



James E. Bradley

March 21, 1931 - September 13, 2013

James E. Bradley, age 82, of Albuquerque, NM and Santa Fe, NM passed away at his Santa Fe home on Friday, September 13, 2013. His long-time companion, Rosa Rajkovic, wishes to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers, and visits during James' illness.

The youngest of three children, James Eugene Bradley was born on March 21, 1931, in Williamson County, IL, to Conrad Leo Bradley and Cecile (nee Jack) Bradley. Having been born during the Depression Era, as a young boy, James sold home-grown tomatoes for a nickel each to railroad workers so that he could buy shoes for school. James attended Community High School in Carbondale, Illinois and received his Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Economics from the University of Illinois. In the 1960s, as Director of Development for Rio Rancho Estates northwest of Albuquerque, James built the first subdivision in Rio Rancho and was instrumental in bringing Intel to the area. At the time, people questioned why someone would build so far out of Albuquerque. James started Sunland Realty, and he also was a member of the Board of Directors of the First State Bank of Rio Rancho. James named many of the streets in Rio Rancho, including Barbara Loop after his then wife. In the 1970s, James and AMREP incorporated and developed Eldorado, NM. Prior to moving to Albuquerque, NM from St. Paul, MN, James was Regional Manager of Industrial Development for the Great Northern Railway, now the Burlington-Northern. During his tenure at the railway, some 125 to 150 new facilities a year were located in his region. His region, at the time, covered all

industrial activity in North and South Dakota, Minnesota, parts of Wisconsin and Ohio. James was active in with the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce and the St. Paul Industrial Development Executives Association. Before this, James was Supervisor of the Community Preparedness Section of the Illinois Department of Business and Economic Development. In addition to community development activities, the Department was also responsible for export expansion, local and regional planning, tourist promotion, and research and analysis to attract industry to the area. James' whimsical Top Ten List of "Ways to Ruin a Town" appeared in numerous newspapers across the country. James was with the United States Air Force during the Korean War. He will be interred at the Santa Fe National Cemetery, 501 N. Guadalupe St., Santa Fe, NM, on Wednesday, September 25, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. with full military honors. The celebration of his life will be held at 4:00 p.m. at the Santa Fe home of Rosa Rajkovic.

Much beloved James (Papa Jim) is survived by his long-time companion Rosa (Rose) Rajkovic, nephews Michael and Nicholas Rajkovic, granddaughter Serenity Rajkovic, daughter Karen Bradley, son Richard Bradley, granddaughter Lien Bradley, two corgis, Maggie and Lacey, and numerous loving friends. He is preceded in death by sons Charles Bradley and Steve Bradley. Floral arrangements, in accordance with military protocol, are being handled by Silene Floral (505-820-0911) of Santa Fe, NM. Memorial Contributions can be made to the VFW, Veterans of Foreign Wars.

FRENCH – Wyoming

7121 Wyoming Blvd. NE

(505) 823-9400

Cemetery Details

Santa Fe National Cemetery

501 N. Guadalupe St.
NM 87504

Previous Events

Graveside Services

SEP **25.** 3:00 PM (MT)

Santa Fe National Cemetery
501 N. Guadalupe St.
NM 87504

Tribute Wall

MR

“ Dear Mr. B.

I said a prayer for you today and know that God must have heard it. Although he spoke no word, I felt the answer in my heart.

I didn't ask for wealth and fame. I knew you wouldn't mind. I asked him to send treasures of a far more lasting kind. I asked that he be near you at the start of each new day and to grant you peace, blessings, and friends to share the way.

I asked for happiness for you in all things great and small, but it was for his loving care, I prayed for most of all.

I love you Mr. B and hope you know that I am proud and grateful to have been a part of your life. It has been truly an honor. Thank you for everything.

Soar with the Angels, Mr. B. We miss you.

Love always,

Michael Rajkovic

Michael Rajkovic - October 23, 2013 at 01:55 PM

AA

“ Sorry to hear about Jim's passing.....Anna and Ariella

Anna and Ariella - October 12, 2013 at 05:45 PM

MJ

“ *The only one who has power over death is Jesus, and He gives everlasting life to those who ask him for it.(John 5:28,29)*

M. Johnson - September 28, 2013 at 07:50 AM

CW

“ *Grandparents are an amazing gift and my son was lucky enough to call Jim grandpa. He had a laugh that I will never forget and watching him play with Michael was priceless, from video game to board games to a once in a life time RV trip to Disney Land., I know that my son will always love his grandpa Jim and he will hold all of his memories in his heart. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for loving my son the way you did Rest in Peace Jim Love and Blessings Always*
Courtney

COURTNEY WHITE - September 25, 2013 at 10:19 AM

LJ

“ *Mrs Rose and Serenity,*
I am so sorry for the lost of Mr B, when i saw the text from you my heart sank. Just know your friend from Texas is praying for yall in this time of lost. Just know He is at rest and at peace watching down apron y'all.

Much love from Texas

Lance Jennings - September 24, 2013 at 07:47 PM

JR

“*Rose and Serenity,
I am deeply saddened for your loss. I know Mr. B. was an amazing man and he loved you both so very much. I know you will deeply miss him each and every day. I so appreciate the sacrifice that Mr. B. gave when he served our country, and there is no greater way to honor a man like him but with full military honors at his service. I am praying for God's grace to carry you through this time. Know you are loved.*

*Janice Robinson
Texas*

Janice Robinson - September 24, 2013 at 12:13 PM



“*Rest in peace...*

Luis Nery Castillo - September 23, 2013 at 10:17 PM



“*Grandpa Jim i will miss you dearly. You were a great man I'm only sorry i didn't get to spend more time with you. I will always remember watching Jeopardy with you. I love you always.*
LaGina

LaGina Renee - September 23, 2013 at 10:11 PM

BL

“*Jim was a wonderful grandfather. He will be deeply missed. Barbara Lell*

Barbara Lell - September 23, 2013 at 03:52 PM

DL

“ Jim was a great man, I had the honor of being his step son. He was a wonderful and caring person. He was an outstanding grandfather to my 3 kids, Michael, La Gina, and Nicholas.

