



Joseph "Joe" Raich

February 17, 1935 - July 10, 2024

Joseph "Joe" Raich, 89, of Kankakee, passed away in the early hours of Wednesday morning, July 10, 2024, after a short illness.

He was born February 17, 1935, in Chicago to Joseph and Dorothy (Hillary) Raich.

After graduating from St. Pat's High School in 1953, he enlisted in the US Army in the mid-1950s and was stationed near Heidelberg, Germany.

Joe married the love of his life, JoAnn Allie on May 16, 1959.

Joe worked as a Lab Analyst at Swift, later Bunge Edible Oils, for over 40 years before his retirement in 2007. In 1970, Joe became co-owner and operator of Windy's Tap, later Fat Rat's Tap, an establishment that kept Kankakee entertained and lubricated for nearly 30 years.

Joe loved music and was a fantastic singer with song stylings ala his favorites Sinatra and Bennett. Over the years he appeared, often as the headliner, in Bishop McNamara Madcaps fundraisers in the late 1970s. In later years he was a member of a singing group that would bring music and cheer to the local nursing homes.

Most of all, Joe was a wonderful son, husband, father, grandfather, and friend. He was devoted, kind, witty, uproariously funny, (a practical joker too), generous to a fault, and always willing to help anyone. His family are so grateful for the 89 years he shared with us. We are the lucky ones.... He was ours.

He's survived by his beloved wife of 65 years, JoAnn; 4 children; Jeff (Tracey)

Raich of McKinney, Texas, Jill (Joe) Marcotte of Kankakee, Jon Raich of Kankakee, and Judi Raich of Oswego; 4 grandchildren: Joe and Jacob Raich of McKinney, Texas; Samantha Raich of Denver, Colorado; and Sara (Erik) Serna of St. Anne.

Preceding him in death were his parents, aunts, uncles, cousins and far too many dear friends that made Windy's and Fat Rat's the uniquely special place it was.

Visitation will be held from 11 a.m. until the time of the 1 p.m. funeral service on Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home in Kankakee. Interment will follow at St. James Cemetery in Irwin.

Memorials may be made to the American Diabetes Association or the American Heart Association.

Cemetery Details

St. James Cemetery

W. 5000 S. Road
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 933-4172

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 16. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Kankakee - Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home
1480 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Funeral Service

JUL 16. 1:00 PM (CT)

Kankakee - Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home
1480 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Tribute Wall

SB

“ JoAnn and family so sorry for your loss. Thoughts and prayers for all of you during this difficult time. I worked with Joe for many years at Bunge in the lab. He was smart and funny. He will be missed.



Sheryl Barbosa - July 16, 2024 at 07:43 PM

PR

“ Joann so sorry to hear of Joe's passing. Sending love, hugs and prayers to you and your family. Pam and Mike Randles



Pam Randles - July 16, 2024 at 08:48 AM

MN

“ JoAnn, I am so sorry to hear about the loss of your husband. My thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family. Mona Nowman

Mona Nowman - July 15, 2024 at 02:21 PM

LM

“ JoAnn and Family, we want to extend our sincere condolences to you. Joe and JoAnn are two of the finest people that Kankakee has ever known. They did so much for the city of Kankakee. To know Joe and JoAnn and think that they handled some of the toughest characters in Kankakee and kept them under control is an amazing story in itself. You will not meet two more beautiful people in your life. God Bless you JoAnn and may God comfort and care for you during these difficult days. Take comfort in knowing that you are the best of the best. Love Larry and Charlotte McIntyre



Larry McIntyre - July 13, 2024 at 09:04 PM

PB

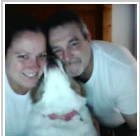
“ JoAnn & family. I'm so sorry to hear of Joe's passing. He was such a kind, generous, fun man. I feel so fortunate to have known him. Love & Peace to you all, Pat

Pat Beach - July 13, 2024 at 01:46 PM

MB

“ JoAnn and family, so many fun and happy memories of Joe from the Windy's days and beyond. What a good man. His light will shine forever in so many people who's lives he touched. Peace to you all.

Marian Barry - July 13, 2024 at 09:25 AM



“ Monte Schweizer lit a candle in memory of Joseph "Joe" Raich



Monte Schweizer - July 12, 2024 at 09:28 PM

GB

“ So sorry to hear of Joe's passing. He was always very nice to me. He will be greatly missed.



Genice Bailey - July 12, 2024 at 07:53 PM

DL

“ JoAnn & family my condolences on Joe's passing. He was a kind soul with a heart of gold. Always wore a smile. Always had a great time when he & Jim had Windy's. He will be missed.



Debra Lambert - July 12, 2024 at 07:51 PM

RP

“ So sorry for your loss JoAnn, my thoughts & Prayers are with you & your family. I can honestly say that Joe's Kindness to people and to me was the strongest I've ever seen in any man. I've ever known. He was truly a Good friend.



Roland (RON) Porter - July 12, 2024 at 05:25 PM

CI

“ Fly High Joe <3

Cindy - July 12, 2024 at 02:25 PM

RC

“ While I did not have the privilege of getting to meet you, I certainly have the privilege of knowing Jude very well and the honor to have her on my team at United. You must have been amazing, because she turned out to be as well.

Russ Compa - July 12, 2024 at 12:09 PM

LB

With all our love, we enjoyed many years with your family, and all the love you shared with ours!!!
You will sadly be missed, but always thought of with loving memories!!!
Always thought of you as a 2nd father!
Lots of love, Bob, Lindi, April Mae n Mitchem Barrett

Lindi Barrett - July 13, 2024 at 05:41 PM



“ Joe and his family were the ideal neighbors during my early years of life. They helped shape the man I am today, and I have many great memories and experiences thanks to them. Joe, thank you for being part of my journey. Godspeed.

Craig Frooninckx - July 12, 2024 at 11:18 AM

PP

“ So sorry for your loss JoAnn, our thoughts & Prayers are with you & your family. Tony & Pat Prince

patricia Prince - July 12, 2024 at 11:00 AM

CF

“ Joe & his whole family were wonderful neighbors when some of our kids were teens. We were blessed to have him & JoAnn next door.

Chloe Frooninckx - July 12, 2024 at 10:59 AM

SA

“ Sharon Allie lit a candle in memory of Joseph
"Joe" Raich



Sharon Allie - July 12, 2024 at 10:42 AM