



JOSEPH T. DeSTEFANO

March 4, 1947 - January 12, 2025

VISITATION:

THURSDAY: JANUARY 16, 2025

3PM TO 7PM

STICKLE-SOLTESZ FUNERAL HOME

FUNERAL MASS:

FRIDAY: JANUARY 17, 2025

10AM

ST. JOSEPH'S RC CHURCH

454 GERMANTOWN ROAD

WEST MILFORD, NEW JERSEY 07480

INTERMENT:

FRIDAY: JANUARY 17, 2025

FOLLOWING FUNERAL MASS

CHRIST THE KING CEMETERY

980 HURON ROAD

FRANKLIN LAKES, NEW JERSEY 07417

Joseph T. DeStefano, 77 years, of Oak Ridge, New Jersey, passed away peacefully on Sunday, January 12, 2025

He was born on March 4, 1947 in Paterson, New Jersey to the late Anna (nee Zambito) and the late Thomas DeStefano.

He graduated from Manchester High School in North Haledon, New Jersey. Upon graduation, Joe enlisted in the US Navy during the Vietnam War. A proud veteran, Joe was a survivor of the fire of the USS Forrestal. After the war, Joe worked for Federal Wine and Liquor. For 28 years he was an Environmental Inspector at the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission in Wanaque, New Jersey.

Joe married the love of his life Colleen Cotter in 1979 and resided in West Milford, New Jersey. They moved in 1988 to Oak Ridge, New Jersey (Jefferson Twp.) where they raised their son John, and remained until his passing.

Joe loved the water, whether at the beach in Long Beach Island, fishing, or windsurfing. He loved his family and enjoyed family parties and holidays. He also claimed to be the best dancer in New Jersey.

He was predeceased by his parents Anna and Thomas DeStefano; and his sister Patricia Bryan in 2024.

Joseph is survived by his wife of 46 years Colleen DeStefano and his son John DeStefano.

The family will receive visitors on Thursday: January 16, 2025 from 3pm to 7pm at the Stickle-Soltesz Funeral Home, 187 La Rue Road, Newfoundland, New Jersey 07435.

The funeral mass will take place on Friday: January 17, 2025 at 10am at St. Joseph's RC Church, 454 Germantown Road, West Milford, New Jersey

07480 followed by the interment at Christ the King Cemetery; 980 Huron Road, Franklin Lakes, New Jersey 07417.

On line condolences and directions: www.sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 16. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Stickle-Soltesz Funeral Home
187 La Rue Road
(Parallel to Route 23 North between Clinton Road and Union Valley Road)
Newfoundland, NJ 07435
(973) 697-6700
info@sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com
<https://www.sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Mass

JAN 17. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM (ET)

St. Joseph RC Church
454 Germantown Road
West Milford, NJ 07480
(973) 697-6100

Interment

JAN 17. 11:45 AM - 12:15 PM (ET)

Christ the King Cemetery
Franklin Lakes, NJ

Tribute Wall

RB

“ With a sad heart I send out prayers for Joe and his family. Joe could always make me laugh. He was a good man. God bless. He will be missed by many

Robert Borgers - January 25, 2025 at 11:47 PM

DC

“ With broken hearts we have to say “see you later” to our brother in-law Joe. Better know as “Uncle Joe” or “Island Joe” such a wonderful man full of life’s adventures from teaching anyone & everyone he could how to Ski as well as Windsurf, Golf & Fish. The man of all sports who loved the outdoors & the funniest sense of humor of anyone in our family who enjoyed to break bread over a good meal. You will be loved for so many fun memories within our Family! We love you & will miss you. With Our Deepest Sympathy Brian, Donna, Alyssa, Caitlin, Tim, Oakley & Layton



Donna Ragno Cotter - January 16, 2025 at 11:15 AM

LD

“ Love Joanie and Doug purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of JOSEPH T. DeSTEFANO.



Love Joanie and Doug - January 15, 2025 at 08:49 PM

LD

“ Love Joanie and Doug planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of JOSEPH T. DeSTEFANO.

Love Joanie and Doug - January 15, 2025 at 08:49 PM

ET

“ Erik, Mike, Taavi purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of JOSEPH T. DeSTEFANO.



Erik, Mike, Taavi - January 15, 2025 at 08:26 PM

ET

“ Erik, Mike, Taavi planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of JOSEPH T. DeSTEFANO.

Erik, Mike, Taavi - January 15, 2025 at 08:26 PM

CL

“ Cait, Tim, Oakley, and Layton purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of JOSEPH T. DeSTEFANO.



Cait, Tim, Oakley, and Layton - January 15, 2025 at 07:00 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of JOSEPH T. DeSTEFANO.



January 14, 2025 at 05:08 PM



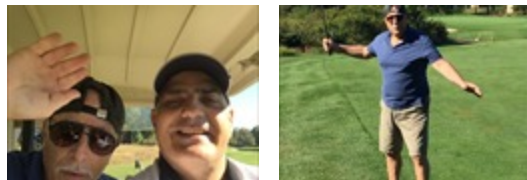
“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of JOSEPH T. DeSTEFANO.



January 14, 2025 at 05:06 PM

TG

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Tom Gabriele - January 14, 2025 at 02:57 PM