The last 10 years family issues kept us apart, and for that I am deeply sadden.

Rick and Karen I send my heartfelt concern for your lose, and thank you for sharing your father with Jeff and I.

To those that I do not know, I sure Jim touched your lives as deeply as he did mine. Thank you for being there for him during his time of need.

Rest in Peace Jim

David



David Lell - September 23, 2013 at 03:25 PM

DE

“ Along with myself, my friends and my family, we all are deeply saddened by the loss of Mr. B. Our heart felt thoughts go out to Ms. Rosa and Serenity. However we can provide comfort and/or support in the upcoming days and months rest assured we are here for you. Mr. B, a kind, compassionate and generous man, his legacy carries on through both you and Serenity. I know these thoughts bring him great peace. He is already missed by many. Rest in peace.

Donna F. Erickson - September 22, 2013 at 11:30 AM

DE

I have been sitting here thinking about what I said about Mr. B. It sounds like I am wearing my minister's cap so now I want to speak from my heart to my friend Rosa and Serenity and Mike. It is interesting how God weaves us all together as one big family. I am sitting here with my friend Joan from Washington state, whose deceased husband was from Minnesota. I am from Minnesota...outside of St. Paul Joan's husband, Grant, worked on the railroad when Mr. B was in St. Paul. I was just a kid back then. Coincidence? I don't think so. I am sure their paths may have crossed just like through Rosa Mr B stepped into all our lives here in Alb. Mr B loved traveling the SW with Rosa in their RV. Traveling distances in life helps us get perspective. Driving down this road called life seeing how the paths of so many come together, I now I think the Spider Woman is weaving a wonderful pattern on this loom called life and when we get enough age on us we begin to see how remarkable the fabric of life is...with its connections, knots, twists, turns, upheavals, thread bare spots and beautiful designs. Joan and I were thinking of great times shared over dinner after helping Mr B with packages for his new found adventure...the business in SF with Rosa. My hats off to both Rosa and Jim for creating something together which kept him busy contributing and enjoying life in his later years. I just want to share some memories. I love the conversations both he and Lou (another wonderful woman helping us all) shared with me about how they both, being in their 80's (and never too old to start a new friendship), thought things just keep changing faster and faster the older they get...and that life is so interesting they just had to keep on seeing what was going to be the next challenge. And they both commented on the ways of youth. Never judging, just an understanding that all of us have our adventures and misadventures when we are young. And Leila got her a happy grandpa every time he showed up for the mail. And Barbara Chambers, extraordinary gardener that she is, and all the Albuquerque neighbors commenting on the beautiful gardens and pond that Mr B created in their Albuquerque home. Even when he was ill, Mike and Mr. B were out in the back yard cleaning the pool...business as usual. He was always setting the example for others. I loved seeing the pictures of Mr. B that Rosa shared with me...when he was busy helping to build Rio Rancho. The values on his poster board in that picture are priceless and could be put to good use in our world today. Wisdom is ageless. Let's see ...what else. Conversationalist, yes, and not the superficial. I am so grateful for his straight forward, direct way of being. Personally, Mr. B helped me to grow and accept people for who they are rather than who I want them to be. He helped many people to understand that we are always creating the world we want to live in through our thoughts, feelings, and most of all our actions. And how he loved Thanksgiving and that TRADITIONAL TURKEY with all the TRADITIONAL TRIMMINGS and how always there was room at the table for as many guests as you wanted to bring. Yes, he called an ace an ace and a spade a spade.

When he was ornery, he could get under our skin. When he was stubborn that was an under statement. And the tender place he had in his heart for little miss Serenity and Maggie and Winnie and always his Rose are forever in my heart and never giving up on Mike but setting boundaries. And as we age maybe our feet are not as agile, our eyes not as good as they once were and who can forget our ears, or maybe we forget now and then but don't be fooled. I remember the time Mr B frustrated and scared Rosa when he forgot his keys to the house in SF and he decided because he had a ladder he would scale the wall to the second floor and let himself into the house that way. Sad, bad, mad, glad.... You see all of us are born to figure things out and make a difference and Mr. B. goes down in my book of memories as a living example of that ingenuity

Donna F. Erickson - September 22, 2013 at 06:37 PM

DH

“*Rosa, I am saddened to hear of your loss. I never met Jim, but I know if you loved him he had to be a great guy. I will keep you in my prayers. Much love, Dusty Holmes*

Dusty Holmes - September 21, 2013 at 01:57 PM

LD

“*Dearest Rose, we were so fortunate to have been able to have a nice lunch with you and Jim when you visited california few years back. I know that you and Serenity will miss Jim very much as will all of his friends and loved ones. Know that you can contact us any time and I am here to comfort you and dear Serenity. We love you both. Lanna and Brian*

lanna diederick - September 21, 2013 at 11:18 AM

FF

“*Your light still shines through those that loved you so much, especially Rose. Rest in Peace*

felecia ford - September 20, 2013 at 10:48 PM

SE

“ *On behalf of the French Family of Companies, we express our deepest condolences.*

Suzanne Engman - September 20, 2013 at 07:01 PM