



James Terry Progler

November 24, 1949 - January 7, 2026

TIPTON — James Terry Progler, age 76, of Tipton, Michigan, passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by the love of his family.

James was born on November 24, 1949, in Springfield, Ohio, the eldest of three children born to John J. and Roberta C. (Higley) Progler. He grew up in Saginaw and Adrian and attended Washington Elementary School and Madison schools, where he formed friendships and values that stayed with him throughout his life.

On September 14, 1974, James married Linda Pletcher, at the First Baptist Church in Adrian. Together they shared 51 years of marriage and built a life centered on family, hard work, and togetherness. They created countless cherished memories through camping trips, fishing and hunting adventures, cruises, and time spent with loved ones.

Following high school, James entered the workforce and began a long and dedicated career with Ford Motor Company in Saline, Michigan. A proud member of UAW Local 892, he worked for more than 30 years in various roles, including assembly, maintenance, and operating the hilow machine. In addition to his work at Ford, James displayed strong entrepreneurial spirit, investing in rental properties and buying and selling used cars.

James retired in 2005 after 38 years with Ford, eagerly embracing the next chapter of life on Evans Lake.

An avid fisherman at heart, he especially enjoyed fishing for bluegill, walleye, and crappie, often traveling to Lake Erie. He also loved a good steak, riding a motorcycle, playing euchre, and hosting friends while cruising around Evans Lake on his pontoon. James was a member of Moose Lodge 2661 and Eagle's Aerie 3689, where he enjoyed camaraderie and fellowship.

In addition to his wife, Linda, James is survived by their children, Heather (Daniel) Gilbert and Dennis (Christina) Sharp; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and his siblings, Steven Progler and Leslie Massengill. He was preceded in death by his parents and his son, Jeffrey Progler.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, January 18, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Wagley Funeral Home in Adrian. The funeral service will follow at 1:00 p.m., officiated by his son, Dennis Sharp. A private burial will take place on Monday at Lenawee Hills Memorial Gardens in Tecumseh.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Lenawee Humane Society. Online condolences and memories may be shared at www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com.

Cemetery Details

Lenawee Hills Memorial Gardens

Corner of M50 and M52
Tecumseh, MI 49286

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 18. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home (Adrian)
1501 W. Maumee St.
Adrian, MI 49221
(517) 263-1400
info@wagleyfuneralhome.com
<https://www.WagleyFuneralHome.com>

Tribute Wall

RT

“ *Linda, sorry for your loss .*

Robert Trevino - January 17 at 11:01 AM

II

Linda n family,our deepest sympathy in your loss.Worked many years with Jim.Did alot of fishing n had alot of cold beers with him .Have alot of good memories.Enjoyed our talks on the phone.He always enjoyed my wife's homemade Mexican food,especially her tamales.He was a good hearted man.RIP my amigo.

VICTOR N ISABEL INCLAN

Isabel n Victor Inclan - January 18 at 04:02 PM

TI

“ *Condolences to the family of Jim. My late husband, John always like talking and fishing with him. Deepest sympathy, Tina Rose*



Tina - January 14 at 03:14 PM

SS

So sorry for your loss Linda. I just now heard this and wanted to let you know how sorry I am. Lots of good memories with you and him. My heart hurts for you. RIP

Sue Sellers - February 18 at 12:53 PM

TR

“ *The Family of Mike Reynolds purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of James Terry Progler.*



The Family of Mike Reynolds - January 13 at 01:47 PM

BF

“ *Bob, Clem and family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of James Terry Progler.*



Bob, Clem and family - January 12 at 09:45 AM