



## James "Rocky" Jones

June 8, 1959 - July 7, 2025

James Gregory Jones, 66, of Visalia, CA passed away on July 7th, 2025, after a 16-month fight with cancer. He left this world in the comfort of his own home, surrounded by those who loved him dearly.

James was born on June 8th, 1959, in Tulare, CA to James "Jay" Jones and Bonnie Jones. Known for his impatience, he arrived seven weeks early and spent the first two weeks of his life in the NICU. At the time, his uncle Phillip gave him the nickname "Rocky" due to the strength he displayed during his hospital stay; and he was known as Rocky ever since.

Rocky graduated from Tulare Union High School in 1977 where he played tennis competitively and earned top grades. After working at the local grocery store and spending some time at community college, he began working at Dairyman's, which was taken over by Land O' Lakes. He dedicated 45 years of his service to the company before retiring in 2024. Rocky was best known for his quick wit, strong work ethic, humorous personality, and his athleticism in sports like golf, baseball, tennis, softball, and ping pong.

He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Lowell Jones; his grandmother, Clara Jones; his grandfather, Plummer Smart; his grandmother, Letha Smart; his father, James Jones; and his dog, T-Bone.

He is survived by his wife, Lori Jones; his children David Lawrence, Melanie Jones, and Travis Jones; his mother, Bonnie Jones; his sister, Cathy Jones; his dog, Finn; and countless extended family.

Rocky's memorial service will take place at Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel in Visalia, CA on August 9th, 2025, at 11:00 AM. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the American Cancer Society or Bristol Hospice of Visalia to honor Rocky's fighting spirit and help those who are still on their journey.

Services have been entrusted to Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel. Memorial Tributes and condolences may be offered by logging onto [www.salseranddillard.com](http://www.salseranddillard.com).

# Previous Events

## Memorial

AUG 9. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (PT)

Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel  
127 E. Caldwell Ave.  
Visalia, CA 93277

## Reception

AUG 9. 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM (PT)

Salser & Dillard Life Event Center  
135 E Caldwell Ave  
Visalia, CA 93277

# Tribute Wall



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of James "Rocky" Jones*



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**Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel** - August 07, 2025 at 11:25 AM



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Webcast in memory of James "Rocky" Jones*



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**Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel** - August 04, 2025 at 01:48 PM

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“ Rocky was my second cousin, but more than that he was a close friend. After I moved away from Tulare we lost touch. I will always remember his smile, laugh and sense of humor. Prayers and hugs to his family. Til we meet again Rocky at the Camp Peter Pansky in the sky.



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**Ray Tatum** - August 02, 2025 at 09:49 AM

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*Rest in peace Rocky*

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**Larry vojkuška** - August 04, 2025 at 12:59 AM