



Mr. James W. Cadena Jr.

April 25, 1947 - May 9, 2023

No obituary found for this tribute.

Tribute Wall

JC

“ Jim was Residence Dean to us when we were Resident Fellows in East Flo Mo (East Florence Moore) Hall at Stanford, when I was a faculty member of the Music Department. We became close friends right away, after the Resident Assistants disappeared on the night of a "toga party" that had been advertised via signs posted all over Palo Alto, and which took place in East Flo. This was before Facebook became social media. Party guests ranging from high schoolers to 30+ year old .com techies showed up to join the party which had been organized by freshmen in Alondra. Fortunately, the second keg they purchased malfunctioned but the first one was enough to cause the Alondra freshmen to miss their scavenger hunt two days later. Everyone survived somehow, and Jim helped us navigate the nightmare this was. As a man of the theatre, we had a lot in common (I am an opera singer and directed several staged opera productions at Stanford). Over the ensuing six years of our time as Resident Fellows, in East Flo and later in Trancos, we met with Jim often. We thought of him again today when reading an article about Chief Justice John Roberts, who grew up in "Long Beach, Indiana, a heavily segregated white enclave on Lake Michigan," near Gary, where Jim grew up. Roberts' father was a steel plant manager. Jim's father worked in the mill. Jim often dealt with privileged, private-school-educated Stanford students much like Roberts. and he helped mitigate the racist views many of them held. Jim possessed the far greater wisdom. We loved him and miss him greatly. Jennifer Lane & James Carr

James Harold Carr - August 23, 2025 at 03:07 PM

DG

“ *Debbra Gilbert-Shelton lit a candle in memory of Mr. James W. Cadena Jr.*



Debbra Gilbert-Shelton - November 03, 2024 at 07:39 AM

TF

“ *RIP my friend and truly enjoyed working with Jim at Stanford and was a Big part of helping me transition to THE FARM (2002-2004).*

*Troy Franklin, Ph.D
Director of Residence Life
Montana Tech
Butte, Montana*

Troy Franklin - October 07, 2024 at 02:49 AM

KE

“ *Jim and I met running a grief group at Stanford University in the fall of 2004. We became fast friends after randomly sitting next to one another at a show in San Francisco, weeks later. That started nearly nine years of being theater buddies and good friends. We lost touch with one another around 2013 or so. Two nights ago, I had a very strange sense of Jim and wondering where he might be. Imagine my surprise to learn it was almost the anniversary of his passing. He was dear to me and it always felt like we were meant to be connected. I loved him and miss him.*

Keely - May 09, 2024 at 02:50 PM

JL

“ Jim and I became colleagues at Stanford in 1985 and he quickly became a friend and a mentor. My wife and I enjoyed many nights at Stanford watching rented black and white movies from the 1930s and 1940s. He was the most natural, accepting compassionate human being I have ever met, with a knack for counseling people in ways that made them happier and better versions of themselves. Peace be upon you, dear friend.
Jim Larimore

Jim Larimore - November 18, 2023 at 10:43 PM

MB

Jim was just a beautiful person throughout my tenure at Stanford. We did several productions as part of the Stanford Committee on Black Performing Arts. I was shameless with three beautiful children and he would smile while witnessing my parenting and undergraduate teaching style. I was “buried” in Cambridge with a fund raising assignment at a Harvard teaching hospital and a foundation at the university of Rhode Island foundation but there was never another Jim Caden’s to be or Stanford to be found. I am thankful For the time we had together while serving in undergraduate residential education and the arts.

Michael R. Britt - June 12, 2024 at 03:23 AM

ND

“ 3 files added to the album Memories with Jim



Noreen Doughty - June 03, 2023 at 11:33 AM

ND

“ Jim's mother & mine were double cousins - daughters of 2 brothers who married 2 sisters. I really got to know Jim after my mom moved in with me because of aging/health issues and she and Jim's mother wanted to connect. He became a major link for me to that part of my family and it's history. We laughed at the old stories and he laughed at my immediate family's current-day antics. Cuz was special to me and I'm so thankful for our connection. A special memory is a trip to Santa Clara to visit him and his mom, Juanita, along with 2 other cousins. That was in 2013 but it's memories are still special. Rest on cuz. You are missed.

Cynthia, he always spoke so highly of you and how you guys grew up together. Sometimes I wished I'd been in the number back in the day. Thank you for being so on top of things and alert to his health issues. You've been a blessing!

Noreen Doughty - June 03, 2023 at 11:20 AM

DT

“ I know that I cannot express a proper tribute to my lifelong friend in just a few words. You were loving, genuine, transparent, and kind, and I knew I could trust you with whatever I was dealing with because it stayed between the two of us. You were generous with your time, your affection for your friends and family, and your hard-earned money. I recall the day you called me after you retired from Stanford, and asked if I would like to go with you to Europe for the trip of a lifetime to me, but you had one stipulation - it had to be on you! I felt so humbled and undeserving. Looking back, I am so thankful we shared that beautiful time.

Thank you for the many memories, for introducing me to opera, Oregon, and for blessing me to have a true friend who defined what that really means.

You touched so many lives, in so many ways, and I believe your legacy of artistic genius and interpersonal giftedness will be sustained in the hearts of the countless people you came to know and touch. I thank God that you had this time with Cynthia, and what a blessing you had these years Houston. Our love for you continues on my friend....

Duane Thomas - June 02, 2023 at 05:31 PM

CA

“ Jim and I would do musicals! I was 9, he was 12. 🥰

Cynthia Alford - May 20, 2023 at 07:29 AM

LG

“ *Sending Our Condolences To Cynthia Alford On The Transition Of Mr. Jim. Praying That God Give You Strength And Comfort To Great Through This Time.*



The Grierson Family

LOLA GRIERSON - May 20, 2023 at 01:53 AM

FG

“ *Jim you will truly be missed. Each day is a gift, and as long as my eyes open I will focus on the new day and all the happy memories of you. I know sometimes I probably gotten on your nerve for calling and texting so much when your couisin Cynthia Alford would go to Chicago . But you were a kind and thankful person. I enjoyed you eating our food and forever saying oh, Freddie you don't have to do that in a very professional way . RIP*

Fredfie Glover - May 17, 2023 at 08:17 PM

FG

My sincere Condolences to you Cynthia Alford just know I am here for you.

Freddie Glover/Marcus - May 17, 2023 at 08:33 PM