



Joseph T. Debosh

February 17, 1949 - August 16, 2020

Joe Debosh, 71 died on Sunday, August 16, 2020 at his home in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, due to kidney failure. Joe was born on February 17, 1949 in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania. He is preceded in death by his parents Joseph and Irene Debosh.

He is survived by his wife Jeanne and their children Lea Harriott and her husband Scott; his son Michael Debosh and his wife Sarah who all reside in Charleston, South Carolina.

He and his wife Jeanne lived in Fredericksburg, VA for 40 years before retiring to Charleston, South Carolina. He spent 40 years as a physical education teacher at Stafford Elementary. Stafford Elementary honored his years of service by dedicating and naming the new gymnasium in his honor. After retirement, he continued his love for teaching by substituting at his grandchildren's schools. He was loved by the students and staff.

He was loving grandfather to Joey, Tommy, Sammie Kate, Mikey, Henry, and Eve.

He is also survived by his two sisters Joanne Debosh and Dee Mann and her husband Tyler, sisters-in-law: Charlotte Saint John, Mildred Horner Telega, brothers-in-law: Mickey Telega, Paul Telaga, and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, donations are appreciated in his honor to: East Cooper Meals on

Wheels, 2304 N Hwy 17, Mt Pleasant, SC 29466, 843-881-9350.

A celebration of Joe's life will be held on August 28, 2020; however, due to COVID-19 restrictions guests will be received by invitation only.

St Benedict Catholic Church will hold a repose of the soul at a daily mass.

Comments



“ Joe, Joe, Joe...I see him now helping us with the house and barn in Colonial Beach. Helping us with things in Florida. We always had fun with Joe! He would sit and talk, rub his feet, then walk around. There were times he didn't feel 100 percent but you would never have known because he didn't complain. I can hear Jeannie talking then Joe . Joe was always willing to go along with whatever. He never spoke badly about anyone and was always willing to help you. He loved his family and grandchildren and his wife! I'm so sorry for the loss. I'm also happy that you guys moved and we're near and dear to the kids and grands. Such wonderful memories you will all have of a very, very nice man, father, husband, and grandfather. We will raise a glass of beer and a shot to Joe, just like he would have! Here's to you Joe Debosh!!!

Dianne - September 01, 2020 at 09:40 AM



“ He loved going to Colonial Beach and that barn ...He having a shot and beer and looking down at you DianneHe will be missed

Jeanne Debosh - September 02, 2020 at 08:47 PM



“ It is so difficult to say goodbye to someone who has had such a huge impact on so many people. It seems everyone has a story about how much my uncle helped them, showed up for them, or left them with a positive impression. I am no exception. When I foolishly overscheduled myself working on my master's degree in Virginia, my uncle gave me a place to escape “home” to whenever I needed it. And I needed it a lot. But he never turned me away or never said it wasn't a convenient time. Instead he would force me to take breaks and get outside, get fresh air and exercise. I never could have finished that stupid degree without him, and I hope he knew how much I appreciated it. I know if I had said anything he would have brushed me off, like it was nothing when it was everything to me. That's just the kind of person he was—always showing up for others without expecting much in return. We are all lucky to have known him and I hope he is finally enjoying his well-deserved rest.

Annalisa - August 27, 2020 at 10:06 PM



“ Joel and I are so sorry for your loss. Mr Debosh was always so nice and welcoming to us, and we were so sad to hear the news. Please know you are all in our thoughts and prayers.



