



## James Daddy" Ellis

September 24, 2009

TORRINGTON, WY..... Memorial services for JAMES R. "Big Daddy" ELLIS, 70, will be held at 10:00am on Thursday, September 24, 2009 at the First Wyoming United Presbyterian Church with Reverend Curtis Hill officiating. Jim died on Saturday, September 19, 2009 at the Torrington Community Hospital. Cremation has taken place. Those who wish may direct memorial contributions to either the Lingle Volunteer Fire Department or to the Torrington Royal Order of the Moose Lodge #664 Building Fund. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of the Colyer Funeral Home and friends are invited to send condolences to the family at [www.colyerfuneralhome.com](http://www.colyerfuneralhome.com) Jim was born on April 22, 1939 in Denver, Colorado the son of Herald and Dorothy (Springstead) Ellis. Jim attended school in Denver through the 8th grade and then Cheyenne, Wyoming for one year and then to LaGrange, Wyoming where Jim continued his education; graduating from LaGrange High School in 1958. He went on to briefly attend the Goshen County Community College at Torrington. Jim then operated a tire store in LaGrange for a short time. On February 18, 1961 he married Myrna Arnold at Hawk Springs, Wyoming. The couple operated Ellis Wholesale Candy and Jim's Swim at Torrington. Jim was a carpenter and built houses in Torrington for four years. In 1972 he started Concrete Construction, Inc in Torrington. Jim sold CCI and retired in 2006. Jim started attending Wyoming State Fire Conventions in 1964 and after he retired from the conventions competitive events, he became a timer. Jim had been a member of both the Torrington and Lingle Volunteer

Fire Departments. He was currently serving on the Wyoming Firemen's Pension Fund Board. Jim mostly loved being with his family and friends. He enjoyed woodworking, camping, hunting, and boating. He was the ultimate handyman. He also enjoyed working on the family cabin at Hawk Springs Reservoir. Jim was a member of Community Presbyterian Church at Lingle, and the Torrington Royal Order of the Moose Lodge #664 where he was Governor for two years. Jim was also a past member of the Jaycees and Toastmasters. He is survived by his wife, Myrna of Lingle; two sons and their wives, Gordon (Lidia) Ellis of Roseville, California and Garrold (Cheryl) Ellis of Bakersfield, California; two daughters and their husbands, Gwen (Tim) Holt of George West, Texas, and Gail (Casey) Babbitt of Yoder, Wyoming; two sisters, Betty (Dan) Bullis, and Velma (Jim) Belk all of Lake Havasu, Arizona; 17 grandchildren, Getty, Afton, Shaylee, Auston, Cortnee, Adyson, Chayson, Cayleb, Kirby, Cassidy, Caysi, Kapri, Aydon, Tanya, Rob, Ashley, Julie; and two great grandchildren on the way. He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Nancy Ellis.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Myrna,*

*We were so sorry to hear about Jim. He was certainly one of a kind and will be missed so much.*

*Sincerely,*

*Tom Johnston  
Jan Johnston(Tucker)*

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**Tom & Jan Johnston(Tucker)** - September 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *We were so sorry to hear of Jim's untimely death. We treasure the memories from days when my Jim worked for your Jim and we enjoyed the boating experiences.  
Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you, Myrna, and the kids.*

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September 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *I will always remeber going to Aunt Myrna and Uncle Jim's when I was a kid with Grandma Janet. From the stories my mom tells me she remember's the same. I am sorry that I could not make it up to the service but I guess there are only so many generations that can fit in one vehicle at a time. So, here's to Uncle Jim! May his soul rest in perfect peace.*

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**Michele Herron** - September 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ *Sorry to hear of your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*

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**Kelea Burns** - September 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ *Myrna and Family,  
We have many fond memories of earlier years when we were attempting to rear and nurture our families, particularly our boys and their activities in sports and of course our involvement with them as parents. Jim and Keith attended EWC as students for a time and had a friendship for life as a result.  
We reach out to you all and want to know you are in our thoughts and prayers even though appointments require that we be out of town for his memorial.  
With very best wishes,  
Keith and Gwen Whitney*

