



James "Jim" Lawrence Martin

April 12, 1930 - May 1, 2026

James Lawrence Martin ("Jim"), age 96, of Leland, North Carolina, passed away peacefully on May 1, 2026, surrounded by his loving family.

Born on April 12, 1930, in Winchester, Massachusetts, Jim was the son of the late Lawrence S. and Marjorie O. Martin. He lived a long and fulfilling life defined by dedication, adventure, and a deep love for his family. He was a graduate of the University of Maryland and went on to build a successful career as an operations executive in the frozen food industry, where he was respected for his leadership, discipline, and commitment to excellence.

A man of many talents and passions, Jim was an instrument-rated commercial pilot who found great joy in flying. He was also an experienced sailor, completing more than 50 trips up and down the East Coast with his brothers Don and Bill, embracing the freedom and challenge of life on the water. In his later years, he remained active as a Senior Olympic golfer and swimmer, and cherished time spent on the golf course with his long-time friends.

In retirement, Jim and his beloved wife, Hope Martin, shared a creative partnership, building a business crafting hand-carved gold leaf signs, an endeavor that reflected both their artistry and enduring bond. Hope, his wife of 39 years, preceded him in death in 2014.

Above all, Jim treasured time with his loved ones. Whether gathered with family or enjoying a round of golf with close friends, those moments brought him the greatest happiness.

He is survived by his six children: Lynn Horn and her husband Mark of Fort

Smith, Arkansas; Ann Bell and her husband Mike of Scarborough, Maine; James Martin, Jr. and his wife Susann of Oak Harbor, Washington; Todd Martin and his wife Raelynn of Litchfield, New Hampshire; Andrea Milman of Leland, North Carolina; and Terri Martin of Rocky Point, North Carolina. He also leaves behind 11 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren, all of whom were a constant source of pride and joy.

Jim will be remembered for his adventurous spirit, his strong work ethic, his craftsmanship, and, most importantly, his unwavering love for his family and friends. His legacy lives on in the many lives he touched and the generations who will carry forward his memory.

He will be deeply missed and forever remembered.

Tribute Wall

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“ We have our JLM-carved sign perched in the kitchen, fond memories of time together with Jim at family gatherings, and will always take inspiration from his calm “we’ll figure this out” demeanor- whether it be figuring out what to grill for dinner or running aground in the intercostal. We will miss you Uncle Jim!! - Rip, Jenn, Grace & Cooper



Ripley Martin - Yesterday at 05:23 PM