Kathleen Green - August 27, 2020 at 08:26 PM



“ I'm so deeply saddened over the passing of Joe. I'm so grateful for Joe and the rest of the DeBosh family for their friendship and love over the years. When I think of my childhood, I fondly remember and cherish all the great memories I experienced with them. I have this sweet scar on the inside of my right hand that reminds me of all those beautiful experiences and memories. Years ago, Joe took me, Lea and Michael to the river to fish. Unfortunately, when I casted my line, the hook got caught in my hand. I still vividly remember Joe rushing to my side and gently taking out the hook. I have so many other memories such as Joe encouraging me and giving me the courage to jump off the high dive at Spotswood pool, to all our trips to the Outer Banks, to the river, camping, and hanging out in the treehouse he built. I hadn't seen Joe in a while but one my last memories of him was cutting it loose on the dance floor at my brother's wedding even though his back was bothering him earlier in the day. You would have never known that by the pure joy he was having on the dance floor. That's exactly how he lived life!

Jane Omohundro - August 25, 2020 at 08:32 PM



“ Joe's kindness and sincere warmth had a way of making everyone who met him feel like they had met a lifelong friend. He is such a special person. He has impacted and influenced so many people's lives. I feel lucky that he is my brother.

Dee Mann - August 24, 2020 at 09:31 PM



“ Dee Mann lit a candle in memory of Joseph T. Debosh



Dee Mann - August 24, 2020 at 09:24 PM



“ Jeanne, Lea and Michael,
We were so sorry to hear about Joe's passing. My students always loved him and you both were such supportive, loving parents when Michael was in my class. Our hearts go out to you and we will keep you in our prayers.
Olive and Lanny Shortridge

Olive Shortridge - August 24, 2020 at 09:00 AM



“ I remember meeting Joe and Jeanne for the first time before my son Scott and Joe's daughter Lea were married. I remember thinking what a close and loving family Lea had and how blessed we were that Scott would have such great in-laws. Then once Scott & Lea were married I could see how much Joe and Jeanne loved my son. I always prayed that Scott would marry not only a wonderful woman but that he would also gain another set of parents. Through out the years I have seen how much Joe has loved Scott and how he has always been there for his family. Joe always put his children and grandchildren first and in so many ways was an example of what family means. I know he is in heaven now and in no pain and one day we will all be together again. Praying God wraps His arms around each of you and that God's comfort would be with each of you.

Ophie Harriott - August 23, 2020 at 05:41 PM



“ My mom Sonya Strothers asked me to write a memory. She Mr Debosh was her PE teacher in the 70s. He was such a wonderful man. Her mother Gwen Matthew's was a substitute teacher at the same school. He will be greatly missed



Ananda Beach (Radford) - August 21, 2020 at 05:40 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Joseph T. Debosh.



August 20, 2020 at 03:51 PM



“ Mr. Debosh was my PE teacher at Stafford Elementary in the early 90s. He was the best. I can hear him now yelling (kindly) at me about kicking the kick-ball over the fence. I remember Joe as a passionate, caring, positive, energetic, and fun coach.

Brad Hunter - August 20, 2020 at 03:43 PM



“ Mr. DeBosh was my phys Ed teacher in the 70's. I'll never forget his encouragement to push through the presidential physical fitness tests. He endeared in me a will to succeed and I feel I have. Thank you Sir for the inspiration in my life and many others. Job well done, please know you altered lives for the better.
Kenny Benson

Kenny Benson - August 20, 2020 at 12:23 AM



“ Thanks,
Jeanne

jeanne debosh - August 20, 2020 at 08:55 AM



“ I worked with Joe for many years at night as one of the "bad guys". He was a good man, and I think of him often.

My sincere condolences to the family in this difficult time.

Mark Vanhutton

Mark Vanhutton - August 20, 2020 at 01:56 PM



“ Mark no one will know what you were talking about the “ bad guys” maybe a one or two best friends . But I know . Joe loved working with the FBI agents at Quantico Virginia , as a “bad guy”

Joe would come home late at night and tell me About what what the scenario was about for the night . joe would get free Starbucks coffee gift cards that were left on the table in the meeting room

He would give them to me . Joe would tell out kids ,our Friends and family about endless story of the scenario at theFBI Academy at Quantico . Especially chis friend Peck and Jim.

