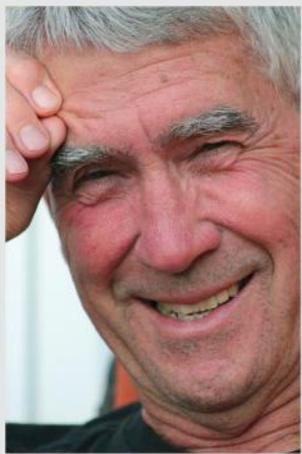
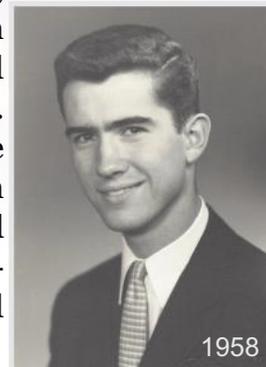


## Jim Wise

May 4, 1940 - March 3, 2022



James Kenneth Wise, artist, dramatist, educator and businessman slipped into the arms of his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on March 3, 2022. He was 81. Jim is survived by his wife of 53 years, Christine; daughter, Sarah Samuels; son, Nathan Wise; and brother, Robert Wise. Also, grandchildren Sophia and Kai Samuels and Adalyn and Johanna Wise.



Jim, a graduate of Edmonds High School Class of 1958, attended the University of Washington where he completed a degree in Business Administration. After a brief sojourn in the world of business he returned to the UW and completed a BA in Art and ultimately a Master's Degree in Education. He was an accomplished painter and sculptor, participating in exhibitions at, among others, the UW Henry Gallery and Bainbridge Arts and Crafts.

His diverse professional career began as an art teacher at Bainbridge High School in 1968. After three years in the classroom he moved to a position as curator and director of Educational Media Services for the Washington State Educational Service District 114 serving the Kitsap, Mason, and Jefferson County school districts. Eventually, his artistic talents and love of working outdoors developed into a new career path – Wise Design Landscape Services – which created landscapes for both commercial and private clients throughout the Puget Sound area. He remained at the drawing board (and shovel) for seventeen years until, as he put it, it was becoming harder and harder to move two-man rocks. In 1993, at just the right time, the fulfillment of a life-long ambition – “to make a place for people” – came into view and Checkers Espresso and Gallery was born. Located in the historic district of Poulsbo, Washington, Checkers became a favorite coffee destination. Whether it was a ladies’ walking group stopping in for lattes and conversation, a men’s group gathered before hours for Bible study or young people learning the ropes of their first jobs as baristas, Jim provided a welcoming environment at every level. He also featured a local artist each month with an exhibition of their work to encourage and publicize their talent.

As well as running a coffee business, Jim was active in the public aesthetic of

Historic Poulsbo. The uneven tarmac just beyond his shop door inspired him to propose, design and manage the Havne Veien walkway between Front Street and the Liberty Bay waterfront, a tree-shaded avenue of personalized, sand-blasted pavers which bear greetings and memorials for the reading pleasure of all pedestrians who pass that way. He retired from the business world in 2009.

Jim was an accomplished pianist. He played the classics, Schumann and Bach, Chopin and Brahms. He played the old time hymns. But he had a particular talent for playing what he called “honky-tonk” piano. And, to everyone’s amusement, could usually pick up any tune if you would just “hum a few bars” for him.

The Wises lived on Bainbridge Island for over 30 years. Then in 2006, now empty-nesters, Jim and Chris returned to Hansville where they had lived for the first couple of years of their marriage. Life coming full circle, as it were.

Integral to all things Jim did was his focused relationship with Jesus Christ. He was active for many years in various drama ministry productions at Poulsbo’s Christ Memorial Church (now Gateway) and Hansville Community Church. Sometimes he was directing, sometimes acting, and sometimes he was the playwright. Jim wrote wonderful plays that brought the message of the Gospel to life through theatrical themes and metaphors. It was a passion with him. As was his love of poetry. He wrote poetry all of his adult life and accumulated a large body of work, the main themes being his love of God and his love of family.

Jim firmly embraced the mystery of Ephesians 2:6: And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus. By faith Jim was already established in heavenly places. But by God’s will, he still had one foot firmly planted on earth. At 6:00 pm on March 3, 2022, by God’s grace, Jim Wise lifted up his earth foot and went home. Glory be to God.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, June 11 th , 2:00 pm, at the Greater Hansville Community Center at Buck Lake, 6778 Buck Lake Road. In lieu of flowers memorial gifts may be directed to the Hansville Community Church compassion fund which reaches out to neighbors in need in the Greater Hansville area.

[Hansville Community Church](#)  
Compassion Fund