



Joseph Charles Henggeler

May 28, 1949 - February 11, 2026

Joseph Charles Henggeler, 76, of Sikeston, Missouri, passed away on Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at Mercy Hospital Southeast.

Joe was born on May 28, 1949, in Montgomery, Alabama, to Col. Francis Joseph and Dorothy Eileen (Merrigan) Henggeler, both deceased.

He is survived by his son, Joseph Henggeler of Sikeston, Missouri; three daughters, Clare (Mia) Cossey of St. Louis, Missouri, Monica (John) Unterreiner of Jackson, Missouri, and Heidi Henggeler of Arlington, Texas; two brothers, John Henggeler of Mission, Kansas, and Bill Henggeler of O'Fallon, Illinois; and three grandchildren, Watson, Clark, and Nolan Unterreiner, all of Jackson, Missouri.

Joe spent his career as an agricultural engineer and irrigation specialist with the University of Missouri, based at the Fisher Delta Research, Extension, and Education Center in Portageville, Missouri. He was a recognized authority on irrigation scheduling and water management in the Missouri Bootheel. His research on wireless soil moisture sensors and efficient irrigation practices helped farmers across the region improve yields while conserving water. He developed widely used irrigation scheduling software, including a version of the Woodruff Irrigation chart-maker, and contributed to scholarly publications and national symposia.

Outside of work, Joe had a deep passion for history and genealogy. He spent countless hours tracing the Henggeler family's roots and preserving its story for future generations. It was a pursuit that connected him to his Swiss-German heritage, to his father's service as a B-17 pilot with the 388th Bomb Group under the 8th Air Force, and to the broader arc of his family's journey in America.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Richard Henggeler.

Visitation will be from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Monday, February 16, 2026, at Saint Columba Catholic Church in Conception, Missouri.

Funeral Mass will follow at 11:00 am at the church with the Rt. Rev. Benedict Neenan, O.S.B., officiating.

Burial will be at Saint Columba Cemetery in Conception, Missouri.

Online condolences may be made at www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com

Ford & Sons Funeral Home - Mt. Auburn is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Saint Columba Cemetery

Conception, MO

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 16. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Saint Columba Catholic Church
311 Roosevelt St
Conception Junction, MO 64434
(660) 944-2301

Funeral Mass

FEB 16. 11:00 AM.

Inactive - Saint Columba Catholic Church

Tribute Wall

TC

“ *Mr. Joe was a kind soul. He was a great blessing to me. I worked with Joe at the MU Delta Center. He always was there to help me and others. His children was always on our list to catch up on. My deepest Condolences to his children! RIP Mr. Joe. You will not be forgotton!*

Tina Clark - February 26 at 09:44 AM

EI

“ *My deepest condolences to Joe's daughters and son. He was an intelligent man and always so kind to me!*
- *Elena Isaacs*

elena isaacs - February 16 at 11:18 AM

PM

“ *My condolences to all of Joe's family.*
Podge Moriarty, Redding, California

Patrick Moriarty - February 15 at 12:54 PM

BW

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. You are in my prayers.*

brad wittenborn - February 14 at 09:21 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joseph Charles Henggeler.*

February 13 at 11:26 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joseph Charles Henggeler.*



February 13 at 11:26 AM



“ *Condolences Norma, Claire, Monica, Heidi and Joseph. Sending thoughts and prayers from Texas. Rest in peacefully, Tio Joe.*

Fred Cordova

Fred Cordova - February 13 at 10:54 AM



“ *My condolences to the Family of Joe. I did not Joe personally, but I did know his brothers John and Richard. After his distinguished career, may he rest peacefully in the Lord for all eternity....Don Sullivan*

Don Sullivan - February 13 at 09:01 AM



“ *I'm so sorry to hear of Joe's passing. I enjoyed working with Joe and also had the opportunity to work with each one of his children. My thought and prayers are with you guys now and in the coming days. ♥ Anne Johnson*

Anne Johnson - February 12 at 07:58 PM

AK

“ *It was my honor to have both worked with Joe, and to be a fellow father with him. Peace and prayer to Heidi and the whole family. Andy, Susan and Mary Kendig.*

Andy Kendig - February 12 at 05:34 PM

RU

John and Monica and family...Donna and I are thinking fo you guys and will be praying for peace for all in the days to come. Monica, I am using some of your dad's work in my military history book so his life will live on...in so many ways.

Ron and Donna Unterreiner - February 15 at 09:46 AM