



## James "Jimmy" W. Crain Sr.

May 28, 1941 - December 2, 2023

On Dec 2, 2023, James (Jimmy) W. Crain Sr, beloved dad, “pop pop”, friend and life partner, passed away at the age of 82. His resilience and zest for life was displayed with vigor as he fought hard to beat his illness. He was able to say goodbye to family and friends and then passed away peacefully.

He was born on May 28, 1941, to Alice Philips and Laverne Crain in Shreveport, LA. He was raised in Mandeville, LA and majored in Physical Education at Southeastern Louisiana University.

By the age of 22, Jimmy had married and fathered three children. He went to work as a car salesman where he excelled. He was a natural salesman and perfected the art of getting a great deal.

In 1969, he was offered the GM position at Royal Oldsmobile in Sarasota, FL where he moved and expanded his family with another child. He won numerous awards and shattered all sales records. He later went on to open his own successful pre-owned car lot in Sarasota where he raised his four children. Jimmy taught his children the importance of education and to never give up on anything they want to do in life- “Where there is a Will, there is a Way”.

In 1986, after he divorced, Jimmy met his life partner Tina Jordan. They traveled together and opened Maggie’s Antiques in North Carolina where they stayed during the warmer months.

Jimmy returned to his hometown of Mandeville whenever possible to visit family and friends and to attend reunions which he cherished.

Jimmy was passionate about every thing he did in life and was an avid golfer. His jovial nature and sharp sense of humor made him the “life of the party”. He loved to dance and had the ability to make a pun out of anything.

His Indian guides nickname was “Fulabull” which was indicative of his ability to tell a great story. His epic Christmas parties with Elvis impersonators will always bring a smile to those who attended.

He is survived by his life partner Christina Jordan, and three children, James Crain Jr., Ronnalyn (Kay) Crain and Jason S. Crain. His beloved daughter Sabrina Crain passed in 2020. He is also survived by his brother Ricky Dale Crain and his grandchildren, Erica DiAngelo Allen, Nick DiAngelo, Chase Crain Perrault, Maxwell Crain Perrault, James W Crain III, Kaci Crain, and Jesi Crain.

Jimmy’s departure leaves a void impossible to fill. His legacy of bringing laughter to every gathering, his genuine ability to connect people and his unyielding devotion to his loved ones will be forever etched in our hearts.

There will be a memorial service on February 10, 2024 at 10am at the Incarnation Catholic Church, 2929 Bee Ridge Rd, Sarasota, FL 34239 and a reception directly following at the church’s hall. The family welcomes all who would like to attend.

Memorial contributions may be made in Jimmy’s Honor to St. Judes Children’s Research Hospital online at [www.stjude.org](http://www.stjude.org).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

FEB **10**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Incarnation Catholic Church  
2911 Bee Ridge Road  
Sarasota, FL 34239

# Tribute Wall

LM

“ Love Cecil and Marcia purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of James "Jimmy" W. Crain Sr..



Love Cecil and Marcia - February 08, 2024 at 04:49 PM

LM

“ Love Cecil and Marcia planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James "Jimmy" W. Crain Sr..

Love Cecil and Marcia - February 08, 2024 at 04:49 PM

RF

“ Rachel, Misty and Family purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of James "Jimmy" W. Crain Sr..



Rachel, Misty and Family - February 06, 2024 at 07:52 AM

LT

“ Love Always Tina purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of James "Jimmy" W. Crain Sr..



Love Always Tina - January 26, 2024 at 06:46 PM

VS

“ Jimmy's passing touches so many of us from old Mandeville. He was then and always continued to be a dynamic spirit. He was everything from mischievous to caring and sensitive to the feelings of others. He brought color and substance to the lives of so many of us. And his memories continue to do so.

Vernon "Butch" Smith - December 20, 2023 at 05:38 PM

CM

“ Heartfelt condolences to the Crain Family.  
Grateful for all the memories and laughter you always had for everyone - The  
Mattie Family

chris mattie - December 14, 2023 at 02:13 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of  
James "Jimmy" W. Crain Sr..



December 11, 2023 at 10:08 PM

DC

“ I posted some earlier memories of the years in Mandeville where Jimmy and I  
(others too) graduated in 1959. What I did not know was that my mother loved to  
have drag races with those who met at some spot...and she would win! So Jimmy  
said to me that I should be more like my mother. He also decided that I should not  
be in class one day, so he took me to a bar where I drank sloe gin! I was so sick  
of sloe gin that just the thought of it was Yuk! He was a great friend and he will  
never be forgotten. Through Facebook Jimmy kept me updated on all the other  
friends and I was so grateful for his kindness.

Dorothy Rossignol Clear - December 11, 2023 at 09:12 AM

PZ

“ Jimmy grew up two houses from me. I knew his mom Ms Alice his Aunt Mable  
and yes even Grandma Phillips so Jimmy and I plus my whole family had a  
lifetime connection Being an only child his good friends were family. Barry and I  
were lucky to have enjoyed one of his Elvis Christmas parties which was so  
Jimmy. We also shared his 70th birthday bash with his family and friends. He  
talked about it up until his recent BD in May. His passing has left a big void in my  
life that I intend filling with all the great memories accumulated over the years.  
Thank you Jimmy ❤️  
His love for his children and grandchildren was always up front and center . Their  
love will carry his legacy forward as a badge of honor A beautiful family. Til' then.

patricia zuber - December 10, 2023 at 05:51 PM

SF

“ My condolences to the family. I'll speak for my dad, Ken Foil, and say that Jimmy  
was one hell of a guy. The world was a better place with you in it.

Scott Foil - December 09, 2023 at 12:57 PM



“ Jimmy was full of stories and laughter from the beginning. We met about 75 years ago and he was a leader in the tight little community of Mandeville, La. He was the adored son of his mom, Ms Alice and always had the coolest cars. I think he played the drums, danced a lot and probably drove fast. He kept that spark and shared at our happy reunions of the Old Mandeville Geezers and some elegant elders. One can only imagine the wicked sense of humor and great stories as he is welcomed home...we're sure going to miss him here. Much love to his daughter Kay, his beloved Tina and his family. One of of a kind.



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**Carolyn Fineran** - December 09, 2023 at 06:27 AM

IM

“ Well said! He was definitely a lively person who was charismatic and very kind and communicative. In the years I knew him he was an avid advocate since we met in the fall of 1983 through his eldest son. We had the pleasure of hitting 18 in his last few months and he didn't disappoint, outhitting his junior and I both with humor. He told me he watches people all day on that course and I should know I did OK because I could always hit the ball and it went straight. I appreciate the little bit of hurricane in him -we should all keep our fire burning so bright. Had a great way of exposing wisdom where the listener could hear him, without being overbearing about it and that is a fine art. Mr Crain will be missed!

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**Irene M** - December 09, 2023 at 04:34 AM