Then when he retired and we would go out he would talk about working as a bad guy for the FBI Quantico Va telling story after stores . Joe really loved working there . Thank you for the memory I forgot about , Joe is

Looking down from heaven and saying I really miss that job it was fun.

God bless you thank you Jeanne

jeanne debosh - August 22, 2020 at 11:40 PM



“ Joe was one of our best friends. We met him and Jeanne when our sons played soccer together thirty years ago. We have many happy memories of spending time with the DeBosh family. Joe made this world a better place and he was the best friend a person could ever have. Jim & Janis Gillespie

janis Gillespie - August 19, 2020 at 09:40 PM



“ Thank you Janice For sharing your memory of Joe .We had so many good times

jeanne debosh - August 20, 2020 at 12:03 AM



“ I started teaching at Falmouth Elem. And Joe was teaching 6th Grade Science there. It was his 2nd year teaching and my first. Later he would go to Stafford Elem and PE. Joe enjoyed being around people and always had a smile. We kept bumping into each other throughout our careers. I remember him fondly and wish his family peace.

Jane Kolakowski - August 19, 2020 at 09:02 PM



“ Jane yes I remember that Joe was the science teacher and Dave Conway work there
Thank you for your memory of Joe
Jeanne

jeanne debosh - August 19, 2020 at 09:07 PM



“ A friend of mine from Stafford Elementary shared this with our alumni page. I have always remembered Mr. Debosh fondly as my PE teacher. He was such a nice man and impacted thousands of children's lives in Stafford County over his 40 years of teaching. My condolences to his family. I hope you take comfort in your memories.

Kim Canter - August 19, 2020 at 06:38 PM



“ .MR. DEBOSH WAS SUCH A NICE GENTLEMAN. HE ALWAYS HAD A KIND WORD AND A NICE SMILE.MARIAN ALLEN

Marian Allen - August 19, 2020 at 01:49 PM



“ I will always think of Joe with a smile when I remember the lives he touched as a PE teacher during my tenure as principal at SES. Helping others behind the scenes was at the core of his being, and he always advocated for those less able. From checking in on our special needs students to supporting new teachers, to speaking with parents that he once taught as students, Joe shared love and compassion, and was able to make light of a tense situation. He spoke so fondly of his family, and the trips they took together. My thoughts are with all his family during this difficult time. Know he loved you all so much, and will always be with you.

Patricia Wiedel - August 19, 2020 at 10:24 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joseph T. Debosh.



August 19, 2020 at 10:20 AM



“ Coach Debosh was my P.E. teacher in 1977. He also was my daughter's. He made physical education fun. He touched so many lives while at Stafford Elementary. I can't imagine the place without him. He will truly be missed.

Tracie McWhirt Ballentine - August 19, 2020 at 09:33 AM



“ I was the kid who didn't have an athletic bone in my body, but Mr. DeBosh made me try everything and never let me sit on the sidelines. He knew how to make everyone feel great. He was a very nice and kind person.

Chryis Lewis McKinney - August 19, 2020 at 08:00 AM



“ I'm so sad to hear about Mr. DeBosh's passing. He was my 4th grade PE teacher, which was many moons ago. He was an amazing person that just made you smile by being around him. He will be missed by so many. Sending my heartfelt condolences to the Debosh family. May God provide you comfort and peace during this difficult time.

Dorothy Matthews



Dorothy - August 19, 2020 at 06:40 AM



“ Heard of this sad news via a reunion group and as soon as I read the name, I had a rush of memories from elementary school and Mr. Debosh. He made school fun! Not just PE, even passing him in the halls could make you smile. Sending prayers of peace for his family.

Lara Tucker - August 19, 2020 at 06:12 AM



“ The only year I ever loved P.E. was fourth grade at Stafford Elementary, with Mr. DeBosh as my teacher. That was the year that my mom volunteered at the school and she and Mr. D. taught me and all my friends to swim. He was the kindest, most patient teacher I ever had and he will be missed by so many of his former students. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Tara Spalding (Moulton) - August 19, 2020 at 05:19 AM



“ Joe was not only a PE teacher he was a long time role player for law enforcement we wish to extend our thought and prayers to his family

yvonne Bloom - August 19, 2020 at 06:59 AM



“ Yvonne Joe love working as a role player for the Academy . Our family have so many good memories of his stories he told us and some good friends about his role-playing he love And enjoyed working for you.

