



## Daniel Joseph "Joe" McKeon

July 1, 1940 - November 28, 2020

Daniel Joseph "Joe" McKeon, 80, of Cape Girardeau, Missouri died Saturday, November 28, 2020 at Saint Francis Medical Center.

He was born July 1, 1940 in Davenport, Iowa to Dan and Leona McKeon.

He married Barbara Kulish on July 2, 1966 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. She survives.

Joe served in the Army from 1963-1965.

He attended St. Ambrose College in Iowa and received a Bachelor of Science degree from Southeast Missouri State University.

He was a member of St. Vincent de Paul Parish.

Survivors include his wife, Barb; children, Tim (Sherri) of Locke, New York, Betsy (Mike) Anders of Cape Girardeau, Matt (Eileen) of St. Charles, Missouri; brothers, Jim (Jackie) of Longmeadow, Massachusetts; Jack of Davenport, Iowa and Pat (Packy) of Wheatland, Iowa; sister-in-law, Judy (Jim) Hathaway of Vienna, Virginia; grandchildren, Josh, Ryan, Cody, Katie, Luke, Daniel, Christopher, Jonathon, Zachary, Xavier, Madeleine, Adelaide, Gwendolyn, Vivian, Liam, Gavin, and Keelan; seven great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by parents; daughter, Katie, sister-in-law, Elaine McKeon, and a brother Donald.

Joe and Barb moved to Cape in 1969. He worked for the R.T. French Company for 14 years then joined Northwestern Mutual Life where he worked for 43 years, retiring in 2012.

He was one of the founding members of the Notre Dame High School Booster Club and a Bob Miller Award recipient.

He was a past member of the Boy Scout Executive Council for Southeast Missouri and then St. Louis. He was awarded the Silver Beaver Award for his service to Scouting.

He was past board member of the Southeast Hospital Foundation.

He held multiple positions in Life Underwriters before retiring.

He was past Lt. Governor of Rotary International and a current member Cape Girardeau Rotary. He is a Paul Harris Fellow.

Joe was a current member of the Cape Country Club where he was an avid golfer. He was most proud of his hole-in-one in 2018. He was a member of the SEMO Seniors Golf Association.

He made Cursillo #1 in Perryville. He was a board member of Teens Encounter Christ and was very active in the retreat serving as a Director and Wheat Team Director. But his favorite role was as head cook for many, many retreats.

He and Barb became Benedictine Oblates of St. Meinrad Archabbey.

He was a friend of Bill W. for 47 years.

He was an avid hunter and loved pheasant season in Iowa where he hunted with his brothers, nephews, son and grandson. He loved fishing throughout southern Missouri and southern Illinois with many friends.

He was famous for his homemade bread and rolls and kettle beef. He added baking cookies and other treats after retirement.

He was an avid sports fan and loved the Cardinals, Iowa Hawkeyes, Duke Blue Devils, Notre Dame Fighting Irish and the Notre Dame High School Bulldogs!

Following in his fathers footsteps, he was a passionate gardener.

He started a Thursday evening Rosary group in 2001 that continues today.

Friends may call from 9-11 am Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at St. Vincent de Paul Church.

Funeral mass will follow at 11 am at St. Vincent de Paul Church with the Rev. Rick Jones officiating.

Burial will be at St. Mary Cemetery. Full military rites will be provided by Missouri Honors Team.

The family would like to thank the St. Francis Medical Center COVID unit staff and ask that you keep them in your prayers.

In lieu of flowers the family asks for memorial contributions to St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, Notre Dame High School, and Birthright of Cape Girardeau.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Mary Cemetery

1101 Perry Avenue  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 2. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church  
1919 Ritter Dr.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

## Mass

DEC 2. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church  
1919 Ritter Dr.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

# Tribute Wall

CS

“ So sorry Barb. You and your family are in our prayers.

