

## Tribute to the inimitable James Lynch by Joseph Cincotta and Julie Lineberger of LineSync Architecture

James Lynch entered our lives as we design the Holtz D'hOME in 2003. Our mutual client, Earl Holtz, wanted a dome retirement home, and he wanted James to build it. Thus started a friendship that brought fun to solving problems, smiles to our faces, joy to moving through difficulties, deep thought and discussion.

His core soul was a belief in the good of all people. The way he treated others, and the way he engendered people to respond to him was truly an example of The Golden Rule found in many religions and cultures: the principle of treating others as you want to be treated. He engendered the type of human relations many expound and few acquire.

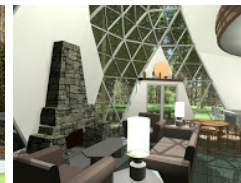
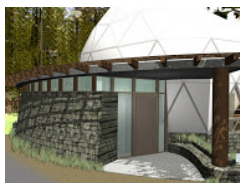
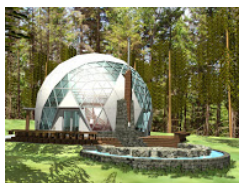
We thoroughly enjoyed his annual letters. They were missives about his family, philosophy, his love of the dome structure and also what Bucky Fuller stood for. James was truly a dome builder in the world of box builders. Yet he connected with those box builders to educate about how domes accomplish the most with the least. He transformed lumber yard materials into wondrous domes. He celebrated those domes surviving hurricanes. In the sense of Darwin, he noted, dome building is the future.

At some point the world is going to catch up with what he was able to do with 2x6s and his magical templates. One example is roofing systems. Typical domes are finished with box builder materials. James discovered Elastomeric Paint, a material for the future: 100% acrylic elastomeric coatings and fluid-applied roof systems for industrial, commercial and residential construction industries. Furthermore, it costs less just a 50% more than a typical gallon of paint. His research and discovery of applying the Elastomeric Paint directly onto plywood skins acts as a better roofing material void of plasticizers and/or petroleum projects. It also ages better and, most importantly, is repairable!

Once or twice a year he would call simply to catch up, keep in touch, always with so much kindness and his belief in the future. In this way he continued the connections he made in such a loving way at each site with the people he was going to work with. He was the type of person who recognized the best of everyone he met.

When he connected with others who were not as open as he, James still engendered that soulful connection. We remember a specific situation in Vermont with a builder who had never built a geodesic dome before. He was a vinyl siding guy, nearly the antithesis of James. However, James brought out an unexplored side of the builder! Not only did the builder enjoy the project, he also puzzled with James on how to make it better. The two innovated in the creation of the Holtz D'hOME and built our design creating beautiful window areas not simply stuck on a dome, but embedded within.

James Lynch was, at his core, an enlightened being with a certain genuine kindness in his soul.



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