



Vernon John Compas

July 16, 1935 - December 9, 2023

Vernon John Compas, 88, of Cape Girardeau died peacefully on Saturday, Dec. 9, 2023, at Chateau Girardeau in Cape Girardeau, MO.

He was born July 16, 1935, in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, to Leo and Clara Diebold Compas.

Vernon married the love of his life, Elwanda Macke, June 20, 1959. He was a member of St. Mary's Cathedral in Cape Girardeau. Vernon was a lifetime member of the Knights of Columbus Council 1111 and of the Missouri Retired Teachers Association.

He taught for 33 years - physical education at Franklin school, Cape Girardeau, MO and early in his career at Thebes Elementary School and May Green. He also coached basketball.

When Vernon retired from teaching, he and Elwanda worked for Day Transfer Moving Company packing up houses for moving military members. He loved to fish and hunt and passed that onto his sons. Vernon and Elwanda spent their retirement years going on cruises all over the world.

Survivors include four sons all from the Cape Girardeau area, Keith (Rhonda) Compas, Tim (Beverly) Compas, Jim (Penny) Compas, Kevin (Janice) Compas, and one daughter, Tammy (Alan) Rehm of North Port, Florida; 11 grandchildren Jonathan (Jessica) Compas, Jordan Compas, Brandi (Leighton) Compas, Matt (Baily) Compas, Josh (Kaley) Compas, Benjamin (Hannah) Rehm, Andrew (Coree) Rehm, Christopher Rehm, Colleen (Colby) Reed, Ryan (Marissa) Compas, Tyler Compas; 2 step grandchildren Brittany

Sanders, Brandon Burnell; 10 great grandchildren; 4 step great grandchildren; two sisters, Clara Cruickshank of Florida and Bernice Glass of St. Louis; a sister-in-law, Bonnie Compas of Jackson, MO.

He was preceded in death by his parents, 3 brothers Leo Compas, Elmer Compas and Raymond Compas of Cape Girardeau; and 3 sisters, Rita Yarborough of Cape Girardeau, Betty Henley of Grayling, Michigan, and Lucille Waters of Southwell Fleet, Massachusetts.

We wish to thank the employees at Chateau Girardeau for taking good care of Vernon while he was there.

Friends may call at the Ford and Sons Funeral Home on Mount Auburn from 5 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, December 13, 2023 with parish prayers starting at 7 and a Knights of Columbus rosary service to follow.

Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, December 14, 2023 at St. Mary Cathedral in Cape Girardeau with the Rev. Allan Saunders officiating.

Burial will be in the St. Mary Cemetery.

Online condolences may be made at www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

St. Mary Cemetery

1101 Perry Avenue
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 13. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Parish Prayers

DEC 13. 7:00 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Funeral Mass

DEC 14. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

LD

“ So very sorry for the passing of your father Keith....all in our thoughts and prayers

Linda Ziegler Dickey - December 20, 2023 at 08:07 AM

JB

“ Coach Compas was my PE teacher at May Greene Elementary. The nickname he gave me was Curtain Rod Burton. I never forgot that name and the kindness he had for us. Joe Burton

Joe Burton - December 13, 2023 at 10:20 PM

RT

“ He was my PE coach at Franklin, every day he had a different name for me but my own. Roberto, Tripper, Trippy Tripp just to name a few. Many fond memories of Coach Compas, prayers for family

Robert Tripp - December 12, 2023 at 06:30 PM

DH

“ He was my P.E. teacher at Franklin school. I really liked him. Prayers for comfort.

Debbie Hinkebein - December 12, 2023 at 07:08 AM

LW

“ My favorite memory of Mr. Compas: He taught Phys. Ed. at May Greene Elementary and he used to give us all nicknames. I don't remember the name he gave me, but I remember several others. He was a great guy.

LaDonna White - December 12, 2023 at 12:09 AM

RW

“ So sorry to hear this. Really enjoyed all the times I got to spend with him in our Physical Education meetings when he taught at Franklin and I taught at May Greene and Hawthorn/Clippard. Great guy with a very positive outlook. RIP Vernon. Thanks for all the memories. Praying for all the family. 🙏🙏🙏🙏

Roger Williams - December 11, 2023 at 09:22 PM

DW

“ The best PE teacher ever! Probably the favorite teacher of all the kids at Franklin. Always enthusiastic but serious too about class. There goes a huge piece of my childhood. Such great memories. Rest in peace dear Coach Compass!

Dorothea israel Wolfson - December 11, 2023 at 05:51 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Vernon John Compas.



December 11, 2023 at 05:17 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Vernon John Compas.



December 11, 2023 at 04:53 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Vernon John Compas.*



December 11, 2023 at 04:02 PM



“ *Richard snd Alice Macke planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Vernon John Compas.*

Richard snd Alice Macke - December 11, 2023 at 04:02 PM



“ *Condolences to Kevin And The Compas Family*

Bob Stone - December 11, 2023 at 02:08 PM



Deepest condolences to the family. Coach holds some of my fondest memories at Franklin. He was great instructor. He was such a light of positivity to his students and the community

Gerald Swan - December 11, 2023 at 07:36 PM



Rest in peace Coach. Condolences to his family. I have a lot of fond memories with him during my time at Franklin Elementary.

Rob Reynolds - December 12, 2023 at 10:36 AM

JU

I'm 60 years old, but I remember Mr. Compas after all these years. He was my PE teacher at Franklin. We had so much fun in class. I remember climbing the rope to touch the ceiling, the May Pole dance, playing with a parachute to bounce balls in the air and even PE programs for parents in the evening. He was the best!! Sending love and hugs to the family.

Judith - December 21, 2023 at 03:07 AM