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**Carl Samuelson** - December 20, 2020 at 08:23 PM

CB

“ Dear Barb, It's been many years since we had a chance to visit and I just read of Joe's death. I know it is tough to lose our men but he has begun a journey to meet our Maker. My prayers and sympathy to you and your family.  
Carolyn Bileddo

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**Carolyn Bileddo** - December 17, 2020 at 12:05 PM

KS

“ Dear Barb and family,  
So sorry to hear of Joe's passing. Our thoughts are with you.  
Kevin and Denise Sutton

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**Kevin Sutton** - December 07, 2020 at 10:02 AM

ML

“ Joe was one of the great people I worked with at Northwestern Mutual. He was always so kind and I love to sit and talk with him. My prayers are with his family.

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**Matt Laws** - December 07, 2020 at 09:18 AM

CC

“ Barb,

*Mike and I are very sorry to hear of Joe's death! You and your families are in our prayers. This has to be such a challenge. We have missed seeing you both. This summer , our Mercy 55th, would have been that time except for the virus. Joe always was delightful to visit with when we gathered. He was such a “people person”.*

*Don Bergthold called to tell me that another St. Paul's friend saw it in the bulletin when he was at the church (More prayers) and wanted to tell him. They always knew Joe as Danny Joe and wanted me to verify if it was Joe. Both Don and Lucy have the virus .*

*Marsha sent out this beautiful tribute to his life to our classmates after I found it. Sure wish we were closer .*

*Prayers continue. Love, Claudia*

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**Claudia Cox** - December 04, 2020 at 08:16 PM

SA

“ *My sincerest condolences to the McKeon family. I'll always remember Joe as the "Cool Cat from Cape Girardeau." He touched my family in a way that no one else ever could.*

*Scott Agnew*

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**SCOTT AGNEW** - December 04, 2020 at 06:43 PM

LS

“ *Jerry and I are so sad at the loss of Joe. He was an extraordinary person. He was my insurance man for years. He cooked at Jerry's and my wedding in 1994. He was a friend.*

*I know his family will miss him dearly, but he has many friends that will miss his infectious laugh.*

*Prayers for family and friends. 🙏*

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**linda Suedekum** - December 04, 2020 at 09:22 AM

RA

“ Barb,  
Our prayers and sympathy are extended to your family and you for the loss of Joe. He was always so outgoing and friendly to everyone. Joe and you were active and supportive for all of your kids activities. We became acquainted when our kids were classmates and participated in various functions at both St. Vincents and Notre Dame. May God's grace and love be with you. Joe will remain in your hearts forever. We will make a donation in Joe's memory to Birthright.  
Roger and Duva Arpin

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**Roger C. Arpin** - December 03, 2020 at 11:06 AM

MH

“ Dear Barb and family, so sorry to hear about Joe. A very sad time for all. I remember us having a very nice lunch at the Biltmore . Our Deepest Sympathy!!  
Ed and Mary Jane Hart

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**Mary Jane Hart** - December 02, 2020 at 03:18 PM

AT

“ I am sad to hear the news of Joe's passing. He was a wonderful man and I enjoyed our conversations at our agency meetings. Joe, and family are in my thoughts and prayers. May God provide you comfort and Joe's life well lived make you proud. His is a life to be celebrated. God Bless those he left behind.

Abigail Tuttle

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**abigail tuttle** - December 02, 2020 at 02:07 PM

EH

“ Barb, I am very sorry to hear about Joe. He was a wonderful member of the Hahs Agency. Every interaction we had was positive. He was always uplifting and always had a smile on his face. Joe had a wonderful work ethic and I can guarantee that his clients all received the best and most objective recommendations for their circumstances. Joe sincerely cared about his people. He was truly reflective of the standards of the Northwestern and he certainly set the bar for the other reps in the organization.

