



James Joseph "Jim" Keresztenyi

October 16, 1947 - July 26, 2025

James (Jim) Keresztenyi, 77, of White, PA, passed away on July 26, 2025. He was born in New York, NY, in 1947, and grew up in Milltown, NJ. Jim's passion for the outdoors defined his life. After graduating from New Brunswick High School, he earned a BS in Forestry from Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, TX, in 1971. He began his career with the National Forestry Service and in land management before transitioning to a pipefitter role with Chevron, GM, and eventually retiring from Merck in Rahway, NJ. A dedicated whitewater canoeist since the mid-1970s, Jim helped form the Bucks County Whitewater Club. He paddled rivers across the US, Canada, Costa Rica, and Chile, but his heart remained in the Appalachian Mountains, where he caravanned with his extended river family, and explored new creeks in the Catskills and Eastern Pennsylvania. Beyond canoeing, Jim loved to ski, fish, and spend hours at the beach, soaking in the sun and ocean. He also cherished quiet moments on his porch, looking at the ridges of the Laurel Highlands, where he chose to make his home. Jim was a man of strength and determination. Even at 76, he skillfully climbed trees with a chainsaw and harnesses to maintain the woods, then rappelled to the ground, finishing the job. He was always ready to help friends and strangers, and his actions have saved lives. Jim was a true and beloved friend and husband, deeply cherished by those who knew his heart and spirit. He is survived by his wife, Elaine Poinsett; his sister, Lydia Williams (Tracy); and nieces, nephews, and cousins. Jim was predeceased by his father, Joseph J. Keresztenyi; his mother,

Isabella (Kitty) Keresztenyi (née Steppe); and his brother, Donald (Don) Keresztenyi. A Memorial Celebration of Life and Rivers will be held at a later date to be announced. Contributions in memoriam can be made to Mountain Watershed Association, 1414 Indian Creek Valley Rd., Melcroft PA 15462 . Arrangements are under the direction of the Mark C. Brooks Funeral Home Inc., 146 Municipal Building Rd. Melcroft, PA. 15462 ((724-455-2310). www.brooksfhmelcroft.com

Tribute Wall

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“ *We are saddened by Jim's passing. Our deepest condolences to Elaine and his family.*
Mark and Karen White

Karen White - July 30, 2025 at 08:00 AM