

James Edward Crandall

Died: August 18, 1990

Jim died suddenly at age 50 on Saturday, August 18, 1990, of an apparent heart attack. A native of Sylvania, Ohio, he went to high school there and returned after graduating from Dartmouth (in 1962 — he had taken time off after his junior year), remaining in that community for the rest of his life.

In high school in Sylvania, Jim was class vice-president, in the honor society, and played baseball and football. At Dartmouth he was in Alpha Chi Rho and majored in art, intending to become an architect. For many years he worked as an architectural draftsman for Toledo area architects and contractors. He had a talent, as one of his colleagues put it, for being able “to read a set of plans quickly no matter how complex the building and to create a three-dimensional perspective of it.” Jim was close to getting his architect’s license when he died.

His wife Judith (they married while he was still at Dartmouth) said he was “a very gentle-mannered person — quiet, even tempered, always looking for a good joke and always liking a joke.” An obituary quotes the professional colleague again, who said Jim had “one of the sharpest wry wits” around. He was known, this colleague said, for being very quiet. Jim “didn’t say much, but when he did, it was right to the point,” he said.

Besides his wife Judith, Jim left behind three daughters, Eve, Ann, and Ellen.