Ed Hempstead

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**Ed Hempstead** - December 02, 2020 at 01:55 PM

KH

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the family of Joe -- one of the nicest Northwestern Mutual agents with whom I had the privilege to work. Joe always had a smile and a kind word to brighten your day. May God provide you all His comfort and peace.*  
*Karen Horton*

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**Karen Horton** - December 02, 2020 at 01:01 PM

TC

“ *Dear Barb, I read with great sadness that Joe passed away. I do not check my Northwestern emails very frequently so I'm typing this as his funeral is going on. I would have come down to be there had I seen it earlier.. I was in a study group with Joe form several years back in the 80's. He was always a great guy to have as part of our group. I will remember him fondly. Always smiling and always positive is what comes to mind. Please know that you and your family will be in our daily prayers. May the peace that surpasses all understanding be yours today and in the days to come. My sincere condolences on your loss. Sincerely, Tom Clemens*

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**Thomas Clemens** - December 02, 2020 at 12:42 PM

BM

“ *Dear Barb and family,*  
*Mark and I were so sorry to see Joe's obituary in yesterdays paper. He was such a good and decent man. I am so glad I got to know him through Rotary...to hear his jokes, receive his blessings and learn what it meant to be a committed Rotarian. And he sure did love his family. I know you will miss him terribly. We pray you will feel our loving Lord's arms around you during the days to come.*  
  
*Betty and Mark Martin*

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**Betty Martin** - December 02, 2020 at 11:54 AM

DM

“ *Barb and family, so sorry to hear about Joe's passing. I so enjoyed his company and his jovial personality! May Our Lord give you peace and comfort during this difficult time. Our love, Danny and Doris Moore.*

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**Danny and Doris Moore** - December 02, 2020 at 09:48 AM

JE

“ Barb and Family,  
My deepest condolences to you on Joe's passing. He was a great man and a true Christian and I know he will be sorely missed. Rest in peace Joe and God bless to Barb and all the family.

Jason Emmenderfer - December 02, 2020 at 09:41 AM

AF

“ Barb and family, I am so very sorry for your loss. May God bring you peace and comfort.

Angela Ford - December 01, 2020 at 09:21 PM

NH

“ Barb and family,

I am so sorry for your loss. May God hold you in the palm of His almighty hand.

Fondly, Nancy Stricker Huckstep, RN

Nancy E Huckstep - December 01, 2020 at 08:14 PM

MM

“ Mike and Sarah McKeon purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Daniel Joseph "Joe" McKeon.



Mike and Sarah McKeon - December 01, 2020 at 08:12 PM

AK

“ You were like a second dad to me. Memories are for always ❤️. You will be greatly missed.

Andrew Knaup - December 01, 2020 at 08:03 PM

NC

“ Unfortunately I only knew Joe for a few years. He had such an amazing impact on me in that short time. He and my late father were friends of Bill W for many years. After my dad's passing he helped me through a lot and was always there to offer some advice. He was the true example of humility and service. He will be missed by many people. Earlier this month he gave me a beautiful card for my anniversary and in it had written a wonderful quote about my dad which I think is fitting for him too so I'll share it here. "I will miss him. He was one of God's great Miracles. He came from the depths of fear to live on the mountain of God. Walking hand in hand with the God of his understanding. May his soul rest in peace."

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**Nicole Cavins** - December 01, 2020 at 07:56 PM

BH

“ My deepest sympathy to Barbara and children on Joe's passing. He was a wonderful man, and all of you must be so proud of him. I remember Joe and Barbara dancing at the dinner venue on our trip to The Biltmore. You obviously shared a wonderful union.

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**Barbara Hess** - December 01, 2020 at 02:35 PM

LP

“ To Barbara, all of Joe's children and grandchildren,

*I am so very sorry for you loss of Joe. We were neighbors for many many years. I am happy to have known Joe and the great man he was. You are all in my prayers.*

*God Bless you all and God Bless Joe.*

*Love,  
Leola Poole*

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**Leola Poole** - December 01, 2020 at 01:18 PM

CW

“ A life well lived is a blessing forever. In sympathy, and in memory of someone so loved. Barb, praying for and your family. Claudia Williams

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**claudia williams** - December 01, 2020 at 12:24 PM

BK

“ So sorry to hear of Joe's passing. He was a friend of 46 yrs. and was instrumental in helping me get my life back on track. He was kind and patient, but non-bending when it came to the 12 Steps. We met in bad times and hung in there until it turned to wonderful times with God at the helm. I will be eternally grateful to him for all the help and understanding and time out of his life he gave me and eternally grateful to Barb for allowing him to be an important part of mine, and so many others messed up lives. There are really no words strong enough to express my gratitude to both Joe and Barb. To Barb, May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face; the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Barb (Agnew) Knoth

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**Barbara Knoth** - December 01, 2020 at 12:00 PM

JQ

Barb and family I am sorry for your loss. But Joe McKeon is in Heaven. He impacted so many lives and he lead a God centered life. And Joe helped many people take positive steps financially with Northwestern Mutual. I really got to know Joe better thru telephone conversations especially when Luke started getting treatment. He was so proud of Luke's courage.