Thank you for your prayers. And thank you for sharing your memories
Jeanne DeBosh .

jeanne debosh - August 23, 2020 at 12:16 AM



“ Thank you

jeanne debosh - August 23, 2020 at 12:28 AM



“ Mr. Debosh taught my two sons and he was a great role model for them. Like all the students he taught, my sons thought he was great.

Beverly Payne - August 18, 2020 at 10:56 PM



“ Mr. Debosh was one of the best teachers at Stafford Elementary. He taught me AND my daughter and when I went to pick her up he remembered me!! What a great teacher! Your family is in my thoughts and prayers.

Lori Hunter - August 18, 2020 at 09:20 PM



“ My favorite gym teacher ever. Coach Debosh taught me to swim. He was admired and loved by many. He will be missed. Prayers for the family.



Betsy Guanciale - August 18, 2020 at 08:19 PM



“ Thank you for the memory candle for Joe
Jeanne

jeanne debosh - August 19, 2020 at 09:04 PM



“ Wonderful man who taught my girls at Stafford Elementary! RIP. You will be missed! Sending love to the family!

Jessica Harmon - August 18, 2020 at 07:37 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers go out to all of the family members of Mr Debosh. He was the most amazing man I had ever met in my life. He taught my mother and then myself and my siblings. He had such an incredible love for his job. My Nanny absolutely adored him.



Ananda Beach (Radford) - August 18, 2020 at 07:24 PM



“ Mr. Debosh was my PE teacher at Stafford Elementary school, and he was awesome. He was always full of enthusiasm, energy, and spunk - he made everything more exciting. He certainly was a bright light at SES.
My thoughts and prayers are with you, the Debosh family.
With deepest sympathy,
Jennifer Omundson

Jennifer - August 18, 2020 at 07:23 PM



“ Mrs DeBosh and family, I am so sorry to hear of Mr DeBosh's passing. He was my 6th grade teacher at Falmouth Elementary School and had such an impact on my life. He was a wonderful educator and a compassionate man. I was the shy girl in class and he always engaged me in conversation and encouraged me. He has left a wonderful legacy. Prayers for you and your family.

Lydia Christy Vinson

Lydia C Vinson - August 18, 2020 at 03:34 PM



“ Thanks you

jeanne debosh - August 23, 2020 at 12:57 AM



“ Carolyn Bologna Morrison lit a candle in memory of Joseph T. Debosh



Carolyn Bologna Morrison - August 18, 2020 at 02:15 PM



“ Such a bright shining light in everyone's lives. My very best wishes to Jeanne, Children, and all who will miss Joe. I've no doubt his light will continue to shine upon you.

Carolyn Bologna Morrison - August 18, 2020 at 02:20 PM



“ Debosh family, my condolences. Joe had such a quiet way about him, And as a fellow educator I could always see his love for children and I know he inspired so many; touched so many students and colleagues; and shared his love of life. I admire Joe's accomplishments and send my love and prayers to you all.

Renee Peyrot - August 18, 2020 at 09:05 PM



“ Thanks Carolyn
Joe will be missed

jeanne debosh - August 19, 2020 at 09:13 PM



“ I am so sorry to read this! I have fond memories of Joe! Thinking about all of you at this sad time, Love to all of you

mary S. Billi gsley - August 18, 2020 at 01:34 PM



“ Thank you

jeanne debosh - August 23, 2020 at 01:06 AM



“ Joanne DeBosh lit a candle in memory of Joseph T. Debosh



Joanne DeBosh - August 18, 2020 at 01:02 PM



“ Thanks aunt Joanne for the candle in memory of Joe

jeanne debosh - August 19, 2020 at 09:01 PM



“ Thanks Aunt Joanne

Joe would like the candle in his memory.

