



Mr. William J. Joseph

April 15, 1944 - February 28, 2016

Billy was born on April 15, 1944 in Utica, NY. He was the son of the late Helen E. (Lewis) Joseph and Anthony E. Joseph. He lived most of his life in the Capron Section of South Utica. He graduated from Sunset School, John F. Hughes School and Utica Free Academy. Always a bright student, he was number one in his class at the end of his freshman year. He went on to higher education at Utica College where he majored in business and economics. Later, Bill got a Master's Degree in Recreation Therapy.

Billy worked in the bar and restaurant business and once was the bar manager of the world famous Elbow Room in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He later was the proprietor of the Mills Tavern in New York Mills. After his retirement Billy volunteered to work in several local nursing homes, where he was the ombudsman. He also volunteered at the House of the Good Shepherd. He has worked at the finish line for almost all of the Boilermaker Road Races and was active in the U.F.A. Alumni Association. Bill was a loyal Maronite Catholic.

Billy was a well-known baseball pitcher. He had an exceptional fastball and batters soon learned that the inside of the plate was his. He was a four year starter at Utica College and his one regret was he didn't get the start against his brother Bob. "I could have beaten him and those preppy... from Hamilton." In his early years he loved to fish, hunt, golf, and shoot pool. More recently he loved to play pitch, work in his garden, attend Utica College Hockey games and support his favorite baseball team, the Giants.

Bill's siblings are Robert and Jennie Joseph, Richard and Marilyn Joseph, Gordon and Kay Custodero, Anthony E. Joseph, Jr., and John and Kathy Joseph. He was proud of his nieces and nephews, as well as his great-nieces and great-nephews. John K. Barkett was a special cousin. He and Billy were inseparable when growing up. Many thanks to Eileen Carroll and Sue Spinella – they are always there when you need them. Dave Seidel is a lifelong friend who really came through in a big way. A million thanks to a real friend. Also, Richard Thomas Koury, was a frequent visitor. Billy always enjoyed his company.

Thank you to Dr. Jorgensen and the nursing staff in the I.C.U. at St. Elizabeth Medical Center – you were magnificent. Thank you to all of the caregivers who improved Bill's quality of life so much. As Billy would say, "See you on the beach."

There will be no calling hours. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Bill's funeral service and Celebration of Life which will commence on Wednesday afternoon at 1:00 at St. Louis Gonzaga Church where his Divine Liturgy of the Faithful Departed will be offered by Chorbishop John D. Faris as well as the parish's supportive clergy. The family will receive visitors at the conclusion of Mass. Memorial contributions may be made to the family, allowing them the means to assist tobacco users in their efforts to live a healthier life. Envelopes will be available at the service.

Previous Events

Funeral Service

MAR 2. 1:00 PM (ET)

St. Louis Gonzaga Church
520 Rutger Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 732-6019

Tribute Wall

WF

“*Condolences to the Joseph family. Our thoughts and prayers go out to your whole family. Psalms 147:3 says God, "heals the broken hearted, and binds up their wounds." May God bring you comfort and peace.*

Williams Family - March 11, 2016 at 02:03 PM

LS

“*I was so sorry to hear about Billy's passing. God bless his soul and God bless his family. May he rest in peace. Love and prayers are sent to you all. Linda Hanna Sciortino and family.*

linda sciortino - March 09, 2016 at 07:05 PM

BC

“*Dear Joseph Families
Our heartfelt sympathies during this difficult time as you grieve Billy's passing to eternal life.
Brad and Joann Cavo Campbell*

brad Campbell - March 05, 2016 at 10:14 PM

WK

“*Godspeed Bill. The world is a smaller place without you in it. You will live on in my heart.*

Wendy Ketcham - March 02, 2016 at 04:40 PM

NG

“ I am so proud to have known Bill and his wonderful family. I remember his early antics, his many stories, his wit and his ability to live life to the fullest. I was grateful to have him as best man at my wedding, a wonderful Godfather to my Helen, and a cousin and amazing friend to my Johnny. I am sure he and John are embracing each other in Heaven. My love and sympathy to family. Nancy. Gozy

nancy gozy - March 01, 2016 at 08:39 AM

WK

Godspeed Billy, you live on in my heart always.

Wendy Ketcham - March 01, 2016 at 04:03 PM

HC

“ So very sorry to hear of Bill's passing. In my early years, I have wonderful memories of "Uncle Billy" visiting at Christmas with his great tan and sandals...fresh off the plane from Ft. Lauderdale :) I am blessed to be one of his many godchildren!

Much love, sympathy and prayers to the Joseph family.

Helen Gozy-Caramadre, Susan Gozy-Brunnett and Nancy Gozy

Helen Caramadre - March 01, 2016 at 08:24 AM

LE

“ To Tony and family,
I am so sorry to hear of your loss. May God be with all of you during this difficult time.

Lenora (Sfeir) D'Apice

Lenora - March 01, 2016 at 07:59 AM