God rest Joe's Eternal Soul.

John Qualy

Clayton, Mo.

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**John Qualy** - December 01, 2020 at 11:13 PM

FW

“ I truly am sad to hear of Joe's passing! Yet how can I remain sad knowing how much he loved Our Lord and wanted to be always in his will. Barb, Tim, Betsie, and Matt know that each of you and your families are in my prayers. I will offer a special Mass for Joe later but I will always remember him at each Mass I celebrate with thankfulness and praise to God for a GREAT FRIEND, LOVING EXAMPLE, and good cook. I would have said great cook, but he would surely have corrected me on that one. Sorry I can't be with you but know how much I care.....

Peace and Blessings in Christ,

Fr. Joe Weidenbenner

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**Fr Joe Weidenbenner** - December 01, 2020 at 10:56 AM

CH

“ Joe was a wonderful dear friend who helped me through a lot of things he will really be missed. My condolences to Barb and the rest of his family.

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**Charlie Hill** - December 01, 2020 at 10:33 AM

DH

“ *Barb hugs and prayers for you and your family!  
David and Jeanne Pruitt Holstein*

David and Jeanne Pruitt Holstein - December 01, 2020 at 09:16 AM

KJ

“ *A passion to serve, a giving heart, and a soft spoken leader embodied in a humble servant...that was Joe McKeon. Thank you for positively impacting the lives of so many people.*

*Joe will be missed by many. I pray that the family receives God's comfort, peace, and understanding.*

*Kenneth C. Pemberton, Jr.*

Kenneth C Pemberton Jr - December 01, 2020 at 09:14 AM

LP

“ *So very sorry for your loss, keeping you in my thoughts and prayers*

Laurie Powers - December 01, 2020 at 07:52 AM

BD

“ *Every Young Saint in Heaven met Joe at the Gates. The years he gave to Youth are Second to NONE. He loved His Wife, children, grandchildren, Faith, Church and everyone he met, he was a Voice for All and Never met a stranger. The world lost a Hero, Heaven gained a Saint.*

*Love ya St. Barb and Betsy ( saint in training)*

*Brother David, Wish I could be there!!!*

Brother David - December 01, 2020 at 06:53 AM

MW

*Dear Barb and family where do we begin. We have so many great memories going back to when Joe and Jerry met while in college they were a pair those two. Then meeting you and all the great times we had together. Then we grew up and had families who's lives were intertwined even though we lived miles apart. Joe being best man at our wedding and Jerry's godfather and our oldest godfather and Jerry Tim's godfather.  
So many memories.  
He was Jerry's brother from another mother.  
What a wonderful tribute Matt gave his dad. We know Joe was involved in a lot but didn't know there was so much he did for others.  
I know he was a good cook. When we were there last he made the best blueberry pancakes.  
Love you Barb and all the McKeon family.  
Sending love and prayers to all.*

marcy and jerry Wickersham - December 01, 2020 at 05:33 PM

GS

*Marcia and I are so sorry to hear of Joe' s passing. A wonderful man and a good friend. Lots of memories.*

*With love and friendship,*

*Tom and Marcia Schwab*

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**Guy Schwab** - December 01, 2020 at 07:12 PM

LA

*Barb and family lots of TEC memories of Joe trying to learn my cooking secret!  
Mashed potatoes made easy too! Know you all are in my prayers during this time.  
Special cook friend,  
Liz Aufdenberg*

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**Liz Aufdenbergw** - December 02, 2020 at 07:53 PM