

Dr. Jim Lucie, A Bladesmith's Life & Legacy

by Stephanie Lucie



Dr. Jim Lucie

Dr. Jim Lucie, A Bladesmith's Life & Legacy, is a celebration of my dad's life with stories and pictures of his talents and accomplishments, including photos of over 200 knives he made. Jim was -- a talented and caring physician, celebrated knifemaker, journeyman ironworker, avid collector, beloved father, and masterful artist with a passion for creating and a devotion to excellence. His family, friends, and colleagues loved and respected him for a life defined by deep intelligence, integrity, compassion, and a tireless work ethic.

He spent nearly 60 years of his adult life in Fruitport, moving there in 1956 from New York to open the first doctor's office in town. He became well-known in the area, providing medical care to our community, which often included volunteering his time. He also served on the Fruitport School Board and was the team doctor for the high school football team. He cared deeply about others and positively impacted the lives of many people.

He married my mom, Eunie, in Fruitport and raised four daughters -- my three half-sisters and me. I attended Fruitport schools from kindergarten until my high school graduation. During this time, Jim became a well-known collector of antique American arms, ultimately serving as the President of the American Society of Arms Collectors. Various publications featured our house and his collections over the years.

One of Jim's patients was Bill Scagel, who is legendary for his bladesmithing and other talents. Jim befriended Bill and, over decades of research following Bill's death, became the leading Scagel historian in the country, all while compiling the most extensive collection of Scagel's works ever assembled. In 2010, Jim wrote a book on the life of Bill Scagel and the many objects he created called *Scagel Handmade*. After retiring from medicine, Jim started making Scagel-replica knives and excelled in this endeavor. He became nationally and internationally recognized for his bladesmithing talents. His knives have been displayed in numerous publications, including in Japan and France.

The American Bladesmith Society awarded Jim several awards and created a new award called the Dr. Jim Lucie Award

that is given annually to those who have "distinguished themselves in preserving the lore of the forged blade."

I did not intend to write a book about Jim until recently. I enjoyed editing and assisting him with *Scagel Handmade* and respected his many gifts, but I had not planned to write a book about him. After he passed in 2020, though, I thought more about his talents and contributions and decided it was important to memorialize his life with a heartfelt and comprehensive exploration of his life and craftsmanship.



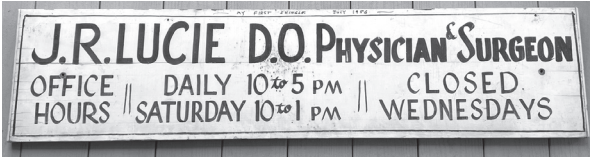
Stephanie Lucie

This authoritative, 234-page, hardbound, oversized 9"x12" book contains over 300 photos, with over 200 knives Jim made, as well as numerous quotes from Jim. It is the most extensive collection of his knives documented in one place and includes knives not publicly seen before the publication of this book.

Writing this book has allowed me to celebrate Jim and share his enduring legacy.



Lucie family photo in 1968.



Jim's first office sign in 1956.



Jim's first office and house in Fruitport on Third Avenue in 1956.

DR. JIM LUCIE:
A Bladesmith's Life & Legacy

- The authoritative 237-page book about Dr. Jim Lucie, well-known William Scagel historian & collector
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