jeanne debosh - August 19, 2020 at 09:03 PM



“ My heart is breaking for you family. Losing a family member is the hardest thing to bear. I loved working with Joe. He always had the best outlook and a funny comment to add to any conversation. He will never be forgotten. Our prayers are with you to help carry you through this difficult time. I am truly sorry for your loss.
Heidi Johnson

Heidi Johnson - August 18, 2020 at 01:01 PM



“ Sending my love and prayers to Jeanne, Leah, Michael, Joanne, Delores and their families at this time of great loss, also to the many family members, friends, and former students and their families whose lives have been touched by the warmth and care of Joe Debosh.

Joe was my cousin, 16 years older, so for many years, to me he was just a cool dude showing up for holidays and family occasions. He was also my Knight In Shining Armor on one occasion when my friend's car broke down outside of Fredericksburg on the way home from VA Beach. He and Jeanne provided assistance, a place to stay, food, and a comforting, mature presence for me and my college friends.

As an adult, I got to know Joe's steadfastness and humor and his complete devotion to his family. We have all been blessed to have him in our lives. Kay Ziesche

Kay Ziesche - August 18, 2020 at 12:16 PM



“ Kay thank you for your memory

I was planning to read your post at his celebration of his life on Friday

These are the memories my children can relate to from family

These are stories I can tell my grandchildren about

Lea and Michael already know the story lol

Thank you for your memory love you Jeanne

jeanne debosh - August 23, 2020 at 01:11 AM



“ Jennifer Gismondi lit a candle in memory of Joseph T. Debosh



Jennifer Gismondi - August 18, 2020 at 11:59 AM



“ Uncle Joe would love the memory candle thank you Jennifer

jeanne debosh - August 19, 2020 at 09:14 PM



“ Jeanne, Lea and Michael

My deepest and heartfelt sympathy to all of you, I have many happy memories of Joey and with all the family things we shared growing up

I also remember Joey always would visit my parents when he came home, either from college, or when you moved to VA, he had so much love and respect for them

Praying for all of you and for Joey

Love,

Angela Fricano

angela - August 18, 2020 at 11:55 AM



“ Thank you Angela We will all miss him

jeanne debosh - August 19, 2020 at 09:16 PM



“ Sending my heart felt condolences to the family. Mr. Debosh was such a great person. He was my favorite P.E. teacher of all time at Stafford Elementary and years later he was also my daughters P.E teacher and was her favorite. We would often bring his name up in conversation. He is the best and will be greatly missed.

Phyllis Williams - August 18, 2020 at 11:47 AM



“ I don't have all the words to say about my brother Joe. He was always my "big" brother and there for me. He was my rock and sousing board, especially after our parents passed. He was there for me when my son was deployed, he walked me through buying my first car over the phone and helped me negotiate over the phone while I was at the dealer. I feel very blessed to have been there to be with him and his family when he passed. I will love you forever Joe, I couldn't ask for a better brother. I have to words to tell you how very much you are loved and will be missed. Rest In Peace brother, Rest In Peace. I know you are in heaven with mommy and dad. I know God welcomed you with loving arms.

Joanne DeBosh - August 18, 2020 at 11:28 AM



“ Aunt Joanne we will all miss him but he'll be looking down at us From heaven
jeanne debosh - August 19, 2020 at 09:18 PM



“ Sorry you cannot be there for his celebration of life but we will read you post memory of him
Jeanne
jeanne debosh - August 23, 2020 at 01:16 AM



“ Joe was one of the teachers that made me feel welcome when I arrived at Stafford Elem. Aric and I had nothing but the upmost respect for him. He was awesome. We will keep all of you in our prayers. Sincerely, Tara Miller

Tara Miller - August 18, 2020 at 11:25 AM



“ First my condolences to Joe's family. I will pray for your peace and comfort. I got to know Joe first, as my daughter, Andrea's P.E. teacher and then when I became the school social worker at SES. He always greeted me with a smile. He exuded a joy for life and for working with children. Joe will be missed by many. So glad I had the opportunity to know him. Rest in peace, Joe.

