



James J Byrne

May 9, 1941 - January 4, 2026

James J. “Jimmy” Byrne, 84, of Keansburg, New Jersey, passed away peacefully at home on January 4, 2026, surrounded by his loving family. Born on May 9, 1941, in Manhattan, New York, Jimmy was the son of John and Julia Byrne. He proudly served in the United States Army from 1961 to 1963 and went on to spend his career as a dedicated city worker for MABSTOA.

In 1965, Jimmy married the love of his life, Kathleen Byrne, and together they raised three sons — James, Joseph, and Kevin. A devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, Jimmy treasured time with his family. He especially loved summers at the beach, cheering from the sidelines at countless sporting events, and playing golf with his brother and sons. A lifelong sports enthusiast, Jimmy was also an avid, loyal fan of the New York Football Giants and the New York Yankees. His greatest joy in life was being present for the people he loved.

For more than 50 years, Jimmy was a faithful and devoted parishioner of St. Ann’s Church, where he generously dedicated his time to various social concern ministries and served proudly as a parish trustee.

Jimmy is survived by his beloved wife, Kathleen Byrne; his sons, James, Joseph, and Kevin Byrne; his daughters-in-law, Mary Beth, Maureen, and Jennifer Byrne; his grandchildren, Erin Byrne, Megan Byrne DiCillo, Kelly Byrne, Kristen Signoriello, Jack Byrne, Julie Byrne, and Lauren Byrne; and his great-granddaughter, Abigail Byrne DiCillo. He is also survived by his sister,

Sheila Gibney, along with many cherished nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Julia Byrne, and his siblings, John "Junie" Byrne, Maureen Henkel, Michael Byrne, Allie Byrne, Joseph Byrne, and William Byrne.

Visitation will be held on Friday, January 9, 2026, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Laurel Avenue Funeral Home. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, January 10, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. at St. Ann's Church in Keansburg.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Jimmy's memory to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital are greatly appreciated.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Olivet

Chaple Hill Rd
Middletown, NJ

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 9. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Laurel Funeral Home
201 Laurel Ave
Hazlet Township, NJ 07734
(732) 787-0258

Funeral gathering

JAN 10. 8:30 AM (ET)

Laurel Funeral Home
201 Laurel Ave
Hazlet Township, NJ 07734
(732) 787-0258

Funeral Mass

JAN 10. 9:30 AM (ET)

St. Ann's RC Church
311 Carr Avenue
Keansburg, NJ

Tribute Wall

SS

“ Sincerely, Better with PT Staff planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James J Byrne.

Sincerely, Better with PT Staff - January 15 at 01:34 PM

SS

“ Sincerely, Better with PT Staff purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of James J Byrne.



Sincerely, Better with PT Staff - January 15 at 01:34 PM

AR

“ Amy and Ron purchased the Simply Elegant Spat hiphyllum for the family of James J Byrne.



Amy and Ron - January 09 at 12:52 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of James J Byrne.



January 08 at 10:25 PM

XD

“ Xoxo Jane & Anthony D’Onofrio purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of James J Byrne.



Xoxo Jane & Anthony D’Onofrio - January 08 at 04:08 PM

KD

“ Karen & Steve Famularo, Joe & Nick DeBonis purchased the Fairest of All for the family of James J Byrne.



Karen & Steve Famularo, Joe & Nick DeBonis - January 08 at 03:13 PM

MB

“ I wish I could find the words to express my sadness at Uncle Jimmy's passing. Our hearts go out to all of you at this time of loss. Nora and Julie and Melissa expressed it all so wonderfully. All the stories... yes, Uncle Jimmy had such a gift for them. I will always always cherish our times at the "Shamrock Diner" sharing them along with countless weddings, cookouts, Christenings, Communions and graduations.

But for all the laughter, what I really remember was the kindness. Despite all the hardships of your early years, despite all life's trials as an adult, despite all the losses of loved ones over the years, you never lost that cheerful kindness that served as such an example for me and all of us of my generation. You are a great man who's greatness was built on humility, who provided and sacrificed without complaint and who, with Aunt Kathleen, raised three remarkable men to carry his light forward. I'm proud to be their cousin. So, yes, sometimes his temper knew no bounds, but his heart had no limits. And we are all better people because he was in our lives.

Mike & Diane Byrne - January 08 at 01:20 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of James J Byrne.



