



JOSEPH J. STAUDINGER

October 29, 1927 - August 24, 2015

Joseph Staudinger

October 29, 1927 – August 24, 2015 (87 years old)

Joseph passed peacefully in the loving company of his wife, Karen.

He attended Lodi HS in the 1940's where he excelled in football, basketball, and baseball. In baseball, he earned All-County and All-State honors and was invited to try out for the Brooklyn Dodgers. It was in high school that he met his future wife, Karen Wiarda. Joe went on to attend Muhlenberg College where his outstanding athletic successes continued. At Muhlenberg, he played forward on the League Championship basketball team and was honored to have played in the National Invitational Tournament in Madison Square Garden – the commemorative photograph remained proudly displayed on his wall. He was also inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame at both Elmwood Park and Muhlenberg. He became an avid golfer and enjoyed sharing his love of athletics with his children and grandchildren.

Joe's college years were interrupted by the draft. He served in the Navy from May 1946 through April 1947 on the USS Thomas Fraser during World War II and earned a victory medal and honorable discharge. As a bonus, his Naval service included playing football for the Bainbridge Naval Training Center team.

On May 8, 1949 he married, and after a brief residence in Dearborn, Michigan Joseph and Karen raised their five children in Elmwood Park with summers spent in Green Pond. After retiring from Federal Paper Board, Green Pond became their permanent residence with winters spent in Melbourne Beach, Florida.

An active member of his community, Joseph was a member of the Elmwood Park Board of Education and the Green Pond Corporation Board of Directors.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 66 years, Karen Staudinger and five children: Linda Kay, Tabernacle, and her husband Bud; Joanne Fantry, West Milford, and her husband George; Nancy Sliker, Hamilton, and her husband Glenn; Kenneth Staudinger, North Canton, Ohio and his wife Christine; Kristen Silvestri, Newfoundland, and her husband Mark.

14 grandchildren: Lindsay Kay Solensky, Thomas and Christopher Kay; Michael and Rebecca Fantry; Jessica, Jaime, and Timothy Sliker; KellyAnn Staudinger Butterworth, Kenneth and Matthew Staudinger; Steven, Sarah, and Kyle Silvestri; and 7.5 great grandchildren: Ava, Mia, Andrew, Olivia, McKenna, Shane, Madelyn, and baby Butterworth.

He truly was Karen's "Mr. Wonderful" and showed his love and admiration for his grandchildren by making each of them feel like they were his favorite. He always reminded them to stay focused on their goals: "keep your eye on the donut, not on the hole" and "you can't soar like an eagle if you're surrounded by turkeys".

A Memorial Service will be held at the Green Pond Chapel, Notch Road, Green Pond, Newfoundland, NJ at 3:00 PM, Saturday, August 29th.

In lieu of flowers donations in Joseph's honor can be made to the Green Pond Environmental Foundation, PO Box 648, Newfoundland, NJ 07435 or the Green Pond First Aid Squad, PO Box 251, Newfoundland, NJ 07435.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

AUG **29**. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Green Pond Chapel

Notch Road

Newfoundland (Green Pond), NJ 07435

Tribute Wall

BV

“ I am writing to express our deepest sympathy to Karen and family from some very old friends/neighbors from days gone by in East Paterson - from the Vankat family, by me, Barry Vankat. My sister, Linda informed me of Joe's passing today, after reading it in her local paper in Morris County, and I felt compelled to express our condolences. So many memories between our families come to mind, although so much time has passed the memories are vivid and I will mention, what I, at age 64 can remember; attending E.54th Street School with Linda (your daughter) a year younger than me (?) skating on Wiarda's pond, walking thru Wiarda's field to my grandmother's house on Chobot Lane, Mrs. Wiarda, Karen, brother Pete delivering our milk (especially in winter, when the cream froze on top!) Joe following my football career from the Bombers thru EPMHS, always being interested in athletics, Joe's time on the EP Board of Ed. always interested in kids and education. Last memory, Joe's Dad, Joe Sr. a great friend of my Dad, Eddie Vankat - and my bus driver my first day of school in 1956 !

God Bless you all, andmy you cherish all your fond memories of a wonderful man.

Sincerely,

Barry Vankat

Barry Vankat - August 31, 2015 at 08:28 PM

KS

Thank you Barry for sharing your wonderful memories of my dad. I will be sure to share it with my mom.