Vicky Butler - August 18, 2020 at 11:21 AM



“ Jeanne so sorry to hear of Joe’s passing!! Jan and I were very fond of you two!!Jan and Joe and Jan really Enjoyed teaching in StaffordCountyVA!! I know the heartbreak you are going through as my beloved Jan passed away last year!God bless you and your family during this sad time!! Ken “Chuckle” Sullivan

Ken Sullivan - August 18, 2020 at 11:01 AM



“ Chuckles I’m so sorry to hear about Jan we did not know about her passing last year Joe really doesn’t keep up on the news in Stafford Now they’re both looking down at us and watching over us

jeanne debosh - August 19, 2020 at 09:21 PM



“ I was blessed to know Joe in two ways. First, when he taught my sons and then when I started working at SES. He was truly a bright light....RIP Mr. D. You were loved by all.



Judy Yelverton Hickey - August 18, 2020 at 10:29 AM



“ So sad to hear about the passing of Mr. Debosh. He literally touched mine and my sisters lives and then all but 1 of our kids. He always cared and always loved the kids.

Roy N Kitty Plummer - August 18, 2020 at 10:10 AM



“ This is such sad news. I remember Meeting Joe for the first time as a parent of students at Stafford Elementary. The kids loved him. We worked together as colleagues for many years and then we visited from time to time after his retirement. Always lots of news and laughs. We will miss you Joe. Jeanne, Leah and Michael our thoughts and prayers are with you for peace during this time.

Pat and Tom Lusk - August 18, 2020 at 09:56 AM



“ Thank you Pat!
Jeanne

jeanne debosh - August 19, 2020 at 09:23 PM



“ I am so saddened by this news. Mr. Debosh was my PE teacher when I was growing up. He was such a wonderful man and loved by so many. When I was in college, I was subbing at Stafford Elem. and I was so surprised that he remembered me. When I was outside at recess with the students, one of the students "ran away" and Mr. Debosh saved the day and ran after the student for me. He touched many students hearts and will be missed by many. Praying for comfort for you all during this difficult time.

LeeAnn Wilson - August 18, 2020 at 09:21 AM



“ We are saddened to hear about our friend Joe. We lived next door to him and Jeanne for 15 years in Fredericksburg. I stopped by during construction of our house after work one day, and this friendly guy comes over and introduces himself. The next thing I knew, I was having dinner with them. That's the kind of neighbor Joe was. RIP my friend.

Gordon & Julie Combs - August 18, 2020 at 08:38 AM



“ Gordon and Julie
Thank you you guys were wonderful neighbors

jeanne debosh - August 19, 2020 at 09:25 PM



“ I am truly saddened to hear. Mr. Debosh was a wonderful, dedicated, loving, caring man. He taught PE to me and all 5 of my siblings along with a couple of the grandkids before retiring. My deepest sympathy to his family. May GOD wrap his arms around you for comfort and healing.

Sheryl Huppmann Brook - August 18, 2020 at 07:50 AM



“ Sheryl M Brooks lit a candle in memory of Joseph T. Debosh



Sheryl M Brooks - August 18, 2020 at 07:42 AM



“ Alma Withers lit a candle in memory of Joseph T. Debosh



Alma Withers - August 18, 2020 at 05:39 AM



“ Thank you for the candle in memory of Joe
Jeanne

jeanne debosh - August 19, 2020 at 09:26 PM



“ Joe,
May God bless and keep you and your family through the hearts of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Rest In Peace in God's Divine Mercy. Thank you for being my brother-in-law.
Char (Charlotte St. John)

charlotte st. john - August 23, 2020 at 06:01 AM