



James Dale "Jim" Beck



The family and friends of James Dale Beck mourn the loss of a beloved brother, uncle, friend, musician, artist, and philosopher, who passed away of natural causes on September 10 in his residence in Media, Pennsylvania at the age of 63. Born James Dale Sincock on December 22, 1949 in New York City, Jim was the second son of Harold R. Sincock and Ruth Dale Hanson of Minneapolis. Jim spent his early years in Forest Hills and Briarcliff, NY. Later, after the re-marriage of his mother, Jim and brother, Guy, were adopted by George A. Beck of Manlius, Industrial Design Director at General Electric prior to forming George Beck Associates. Settling in Manlius in 1958, Jim attended Fayetteville-Manlius High School, graduating in 1967. At FM, Jim played on the soccer team and competed in gymnastics. He also enjoyed baseball, winter skiing, swimming, music, and motorcycles. Demonstrating a unique talent for watercolor and other forms of art and creativity from an early age, Jim eventually pursued the advanced study of art and design at Parsons School of Design in New York City and the Colorado Institute of Art in Denver. Over the years he worked as a professional artist in varying capacities, including graphic design, industrial design, calligraphy, sign painting, and portraiture. Apart from the visual arts, Jim maintained his livelihood as a faithful employee of Sears for over thirty years, both in Fayetteville, NY and in Media, Pennsylvania where he was a respected employee and coworker. While Jim was diligent and studious as a visual artist, he was also a passionate musician on the Fender electric guitar, which he played elegantly, with his brother Guy on bass and keyboards, in the central New York rock band known as the "Islanders" during the mid-1960s. In Colorado in 1970, the two brothers formed the band "Echo Lake," which briefly rose to great heights in the Rocky Mountain region. Beside his creative talents, Jim was perhaps most loved for his warm-hearted generosity and good nature, always willing to forgo his needs for the help of others. His infectious love of train travel touched and inspired many and was a common theme in numerous paintings. He had a penchant for various forms of spirituality, both western/eastern and new age, held an intense outlook on life, and would often challenge the conventional. Jim is survived by his brother, Guy L. Beck of New Orleans; sister, Naneese Beck Bonnell of Manlius, NY; brother, Benjamin J. Beck of Boston; niece, Kirsten Bonnell Looby of Liverpool, NY; niece, Ellen Dale Beck of Boston, MA; sister, Patricia Ferry Caillouet of Littleton, CO; and brother, Dave Ferry of Steamboat Springs, CO.