

James L. Kelley, 69

May 30, 1935 - February 1, 2005

WASHINGTON, D.C. — James L. Kelley, son of the late Dr. N.J. and Helen (Christensen) Kelley, former Harlan residents and the nephew of the late Elva and Raymond Finn, longtime residents of Harlan, died Feb. 1, 2005. Jim was born in Harlan and earned his BA from the University of Iowa, graduating Phi Beta Kappa. He went on to receive his Doctorate of Law.

Jim Kelley joined the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division in the 1960's. He drafted voting rights legislation and helped register voters in the South. In 1967, Jim worked as a law professor at the University of Texas. Then he returned to the Justice Dept's Office of Legal Counsel, working for William Rehnquist. Later he moved to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, finishing his government career as an Administrative Law Judge.

In his fifties, he began a new career as a writer — his true passion. He published three books, *Psychiatric Malpractice*, *Skeptic in the House of God* and *Lawyers Crossing Lines*. He wrote an article for the *Washingtonian*, bravely describing his struggle with bi-polar disorder. He was working on his first novel when he died of colon cancer at age 69.

Jim is survived by his children, Daniel Kelley and Christina Burawa; his fiancée, Mary Jane Rogers; former wife, Baiba Kelley; sister, Susan Harbour; niece, Catherine Harbour; grandchildren, Caitlin, Nicholas and Meaghan and other relatives.
