



James "Jimmy" B. Matthews

July 5, 1950 - June 13, 2026

It is with heavy hearts and fond memories that we announce the passing of Jimmy Matthews who departed this world peacefully on June 13th, 2026 in Boston, Massachusetts. Born on July 5th, 1950 in Lowell, MA - Jimmy lived a life full of love, laughter and generosity. He leaves behind a legacy that will forever be cherished by all who knew him.

Jimmy was the son of the late Thomas and Jacquelyn Matthews of North Chelmsford, MA and a devoted husband to his high school sweetheart, Shari Matthews. Together they celebrated 52 beautiful years of marriage and built a life full of love and adventure leading up to the joy of adopting and raising their wonderful daughter, Tasha Matthews.

After graduating from Chelmsford High School in 1968, Jimmy enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served until he was honorably discharged in 1970. His passion for communications media led him to earn his FCC license and paved the way for a successful 32-year career as a videographer at WBZ/CBS Boston. He never considered work just a job; it was an extension of his creative spirit and desire to connect with others.

While he was employed with the WBZ-TV news team, he started off in the live news van which helped bring breaking stories to viewers across New England. He became a trusted and respected photojournalist working side-by-

side with reporters to cover the news and sports stories that shaped the region from the 1980s through the 2000s. Jimmy witnessed history firsthand - from championship seasons by the Boston Celtics, Boston Red Sox, New England Patriots and Boston Bruins to visits from world leaders and Hollywood celebrities. While he appreciated the excitement and significance of the major headlines and historical moments, what he treasured most were the everyday stories. Jimmy had a genuine gift for connecting with people and was happiest meeting ordinary Bostonians whose lives, challenges and triumphs that deserved to be shared. He took pride in telling stories with compassion and integrity. Jimmy left a lasting impression with colleagues, friends and the countless people whose stories he helped bring to life.

Upon retiring, Jimmy embraced many hobbies that showcased his remarkable talents, attention to detail and zest for life. A skilled woodworker, he crafted everything from gliding benches and intricate bird houses - each piece reflected his meticulous eye and love for creation. He found peace and joy on the open road, often seen behind the wheel of his Mustang convertible (which also included his tractor and golf cart) and loved to attend car rallies where he would bask in the camaraderie of fellow enthusiasts.

Although home was always his happy place, he and Shari shared a love of travel, creating one-of-a-kind memories while exploring the breathtaking landscapes of National Parks, the Azores, and the scenic coasts of Ireland just to name a few.

Jimmy's love for nature was evident in the Matthews Family Farm where he cultivated a thriving blueberry patch. Alongside Shari, he relished the simple pleasure of selling their berries at local farmers markets, meeting new friends and sharing stories with familiar faces.

Renowned for his gorgeous blue eyes, warm smile and easygoing personality,

Jimmy was the kind of person who would readily lend a helping hand to anyone in need. His motto, "I can do that," epitomized his willingness to support friends and family, no matter the task.

Jimmy leaves behind a loving family who will continue to honor his memory: his wife Shari; his daughter, Tasha; his sisters, Cindy Blake (Frank) of Gilmanton, NH and Tami Arsenault (Tom) of Nashua, NH; his brothers John Matthews (Erin) of Brockton, MA and Timothy Matthews (Kathy) of Merrimack, NH. His warmth and wisdom will be missed, but will live on in the hearts of those who knew him.

Calling hours will be on June, 25th 2026 from 10am-1pm at Anderson Funeral Home, 25 Fitchburg Road (Route 2A) Ayer, MA 01432. In lieu of flowers and in loving memory of our sweet Elsie May, please consider a monetary donation in Jimmy's name to Buddy Dog Humane Society in Sudbury, MA.

Upcoming Events

Calling Hours

JUN **25**. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Anderson Funeral Home - Ayer
25 Fitchburg Road ~ Route 2A
Ayer, MA 01432
(978) 772-2355

A Time of Remembrance

JUN **25**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Anderson Funeral Home - Ayer
25 Fitchburg Road ~ Route 2A
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Tribute Wall

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“ We spent quite a few years working as partners together in a live TV news van. We ate together. We laughed together. We argued together, working 10 to 12 hours a day stuck in a working vehicle as partners do. Jimmy was a kind, gentle human being who crafted some pretty good news stories in his over 30 years of covering news. I'll always remember his voice and his funny phrase, saying: “Yeah... gaw 'head now,” which began as a reply on the two way radio with the assignment desk and later turned into a joke, which we repeated often. May his memory be a blessing to his wife Shari, his daughter Tasha and his entire family.

Rick Macomber

Rick Macomber - 1 hour ago

GR

“ I worked for WCVB as a cameraman for 16 years. Ran into him many times. Super nice guy. Always friendly. I'm sorry for your loss. May he rest in peace.

George Rodrique - 1 hour ago