



## Lloyd J. "Jim" Thomas

April 30, 1935 - January 31, 2018

Lloyd James Thomas (Jim) left his family and friends on January 31, 2018. He was at home surrounded by his family. Jim is the youngest of eight brothers and sisters, he was born to John and Anna (Borgman) Thomas on April 30, 1935. He grew up on an eighty acre farm east of Toppenish. He met his high school sweet heart Shirley Gunnyon while attending Toppenish High school. They graduated in 1955, and they were united at St. Aloysius church in December of that year. From the union three children were born, Debbie in 1958, Jimmy in 1961 and Billy in 1966. Jim worked as a retail meat manager for 34 years at various stores throughout the valley. He served in the Army National Guard, from 1953-1961. His fondest memories are growing up with his best friend Arland Pomerinke. They were the modern day Huck Finn and Tom Sawyer of their time. Hunting, exploring and many adventures on the Yakima river. Jim came from musical family, music was very important part of the family's life. Fond memories of his life was accompanying his dad with his brother when his father won the first Washington state fiddling contest in 1966 at George, Washington. For many years after that he accompanied his dad and many other accomplished fiddlers in the national fiddling contest in Weiser, Idaho each year. He enjoyed the family get togethers, when he and his brothers would entertain all the family and friends. He helped many musicians learn the style of old time fiddle music. He played at nursing homes and retirement centers, bringing joy and memories to the residents. He was an avid fan watching his sons and grandsons playing sports. Jim was the first

chairman of the Washington Old Time Fiddlers District 7, president of Toppenish Historical Society, board member of the Yakima Historical Society, longtime volunteer of the Toppenish Chamber and Mural Society at the Toppenish Information Center. Winning the Joseph C Murphy Lifetime Achievement Award. Belong to the Zillah Civic Senior Center, life time member of the Eagles Aerie 2229. Jim's favorite hobbies were restoring classic and antique cars. Like the 1947 jeep he restored, so he could carry the WWII Veterans in valley parades. Preceded in death by his parents, brothers Herb, Delbert, Gene, and Bill. Sisters Eleanor, and Lucille, daughter Debbie, and grandson, Jimmy Jr. Survived by, his wife Shirley, sons Jimmy (Anna) and Billy and brother Beryl and numerous nieces and nephews. Thanks to Hospice, Kadlec Hospital, Seattle Virginia Mason and a very special thanks to our angel Katie Eims Viewing will be Monday Feb 5th from 12:00pm-6:00pm Colonial Funeral Home. Private family graveside service. There will be a remembrance of life at a later date. Donation can be made to your choice of charities.

# Cemetery Details

**City of Toppenish**

(509) 865-2080

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lloyd J. "Jim" Thomas*

October 05, 2023 at 11:22 AM



“ *I miss my dad alot not a day goes that I don't think of him and tear up . dad was a great enough man to get to be a spirit in the heavens . he had a life that was full of excitement. Love . good memories. . when we would be together. We always had. Fun . laugh till u cry . I could write a book of the memories . I miss him dearly. I miss. You. Dad. And someday our spirits will meet. Again. Love you. God bless you . your son billy thomas*

**Billy thomas** - August 01, 2018 at 02:19 AM



“ *I'm going to miss Uncle Jim, my fondest memory's were family get togethers and potlucks, he would always bring out his guitar, fiddle, banjo or what ever instrument he wanted , he could play them all, and every one would join in with him, Jim had a talent that is gone now, I'm really going to miss that, he had a way of making everyone feel welcome and part of the family. LOVE YOU JIM, "Steve Emil"*



**Steve** - February 10, 2018 at 12:35 AM

PA

“ *My Dear Uncle Jim, I have always been and will always be grateful and proud just to have known you throughout my life. I and I know your family and friends will carry warm and loving thoughts of you in our hearts. Sure going to miss you...Till we meet again...Love You, Paula*

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**Paula** - February 05, 2018 at 05:18 PM

EB

“ *The world got a little quieter on the 31st. I will miss Jim's laughter, his stories, his music. He was a special man. Though I was never very good, he always encouraged me to play my accordion.He found beauty and joy in all types of music, even the atrociously bad.*

*Effie Burton*

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**Effie Burton** - February 03, 2018 at 01:44 PM



“ *Roberta Monoian lit a candle in memory of Lloyd J. "Jim" Thomas*



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**Roberta Monoian** - February 02, 2018 at 02:05 PM

KE

“ My fondest memory with Jim is, traveling to music jams. On the road going there and coming back home, he would tell me stories about his childhood days, playing music and how much he enjoyed his family. Sometimes he would give me a history lesson on the Yakima Valley. He loved his family, and friends were very important to him. He has made a big difference in my life and I will miss him very much. *Katie Eims*

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**Katie Eims** - February 02, 2018 at 12:43 PM

 Neal  
Thunderwood

“ I'll always remember him giving veterans rides in parades in his army Jeep. good bye Jim.

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**Neal Thunderwood** - February 02, 2018 at 10:40 AM