

## **James M. Kelly obituary**

James M. Kelly, an Africa development specialist, passed away peacefully on August 3, 2023, in McLean, VA. Jim was born in Boston, MA. on February 23, 1933, to John J. Kelly and Lucy R. O'Connor Kelly. He was pre-deceased by his parents; his first wife, Kathleen Williams Kelly who died in 1978; and his siblings, Jackie, Richard, Leo, and Paul. He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Marianne O'Sullivan Kelly, and numerous nephews and nieces.

Jim was a graduate of Boston College and took post-graduate studies at Harvard. He was accepted in the first group of Peace Corps. volunteers to be assigned overseas by President Kennedy, the legendary Ghana One group. That experience sparked his enthusiasm for economic development in Africa, and he joined the Agency for International Development ("AID"). He later became Mission Director for AID in Somalia; and subsequently, Director of the Sahel Program; and Director of the Famine Early Warning System. He was a sought-after consultant on African issues after his retirement from AID, including for the United Nations and other clients. He maintained his consulting practice for years, but eventually surrendered to the lure of the golf course. Jim and his wife, Marianne, were also adventurous travelers in their post- retirement years -- travelling to 72 countries on five continents.

May his great soul rest in peace. A memorial Mass will be held at a later date. Relatives and friends may sign the guestbook at: [www.moneyandking.com](http://www.moneyandking.com)

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