January 08 at 08:54 AM

KW

“ *Kristina Wirt purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of James J Byrne.*



Kristina Wirt - January 07 at 09:23 PM

“ Dear Aunt Kathleen, Jimmy, Mary Beth, Joe, Maureen, Kevin, Jen, all of the beautiful grandchildren, precious new great grandbaby and Aunt Sheila, Dave and I were so saddened to hear of Uncle Jimmy’s passing and yet we celebrate his crossing over to his eternal reward. I’m certain there was quite a line up at the pearly gates waiting to welcome him home. I suspect my dad and the uncles are hoping to take his money at the heavenly poker table as we speak. I have so many wonderful memories of Uncle Jimmy and they start when I was about 3 or 4 years old. My parents had a picture on the shelf of Uncle Jimmy and Aunt Kathleen’s wedding. I was certain that we were related to Cinderella and Prince Charming. Seriously, that is what my little girl brain believed. They were such a beautiful couple. Their love for each other was so inspiring to see when I was young and more recently as Uncle Jimmy’s health began to fade. The love and pride they have in their boys, daughters in law, grandchildren and now great grandbaby was always evident. And that love and admiration is returned by their family who give them such joy. We spent an afternoon with them a little over a year ago and I can honestly say you could feel the love the moment you walked in the door.

Uncle Jimmy was one of 7 siblings and, as with all families, each sibling has their role. Uncle Jimmy was the consummate storyteller. My dad admired his abilities and on more than one occasion said “Jimmy could tell a man to go to hell so he would look forward to the trip!” On our last visit with Uncle Jimmy, although he was struggling to breathe, he told us the story of how he returned from the army to find that the family had moved without telling him. It is one of the funniest stories I’ve ever heard and I could never do it justice but those of us who were there will always remember his humor and ability to tell a story!

He told many stories about the “old days” when there was not a lot of money but there was always an abundance of love. Faith, family and friends were always the priorities. He was rewarded with many friends, an amazing family and I believe his faith got him a ticket straight to heaven.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you as you prepare to

celebrate a life well lived. His legacy will live on through all of you and I know you will continue to make him proud. Godspeed, Uncle Jimmy! We love you! Dave and Nora

Nora Rebholz - January 07 at 09:19 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of James J Byrne.*



January 07 at 08:05 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of James J Byrne.*



January 07 at 07:10 PM



“ *Andres S. purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute S pray for the family of James J Byrne.*



Andres S. - January 07 at 05:39 PM

MT

“ I remember when I met Jim and Kath at a family event at their son Kevin and his wife, my niece Jennifer's, home. They came right up to us and introduced themselves the rest of the Byrne family...From then on we were part of the Family. And as his obituary states, he told the best stories that kept us laughing throughout the day. Jim, I know when I look up at the evening stars one of them will be you smiling down to let us know heaven is a wonderful place and you are at peace.

Melissa & George Thompson - January 07 at 01:42 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray* was purchased for the family of James J Byrne.



January 07 at 11:56 AM

JC

“ Sending my deepest and heartfelt condolences to Aunt Kathleen, Jimmy, MaryBeth , Joe, Maureen, Kevin, Jen and all of their beautiful grandchildren and great grand baby. Uncle Jimmy lit up every room he walked into. His warmth and kindness made you feel welcome in any gathering . His keen sense of humor and stories from the early years kept us belly laughing for the years to come . I have so many fond memories of this special man , but one in particular stands out . Back in 2015 when my brother Robert and Chris got married , my children, who have lived most of their life in Atlanta and didn't really know my extended family , found themselves gravitating to the table with the Aunts and Uncles . They couldn't get enough of all the stories Uncle Jimmy shared . There he was holding court 😊 all of us in stitches and falling off our chairs with laughter. My kids still talk about that day and how they felt so connected to the aunts and uncles they barely knew . This is what is so special about the amazing Byrne family . No matter how long it's been or how far away you live , you know this family will be embrace you the moment you walk into a room 😊 what a precious memory and definitely one I will hold in my heart forever❤️ Family and Faith was EVERYTHING and Uncle Jimmy and Aunt Kathleen embodied this like no one else . They have, fortunately for the rest of us , passed these values on to their boys and their families and we reap the rewards of such a special love ❤️ . Rest in peace Uncle Jimmy , you have left a legacy that very few can compete with ❤️



julie campbell - January 07 at 09:40 AM

FS

“ from Premier Business Solutions, Inc. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James J Byrne.

from Premier Business Solutions, Inc. - January 07 at 08:52 AM

FS

“ from Premier Business Solutions, Inc. purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of James J Byrne.



from Premier Business Solutions, Inc. - January 07 at 08:52 AM

TF

“ The KSA Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of James J Byrne.



The KSA Family - January 07 at 08:43 AM

BS

“ Brittany & Jordan Sims purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of James J Byrne.



Brittany & Jordan Sims - January 07 at 08:41 AM