



Mr. Joseph Sigmund Bathalter Jr.

June 16, 1938 - January 25, 2014

Joseph Sigmund Bathalter, Jr., age 75, passed away on Saturday, January 25, 2014 in Apopka, Florida. Joe was born in Chicago, IL and is survived by his wife, Geralyn Miller and her daughter, Jamie Conmey; his four children - Lisa Bathalter Van Horn, Tresa Bathalter Watson, Tedd Bathalter Gagen, Joseph Sigmund Bathalter III, and their mother, Joyce Fortune Bathalter; his brothers - Tom Bathalter and Mike Bathalter, and Paul Godes, his cousin that was truly another "little brother"; his eight grandchildren - Michelle Van Horn Bloss, Tyler Van Horn, Max Gagen, Charlie Watson, Theo Gagen, Jack Watson, Bella Gagen and Bella Bathalter; and his son in-laws, Hart Van Horn and Bill Watson.

Joe was a blessing and gift to whoever was fortunate enough to make his acquaintance. Joe's embracement of the joy of giving and his zest for living life to its fullest was astonishing to everyone in his company. Joe's upbringing was heavily invested in and strongly influenced by the time he spent on the family farm in Delmar, Iowa run by Paul Godes, Sr. and his wife, Joe's second Mom, Anna Mae Bathalter Godes and her sister, Josephine Bathalter - affectionately referred to as "Dodo", by his children.

Joe was a brilliant man and marched to the beat of his own drum. He was a farmer, a pilot, a lender to small businesses, an entrepreneur, a coal miner, a general contractor (as is Joe 3) and a pawn broker. There was nothing that Joe wanted to do that he could not; he simply had to choose where to focus, and he never abandoned his lifelong philosophy of giving and caring to those

less gifted in the process.

Joe will be missed by his friends and family immeasurably, but also by those who looked to him for leadership, guidance, comfort and kindness - resources he had an unlimited supply of by the grace of God.

Gifts of condolences and honors of memoriam can be sent to the Epiphany Lutheran Church, 6606 Maplecrest Rd, Fort Wayne, IN 46835 (260) 485-5122 where Joe will be interred at the rose garden in his honor.

A memorial service is scheduled for Saturday, February 8, 2014, at the Epiphany Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne. The time will be announced as soon as possible.

Thank you to all for your kind thoughts, prayers and compassion during this most difficult time for Joe's family and friends.

Arrangements are entrusted to DeGusipe Funeral Home & Crematory, 9001 N. Orlando Avenue, Maitland, Florida 32751. (407) 695-CARE(2273).

Tribute Wall

PK

“ We had hoped to have Joe, and his wife Gerry, as neighbors here in Apopka for many years to come. We did not have an opportunity to know him well, but we enjoyed knowing him during his visits to his home in Deer Lake. We are so sorry to learn of his passing, and wish him God's Eternal Rest. We offer our deepest sympathy to Gerry and his children and grandchildren. Sincerely,

Patrick and Laurie Kennedy

Patrick and Laurie Kennedy - February 13, 2014 at 07:50 PM

GM

Thank you for your kind words and expression of sympathy. My husband was a wonderful human being who never missed an opportunity to help out a fellow human being. Although we were married a short year and a half, he was my friend for nearly 30 years. Life will never be the same for me. A warm joy has been extinguished forever.

Geri Miller - February 26, 2014 at 02:50 PM

LK

“ I'll miss Joe - we always had a good time at Elks lodge remembering our ventures and antics in Sugar Grove. Had no idea he had 4 children - .prayers to the family from lodge 155!

Loyal Knight - February 08, 2014 at 06:39 PM

JB

Thank You for your prayers for my Family. Just think of my Children as four "Little Joe's roaming the world.

Joyce F. Bathalter - February 18, 2014 at 05:55 PM

KP

“ Our Condolences to Joe's Family Joe was more than our builder, a friend, a major supporter of our new business venture, treated my mom Claire with warmth and care. There was not a moment that we could not call upon Joe for answers wether it be for us or our clients. Fondly, Karen & Doug Parker

Karen Parker - February 05, 2014 at 12:14 PM

TG

Thank you for the kind words for my father. He loved being able to help and support others in whatever way he could. He will be missed by all of us much. Respectfully, Tedd Gagen

Tedd Gagen - March 13, 2014 at 11:51 AM

KF

“ To Joyce, Lisa, Tresa, Tedd and Joseph: I am so very sorry to hear of your loss. I know this is a very challenging and painful time, but I pray that God wraps His loving arms around you all, giving you the strength and peace to get you through. Please know that you are all in my thoughts and prayers. Much love, Your cousin, Kathleen



Kathleen (May) French - January 29, 2014 at 08:47 PM

JB

Thank You, Kathleen.

Joyce F. Bathalter - January 30, 2014 at 10:35 AM

KC

“ I will miss his smile. My Godfather had the best smile and twinkle in his eyes while laughing. Hope to meet him and all who have passed on. If only in my dreams for a family picnic in peace. Love, Karyn Cederwall and family

Kar Cederwall - January 28, 2014 at 12:32 PM

JB

Thank You, Karen, Kar Cederwall,..He is now smiling again.~~jfb

Joyce F. Bathalter - January 28, 2014 at 04:18 PM