horses and went on many trial rides together. Jim liked the Minnesota Vikings and always knew they'd win the Super Bowl...was still waiting! Jim loved golf, but couldn't count past 4 on any hole! He always looked forward to golfing in Arizona in the Spring with his brothers: Dave and Dan, and his brother-in-law, Billy. While in Milbank, he always golfed up until the first snowfall and then it was the end of golfing for the season in South Dakota. Once a year Tim would use their dad's old golf clubs and would try to beat Jim on the course. Tim would end up with a score of 98....on 9 holes! Even with Jim's coaching! Jim also liked to bowl with Freda and his friends. He and his brother, Dan, enjoyed going to state bowling tournaments together. And, of course, dreaming up more fun stories to share. Jim loved his 3 sons and their families. He talked about all of them with much pride and joy. Jim was a lifelong member of Emanuel Lutheran Church in Milbank. He was happy to fill his dad's spot in his favorite pew on Sunday mornings.

Jim is survived by his wife, Freda DeJong of Milbank, SD; three sons: Ian (Von) DeJong of Springfield, MO; Zachary DeJong of San Diego, CA; Jacob DeJong of Republic, MO; five grandchildren: Isaiah, Kylie, Jovan, Mya, Drew, and one on-the-way, five siblings: Michelle (Dennis) Flanery of Rapid City, SD; Tim (Susan) DeJong of Milbank, SD; David (Linda) DeJong of Sioux Falls, SD; Amy DeJong of Rapid City, SD; Dan (Lynn) DeJong of Rapid City, SD; brother-in-law, Bill Bussell of Rapid City, SD; stepsister, Sherri Rears of Shakopee, MN; and stepmother, Marlene DeJong of Shakopee, MN; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Lawrence and Margaret, sister, Leanna Bussell, and baby brother DeJong.

# *Honoring* THE LIFE OF



# JAMES DEJONG