



James Vance Destafino

September 26, 1954 - July 9, 2020

Destafino, James Vance, age 65, of Birmingham, passed away on July 9 , 2020. Bolton Funeral Home is directing.

He is preceded in death by his parents: Charles and Mildred Jones Destafino; and brothers: Sam Bailey, Phillip Destafino, and Charlie Destafino. He is survived by his sister: Linda Destafino; and brothers: Mark Destafino, San Destafino, and John R. Jones.

Please sign online condolences at www.boltonfuneralhome.com.

Tribute Wall

MH

“ I am sorry for the loss. I remember playing pool with Vance in the living room when I was a little girl.

Mary Hinson - July 12, 2020 at 09:00 PM

BG

“ I didn't know Vance personally but he was an inspiration to me as I saw him every day coming up the mountain by our neighborhood. His stamina, his diligence and determination embarking on that journey each day... along with his patriotism of making sure the flag was displayed. May you Rest In Peace as you are joining your family that have gone before you. With a flag and your smile, I can see you waving now!

Brenda Gustin - July 12, 2020 at 08:54 PM

MC

“ I did not know Mr. Destafino personally. I live in Highland Lakes off Highway 280 and I'd see him regularly walking his bike up the hill, the American flag flying from the handlebars. Learned that he was a veteran, that he ate breakfast regularly at Hamburger Heaven, and was just a humble and sweet gentleman. Many of us in the neighborhood prayed for his safety as he walked that busy road, but he seemed undaunted. We will miss him and pray that he's walking his bike in heaven with the angels. Rest in Peace.

Marilyn Chiaramonte
July 12, 2020

Marilyn F Chiaramonte - July 12, 2020 at 05:51 PM

GO

“ There were many comments and memories shared on a neighborhood website that I thought the family would like to see. Since I didn't have permission to use names I just copied the many positive comments shared.

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There is a men's Bible study group from NSBC that meets at Hamburger Heaven. Some of them had gotten to know Mr. Destafino and said he was a very interesting man. I'm sure he'll be missed by many.

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My wife and I were collecting money for the Salvation Army outside of Walmart a couple of years ago, and he came by twice within a couple of hours to make a donation. ❤️

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A ray of sunshine and a symbol of what's right in the world. I didn't know Mr. Destefano, I would see him, his bike and his flag as he travel 280. May GOD bless and comfort his family. 🙏

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What a precious little man who very likely had a much more profound understanding of the "meaning of life" than most of us. The possessions he had with him on that little bike bespeak the manner of man he was. His favorable impact upon others is herein obvious, and likely far greater than that of most. GOD adores those who are kind and are content with what little life might afford them, and will ultimately bless them beyond measure. There is much to be learned from Mr Destefano, and his departure is a loss for all of us!!! RIP my old friend...I enjoyed our talks and getting to know you better. Make sure you take that infectious smile, bike, bible in your back pocket, and Alabama flag with you....going to miss not seeing you buddy. RTR!!

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So sad Was such a kind man ❤️

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Had the opportunity to visit with him at Hamburger Heaven one day. After that time I spent with him, if I'd see him on 280, I would honk the horn. And he would have a big wave and a sweet smile!

How many lives has he touched?

How many people in your life that you barely knew (or never met) touched your heart upon learning their death?

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Just the nicest individual you could encounter, he enjoyed his life fully and made many friendships along 280. His flag still hangs positioned on his mailbox.

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RIP Vance. I believe this shows how one individual can touch so many lives just by being intentional.

Gary Ohmstede - July 12, 2020 at 05:46 PM

ND

“ *Met him once while my husband and I were collecting money for the Salvation Army outside of Walmart on 280. He came by twice within a couple of hours to put money in our tin. He had the sweetest smile. We will surely miss seeing him along 280, pushing his bike with the American flag proudly displayed.*

Nancy Davis - July 12, 2020 at 09:35 AM