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**Keith Whitney** - September 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ *Jim was a fine man and a great friend and role model for so many. He will be missed by all who knew him. Our hearts and prayers are with you.*

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**Dan and Helen (Watson) Doherty** - September 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM

VF

“ *Myrna and family: Words can't express our sorrow in the loss of our dear friend, Jim.*

*He has done SO MANY things for us over the years. We'll never forget when Jim and Myrna came to the hospital to be with us when our son died in Torrington, then drove us home to Cheyenne. We never would have made it through that night if it wasn't for his strength and compassion.*

*He was always there to offer advise, lend a hand, a tool, a tractor to pull something out of the lake, the ditch the mud, or just to offer an ice cold beer.*

*The lake will not be the same without Jim playing horseshoes, passing around the Boonesfarm, seeing the lights on in his shop at all hours of the morning, hearing his power tools running, or just sitting on his porch watching the sun set over the lake at the end of the day.*

*He was the hardest working, most honorable man we have ever known. It was our priviledge to have known him and our honor to have called him our friend.*

*He will be missed.*

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**Voycheske Family** - September 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you and your loved ones. May you find peace and strength with each passing day.*

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**Marsha Wiand Lund** - September 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Myrna, Gordon, Gwen, Garrold and Gail and your entire families. My heart is heavy, I can not know the great sorrow you are all enduring. Know that you are not alone in your grief.

*"The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever." Jim, will live forever. He will live forever in the hearts of those who are honored to have known him and he will live forever in the House of the Lord.*

*In sympathy,*

*Myrna*

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**Myrna Heller Hargrave** - September 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ We have always enjoyed sharing Holidays and Getty and Shaylee's birthdays with Jim and Myrna at Casey and Gail's home. We have enjoyed any time we ever spent with Jim and will miss is stories and laugh. May God Bless each of you now through this difficult time and always. We are always here for you. We love you very much.

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**Russ and Kendal Richards** - September 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ Heaven has another angel. Sorry for your loss, Ellis family. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

*Sandy*

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**Sandy (Senteney) Thompson** - September 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ *My Dear Cousins,  
If I had a fire, I would want Jim to come. If I had something broken I would want Jim to fix it. When I need a guardian angel, I'm sure Jim will do his darndest to be there! He had such compassion. I never heard Jim say an unkind word about anyone and, with open arms, he certainly welcomed me into the family. I will miss his gentle smile and fun stories. When he talked about his children and grand children, his eyes twinkled. May our dear Lord and Savior bless all you and bring you peace. Know that you are loved in a very special way and that joy will return!*

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**Marianne Brandt** - September 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DU

“ *Myrna, I am so sorry for your loss. I enjoyed visiting with you and Jim at the Fireman's Convention in June. Like always you were outgoing and make time to visit. I will always remember "sharing a meal" with you and Jim at the picnic. Gordon, Gwen, Garrold, Gail and your families, your loss is incredible. Big Daddy would do almost anything for anyone he knew, yet, the most important thing to him was his family. He always talked about you when I seen him. He has done a lot for me over the years. When I would try to thank him, he would always say, "No Problem. You would have done the same for me." I will miss him.*

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**Dan Unverzagt** - September 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ *Myrna & family,  
I was so sorry to receive the call from Gene K. about your loss of Jim. We had many great times together especially during the 3 summers that we both worked for Ellis Kessler. Jim worked hard then and as you know continued that all his life. He seemed to know one speed and that was 'all out.' I am so glad that Gene and I were able to get together with the two of you a couple of years ago. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Dick*

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**Dick Clark** - September 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ *We would like to express our deepest sympathy for your loss. The loss of someone close is difficult to bear. It is our hope that you know that we care. The Bible brings sure comfort for all the ones we have lost and answers such questions as: Why do people grow old and die and What happens to us when we die? God promises a time when death will be no more and this is found at Revelation 21:4 which reads: "And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourn nor pain anymore. The former things have passed away." I hope this brings you some comfort.*

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**T. Williams** - September 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM