



## Dr. James Edward Kintzel

September 4, 2025

Dr. James E. Kintzel, 87, of Allentown, a well-known Lehigh Valley Nephrologist, passed away on Thursday, September 4th, at his residence. He was the husband of Kay (Corman) Kintzel, and they recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Born in Allentown, he was the son of the late Harry and Dorothy (Schnurman) Kintzel. James first attended Franklin & Marshall College and then continued his studies at the University of Pennsylvania's Perelman School of Medicine. He completed his internal medicine residency at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and his fellowship in nephrology at the University of Pennsylvania in 1964. On August 28th, 1965, James married Kay Corman at St John's United Church of Christ in Shamokin. In 1968, they started their family, welcoming their first of three sons.

At that time, nephrology was an emerging field, and dialysis had just become available as a life-saving treatment for an otherwise fatal condition. Driven by commitment to his community, Dr. Kintzel returned to Allentown in 1969 after his training and immediately went to work, expanding this treatment both to hospitalized patients and shortly thereafter led a team dedicated to expanding a home dialysis program and a charity to support what was then a treatment not covered by Medicare or insurance. By starting his own practice and joining the medical staff at Allentown Hospital (now part of Lehigh Valley Hospital), he was instrumental in forming a pioneering nephrology practice that evolved into Eastern PA Nephrology and ultimately transitioned into Kidney Care

Specialists Valley Kidney—the premier nephrology practice in the region—now comprising more than 30 board-certified physicians and advanced practitioners. Dr. Kintzel dedicated 53 years of tireless service to patient care, retiring only three years ago.

In addition to his clinical dedication, Dr. Kintzel and his wife established the James E. Kintzel and Kay Kintzel Endowed Chair in Nephrology at Lehigh Valley Hospital, cementing their commitment to advancing kidney care in the community. Through his leadership, introduction of new dialysis technology, and generous mentorship of fellow clinicians, Dr. Kintzel was instrumental in earning national recognition for Lehigh Valley Hospital's nephrology department.

He is survived by his wife, Kay, and his sons, Drs. Timothy Kintzel and Eliza Ng of Lakeville, CT, Jeffrey Kintzel and wife Katherine of Lafayette, CO, Christopher Kintzel, and wife Carrie Polley of Towson, MD, and grandchildren Pearse, Leigh, Lily, and Harrison Kintzel.

Friends and family are invited to call on Friday, September 12th, 2025, from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm, and on Saturday, the 13th, from 9:00 am to 10:00 am at J.S. Burkholder Funeral Home, located at 1601 Hamilton St., Allentown, PA 18102. The funeral service will be held on Saturday, September 13th, at 10:00 am at the same location.

Interment will be at Jerusalem Western Salisbury Cemetery in Allentown. Friends and family are invited to pay their respects and celebrate James's life after interment at the Lehigh Country Club at 2319 S Cedar Crest Blvd, Allentown, PA 18103.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to a choice of charities dear to his heart: The Lehigh Valley Hospital Foundation, The Allentown Art

Museum, the Lehigh Valley Historical Society, and the Pennsylvania Audubon Society.

# Cemetery Details

## Western Salisbury Cemetery

3441 Devonshire Road  
Allentown, PA 18103

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

SEP **12**. 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

J S Burkholder Funeral Home Inc  
1601 W Hamilton Street  
Allentown, PA 18102  
(610) 433-5161  
info@jsburkholder.com  
<https://jsburkholder.com>

## Calling Hours

SEP **13**. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

J S Burkholder Funeral Home Inc  
1601 W Hamilton Street  
Allentown, PA 18102  
(610) 433-5161  
info@jsburkholder.com  
<https://jsburkholder.com>

## Service

SEP **13**. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM (ET)

J S Burkholder Funeral Home Inc  
1601 W Hamilton Street  
Allentown, PA 18102  
(610) 433-5161  
[info@jsburkholder.com](mailto:info@jsburkholder.com)  
<https://jsburkholder.com>

# Tribute Wall

KG

“ I am deeply saddened to hear about the passing of Dr. James Kintzel. It has been such an honor to know him and to provide care for some of his patients. His patients truly loved him, and it was clear how much trust and respect he inspired.

*Dr. Kintzel leaves behind an extraordinary legacy. His vision and dedication in establishing kidney care and dialysis services in the Lehigh Valley and Pocono area have made a lasting impact on countless lives. The foundation he built will continue to serve patients and families for generations to come.*

*My heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, colleagues, and all who had the privilege of knowing him. May his memory and legacy continue to inspire us.*

*--Kiran Goli*

---

**Kiran Goli** - September 13, 2025 at 12:29 PM

JB

“ Dear Kay and Family, I was so saddened to read of Jim's passing. I knew him as a teacher on perhaps THE busiest service in the residency program. Then as a colleague. I still tell wonderful stories of the "renal dinners" at Lehigh Country Club that service provided to the residents every year. And look how that practice he started has grown! What a tribute to him.

*He was funny, and I can just imagine the wonderful memories you must all have. It is my hope and prayer that those memories, and God's great love for you will see you through this sad, sad time. Blessings, Judy McDonald Burkholder and Tom*

---

**Judy Burkholder** - September 11, 2025 at 10:30 PM

JN

“ My condolences to Mrs. Kintzel and family. I had the privilege to work with Dr. Kintzel in the CAPD department. He was so kind to all the patients and the staff. He allowed me to accompany him and our staff to educational conferences and he was always ready, in our time off, to enjoy the city sites!!  
He was an exceptional doctor and will be dearly missed.

---

**Joan Noll** - September 11, 2025 at 06:22 PM

DN

“ To the Kintzel family,

*I offer my sympathy at the passing of your husband, father and grandfather Jim. I am Jim's second cousin on his father's side. My grandfather Richard Nehf and his grandmother Eva were brother and sister. I remember caddying for Harry and Jim at Lehigh Country Club in the early 1960s. Jim had a distinguished career in medicine and I'm sure you are very proud of the accomplishments of his life. May loving memories give you comfort at this difficult time.*

*David Nehf*

---

**David Nehf** - September 10, 2025 at 04:08 PM

DC

“ I'm so sorry to hear that Jim has passed away. Together with Kay, they were a larger than life couple who shared their family experiences, travel and zest for life with friends everywhere. Jim, we will miss you. Rest in peace.

*Dave Cincera*

---

**David Cincera** - September 09, 2025 at 09:35 AM

NB

*Our deepest sympathies to all of you. We are honored to have known Jim for so many years. He was an inspiration to so many people in our community and he will be missed. Regrettably we are traveling and will miss the service.*

*Our thoughts are with you and your family.*

*Jeff & Nancy Bogert*

---

**Nancy & Jeff Bogert** - September 11, 2025 at 07:13 AM

LV

“ *I am so sorry to hear of Dr. Kintzel's passing. I was one of his nurses. He was always such a character when he came in our allergy and asthma practice! He always made me laugh. I loved his stories and his spunk. May he rest in peace.*

*Laura Vargo*

*Allergy and Asthma Associates*

---

**laura vargo** - September 09, 2025 at 08:49 AM

DB

“ *It was truly an honor to have known Dr. Kintzel and to have worked with him for my 41 years in dialysis. He was dedicated to his patients and his calling as a Nephrologist. Always approachable and down to earth, his legacy in the field of Nephrology & dialysis will be remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing him and working with him. I will surely miss him.*

---

**Donna B.** - September 08, 2025 at 04:58 PM

TK

“ 5 files added to the album *Photos of Jim*



---

**Tim Kintzel** - September 08, 2025 at 04:05 PM