

**Memorial Minute for James Gerritt Bradt Perkins III
(North Columbus)**

December 21, 1946 – April 25, 2023

Friend Jim Perkins died on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, after complications from hernia surgery. Jim is survived by his wife of 26 years, Harriet; his daughter, K. Perkins, of Los Angeles, California; his son, James Perkins, of Salina, California; as well as his sister, Grete Perkins, of Hawaii, and many nephews and nieces. Jim did not want to have a memorial service or meeting.

While in high school at William Penn Charter School, Jim became a Quaker. He graduated from Philadelphia University and received his master's degree in education from Temple University. He went on to teach Mathematics and Latin at William Penn Charter School in Philadelphia.

Jim's membership was transferred to North Columbus Friends Meeting in September 2010 from the Valley Friends Meeting in Malvern, Pennsylvania. For several years, he was on the Board

of Richmond Friends School in Indiana, where he helped start a pre-school.

Jim was particularly active in NCFM during the years 2008–2012, serving on standing committees (House, Nominating, Audit) and ad hoc (clearness for membership, outreach at the OSU Student Involvement Fair). Especially active with House, Jim led workdays and worked on the Meetinghouse’s exterior.

When COVID gave rise to hybrid meetings that permit Friends to attend via Zoom, Jim began regularly attending meeting for worship once more. He was a regular at the weekly virtual fellowship hour, which began then, too. He asked that we include mention of political views in NCFM’s Anti-harassment Policy, adopted in 2021. After an 11-year absence, Jim attended meeting for worship with attention to business one last time in January 2023.

Jim described himself as a conservative. He was an entrepreneur and businessman. He was co-founder and president of Custom Medical Specialties, Inc., a supplier of medical items including tubing sets, drain bags, and procedure kits.

One lower leg was amputated in December 2020, and he was later fitted with a prosthesis. With typical good humor, he was the first to joke about his new situation. He had hoped to come to the Meetinghouse for the first time in years during Bryan Monte’s visit on April 2, 2023.

Jim’s belief that there is that of God in everyone was foundational. He was friends with people from all different walks of life, including many Friends in the Meeting. He will be missed.