Kristen

Kristen Silvestri - September 14, 2015 at 10:37 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of JOSEPH J. STAUDINGER.*



August 28, 2015 at 01:13 PM



“ *Philip, Rita, and Lucy Silvestri purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of JOSEPH J. STAUDINGER.*



Philip, Rita, and Lucy Silvestri - August 28, 2015 at 08:42 AM



“ *Goodbye Joe, I will miss you greatly. I've known Karen and Joe for twenty-five plus years. They became my family from New Jersey. Renting my condo in Fl. for a couple of years and then buying one next door. We were snowbirds together and later I move there permanently and couldn't wait for their return in the winter. I would sit and listen to Joe complain about the stock market and we would talk about Clive Cussler and Dirk Pitt novels, while we had a cocktail, usually Old Smuggler. Every afternoon was an affair at the Staudingers. Over the years I have met their children and they welcomed me as if I were part of the family. They are a wonderful clan and I cherish all my memories of them. Love all of you Rich Jantz*

Richard Jantz - August 26, 2015 at 06:37 PM

KS

Thank you so much for your comment. Happy hour was his favorite time of day!

Kristen Silvestri - August 27, 2015 at 05:42 PM

JS

“ *Dearest Aunt Karen,*

My life was forever changed the day that my parents met you and Uncle Joe on your respective honeymoons in May of 1949.

From the day I was born, you both took me under your wing and gave me an amazing second home in Elmwood Park and Green Pond with my "kissing cousins" Linda, JoAnne, Nancy, Kenny and Kristen.

The memories of being a part of your family for 60 plus years will last forever. Sleepovers at Green pond for entire summers, sailing, regattas, popcorn on Saturdays, blueberry pancakes before church on Sunday's and of course the co Ed sleepover party for the moon landing on July 20, 1969.

My love for Uncle Joe will last forever . Lorraine sends her love as well.

*Forever your goddaughter
Janet Sulick*

Janet Sulick - August 26, 2015 at 04:51 PM

CN

“ I would like to extend my deepest condolences to Mrs. Staudinger and the entire family on behalf of the Nydegger family. I grew up at the lake down the street from the Staudinger clan and have many fond memories of my time spent with them. Number one being on the first weekend of every summer when we showed up I would just go over to their house find Mr. S. and that was easy to do because he was forever working on some project at the house he would sit me down outside and give me a buzz haircut and I better not move or he would cut an ear off or so he said. Every time I get my hair cut I think of those days. Second and most memorable is when he or any of the kids and then later some of their spouses were walking down the lane to the beach I would hear a loud yell of COREY JAY and I would shout out their name back to them, that went on into my adulthood until I moved away from the lake. I'll never forget those days and I could write a book of all my memories with all of you. Last I would like to thank Mr. & Mrs. S. for spending time with my Dad in FL after we lost my mom, We had a great time at dinner on St Patty's and told lots of stories about Green Pond. Try to stay strong in these tough times and think good thoughts.

Corey Jay Nydegger

Corey Jay Nydegger - August 26, 2015 at 12:09 PM

JM

“ I always remembered how when I was 8 years old Joe drove me from my aunts home in Dover, Delaware back to East Paterson, because I got homesick. My parents were so grateful he was in the area and on his way home. I remember him treating me to lunch and making me feel like a grown up. He used to call me September my name being June. As a child it was like I had to correct him, when I grew up I realized it was his way of a teasing. He was a good man. Karen so sorry for your loss. God Bless you and your family. June (Maggio) Mooney, Ireland

June Mooney - August 26, 2015 at 05:43 AM

HP

“ On my third day at The Chelsea, I shared the elevator to our apartments with Joe & Karen. We had missed the glass of wine offered each day and Joe said, "I have some wine, would you like to join us?" Living just next door, I gladly accepted. Both of them were immensely proud of their family. While enjoying the wine, he proceeded to point to each picture in their huge gallery.....tell who each was, what college he/she graduated from, what position they held now, and after each came "and he/she is very successful." I also needed someone to sit with during our dinners. They happened to have an empty seat and Joe offered it to me. Along with Grace (across the hall) we became a foursome and Fast Friends! Also, that afternoon, we learned that they had lived in E. Paterson (now Elmwood Park) and I was brought up, and lived there until I married. Both Karen and I graduated from Berkeley Secretarial School. How is that for Coincidence???

Even marriage....I was married for 66-1/2 yrs. when my husband passed away and they also were married 66-1/4 yrs.

We hope you will stay here Karen. We will do all we can to help you.....WE LOVE YOU!

My Sincere Sympathy to All the Family on the loss of a Husband, Father & Grandfather.

Helen in 203

Helen Puzio - August 25, 2015 at 04:51 PM

KS

Thank you Helen for your kind words

Kristen Silvestri - August 27, 2015 at 05:44 PM