

James Lawrence Berry, 82, of Fredericksburg, Virginia, passed away peacefully on Saturday, May 3, 2025, surrounded by his loving family at Spotsylvania Regional Medical Center.

Born on March 22, 1943, in Riverside, California, to Lynn Nathan Berry and Margaret Hodges (*Darden*), Jim was raised in Vancouver, Washington, and graduated from Fort Vancouver High School in 1961. A gifted student and athlete, he earned admission to the United States Military Academy at West Point, graduating in 1965. Upon commissioning as a second lieutenant in the Air Defense Artillery, he completed airborne training, Ranger School, and Vietnamese language instruction before serving in the Vietnam War from 1967 to 1968. He was honorably discharged as a Captain in 1970 and remained deeply proud of his military service throughout his life.

In 1964, Jim met the love of his life, Margie, and together they built a joyful and enduring marriage of nearly 60 years. They raised three children in Flemington, New Jersey, where Jim was a devoted father known for his steady presence and wholehearted support of his children's academic, athletic, and personal pursuits.

After leaving the military, Jim joined Johnson & Johnson in New Brunswick, New Jersey, in 1971, where he applied his leadership and logistical expertise over a distinguished 30-year career. He retired as Director of Logistics for Consumer Products, respected by colleagues for his integrity, discipline, and thoughtful approach to every challenge as well as a subtle wit that often lightened even the most serious meetings.

Upon retirement, Jim and Margie made their home in Fredericksburg, Virginia, where he remained active in both his community and church. A man of deep faith, Jim was a dedicated member of St. Matthew Catholic Church, where he contributed his time and energy to several outreach programs including the parish food pantry and SHARE program. He was also proud to serve as Grand Knight of the local Knights of Columbus chapter, continuing his lifelong commitment to leadership and service.

Jim found great joy on the golf course and even greater joy in the company of his grandchildren. Whether attending school performances, spelling bees, concerts, or sports games, he never missed an opportunity to show his support, and he was often the most enthusiastic cheerleader in the room. Known for his kindness, humility, and unwavering generosity, Jim remained optimistic and gracious throughout his final years, facing challenges with courage, gratitude, and his trademark smile and twinkle in his eye.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 59 years, Margie; son Thomas Berry and wife Colleen of South Plainfield, NJ; daughter Donna Bloom and husband Michael of Fredericksburg, VA; daughter Barbara Storen and husband Duke of Fredericksburg, VA; and thirteen grandchildren, Brendan, Colin, Nolan, Kathryn, and Patrick Berry, Diana, Jeffrey, and Christopher Bloom, and

James, Caroline, Alexander, Julia, and Erin Storen. He also leaves behind numerous other beloved relatives, friends, and neighbors whose lives were touched by his presence.

Jim was predeceased by his parents, Lynn and Margaret Berry; and sister Sally Jordan Hudson.

The family is especially grateful to his compassionate caregivers, Kristina Brown, Imani Lee, and Princess Proctor, whose care and companionship brought deep comfort in his final years.

The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, May 14, 2025, at Covenant Funeral Service, Fredericksburg. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Thursday, May 15 at St. Matthew Catholic Church. Interment with military honors will follow at 11 a.m. on Friday, May 16 in Quantico National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that memorial contributions be made to the [St. Vincent de Paul Society](#), continuing Jim's legacy of service to others.

James L. Berry will be remembered as a man of honor, faith, and unwavering devotion to his family, country, and community. He lived with purpose, led with humility, and leaves behind a legacy of love and integrity.