



## John J. "Doc" Yallaly

December 30, 1931 - March 3, 2025

John "Doc" Yallaly, 93, of Cape Girardeau, passed away on March 3, 2025. He lived a long, fulfilling life, and was beloved by friends and family. He was born December 30, 1931 in Cape Girardeau, MO to George and Genevieve Doll Yallaly.

After graduating from Cape Central high school, John worked at Southwestern Bell. In 1953, he was drafted into the U.S. Army, and played baseball for the army. After being discharged from the army, John returned to Cape Girardeau and resumed work for Southwestern Bell, where he met the love of his life, Barbara Criddle. John and Barbara were married in 1963.

Throughout his life, John took an active part in volunteering and community service. John was a lifelong member of St Mary's Cathedral, and a "Fourth Knight" with the Knights of Columbus. John worked tirelessly with the Capaha Park Improvement Committee.

John also enjoyed several hobbies, including sports, hunting, fishing, beekeeping, and coaching. John also loved animals, his wife, and his daughter.

In 1956, John started coaching the Cape Girardeau American Legion baseball team, and continued to coach the team for 40 years, touching countless young lives. The team won two state championships under John's stewardship.

In 1967, John helped establish V.I.P. Industries, an organization that serves individuals with a broad spectrum of intellectual and developmental

disabilities.

Some of John's awards and accomplishments are listed below.

2023 Inducted into the MO American Legion Baseball Hall of Fame

2017 Parks & Recreation Cape Noon Optimist Club Youth Sports Lifetime Achievement Award

2014 Distinguished Legionnaire for the State of Missouri.

2011 Elks Distinguished Citizenship Award.

2003 V.I.P. Industries - Founders Award

2003 Spirit of America Award

1998 Missouri Veterans Home Volunteer of the Year

1981 Inducted into the Southeast Missouri Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame.

Survivors include his wife, Barbara Yallaly of Cape Girardeau and a daughter, Kathy (John) Coffman of Cape Girardeau.

He is preceded in death by his parents; two brothers; and four sisters.

Visitation will be 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Thursday, March 6, 2025 at Ford & Sons Sprigg St. Chapel in Cape Girardeau, with Parish Prayers beginning at 4:00 pm followed by Knights of Columbus #1111 Rosary.

Funeral Mass will be at 10:00 am Friday, March 7, 2025 at St. Mary Cathedral in Cape Girardeau with the Rev. Allan Saunders officiating.

Burial will be at St. Mary Cemetery in Cape Girardeau, with full military honors.

Memorial contributions may be given to St. Mary Cathedral, 615 William St., Cape Girardeau, MO 63703.

Online condolences may be made at [www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com](http://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## St. Mary Cemetery

1101 Perry Avenue  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

# Previous Events

## Parish Prayers

MAR 6. 4:00 PM - 4:15 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Sprigg St. Chapel  
118 S. Sprigg St.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703

## Visitation

MAR 6. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Sprigg St. Chapel  
118 S. Sprigg St.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703

## Rosary

MAR 6. 4:15 PM - 4:30 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Sprigg St. Chapel  
118 S. Sprigg St.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703

## Funeral Mass

MAR 7. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary Cathedral  
615 William St.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703

# Tribute Wall

JF

“ Kathy I am sorry to hear about the loss of your father. He was such an inspiration and a leader in our community. I hope the memories you have and can share are of comfort to you and your family. I will keep you in my prayers. God Bless Jeannie Fadler

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**jeannie Fadler** - March 07, 2025 at 12:30 PM

JJ

“ Doc was a character. He was so involved, you could count on seeing him, whether it was at a baseball tournament, or at the annual chili supper. Most of the time, he'd be one of the helpers. Our family has countless memories of him, and will remember him with fondness, and a smile.

Love,

*Jess R Bolen Jr and family*

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**Jess R Bolen Jr** - March 07, 2025 at 11:31 AM

MG

“ So sorry to hear about Kathy's father's death. Kathy is a marvelous daughter and took unceasing care of her father in his later years. I am keeping you in my thoughts- Mary Gross

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**Mary Gross** - March 05, 2025 at 02:47 PM

JV

“ Sincerest condolences from the Vernon Volkerding family. Barb and Kathy...May you find the strength to move forward into this next part of your journey through life. I know that Vernon and Doc have a lot of catching up to do. ....Jennifer Volkerding-Trinka

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**Jennifer Volkerding-Trinka** - March 05, 2025 at 02:16 PM

TB

“ Truman Smith Family Ruth, Dar & Becky planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John J. "Doc" Yallaly.

Truman Smith Family Ruth, Dar & Becky - March 05, 2025 at 01:39 PM

TB

“ Truman Smith Family Ruth, Dar & Becky purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of John J. "Doc" Yallaly.



Truman Smith Family Ruth, Dar & Becky - March 05, 2025 at 01:39 PM

RW

“ Dear Barbara and Family,  
My prayers for you and yours as you begin this new life chapter.  
John "Doc" has an amazing life legacy that impacted many.  
God's blessings and peace,  
Rita Heimbaugh Weber

Rita Weber - March 05, 2025 at 01:06 PM

JG

“ Simply a Legend! I send my condolences to Barbara, Tootie and John. Judy Bullock Graetz.

Judy Graetz - March 05, 2025 at 11:11 AM

DV

“ A coach, a mentor, a great man. And so humble and kind. He will be missed. But not forgotten.

Dan Vogelsang - March 05, 2025 at 09:34 AM

D-

“ *My Father and I always thought that Cape should have named a Ballfield after Doc. Play on Doc...play on.*



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**Donna Starzinger -Parnell** - March 04, 2025 at 06:52 PM

DG

“ *I always enjoyed working on John's teeth. He always had a story to tell. Barb & Kathy you took great care of your husband and dad. He was proud to be a veteran. He always liked talking with me after my son went in to the military. Barb & Kathy we are so sorry for your loss and you have our deepest sympathy. I will not be able to attend the visitation or funeral. I will be at a dental conference in Jefferson City.*

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**Dorothy Gholson** - March 04, 2025 at 05:26 PM

BK

“ *Doc taught me a lot about baseball but he taught more about life. He never let his ailments of recent years get him down... never!!!*

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**Brad Kirtley** - March 04, 2025 at 04:06 PM