



JAMES CHAFFIN DE MOTTE
Transferred from Deverevy
Schools, Deverevy Penn. 1960.

James Chaffin DeMotte

James Chaffin DeMotte was born on March 7, 1943, and died on February 26, 2022. He grew up in Ithaca, NY and graduated from Ithaca High School in 1961. Jim attended Ithaca College and then, like the prodigal son left home to experience the world. He lived in a number of places including New York City and Arizona, where he met his wife-to-be Gaylan Warren, and finally ended up in Berkeley, California. There he worked at different jobs becoming supervisor of the custodial staff for the West Contra Costa Unified school district, a position he held for over 30 years, as well as being active in his union. Some years after his retirement, Jim returned to Ithaca and ended up living in Ovid, NY.

The measure of a person's life is not in what they do but the quality of their being. Jim will always be remembered as having remarkable kindness, a person with great sensitivity, a loyal friend, a lover of cats, and a bountiful capacity for giving to others. Knowing that life on the earthly plane is largely absurd, he had an infectious and wicked sense of humor that made him an amusing companion. In summation, Jim lived a worthwhile life.

He is survived by his daughter, Nicole DeMotte and his brother Charles. His parting message to the world is "be kind and be cool." Not bad words to live by.

Obituary submitted by Charles DeMotte