



Joseph James Harlin

May 19, 2016

Joseph James Harlin "Smokin Joe" passed away at St Thomas Rutherford Hospital on May 19, 2016 at 2:36 PM at the age of 82.

Joseph is preceded in death by his son, Joseph Daniel and several sisters and brothers. Joseph is lovingly remembered by his daughters, Barbara Porschakin and Debra Nemeth as well as their mother, Carmela Tackett; many grandchildren, and family and friends.

Joseph enjoyed cooking and hiking and people. Throughout the majority of his life he worked in the food industry which included employment at a Juvenile Detention Center in South Carolina as well as ROTC Camp in Idyllwild, California. Joseph had the gift of encouragement. Joseph retired from the food service industry and followed his dream of hiking the entire Appalachian Trail. The time spent on the trail allowed him to meet a variety of different people on the trail and in the towns along the trail in which he traded his skills for room and board.

There will not be a funeral service held. There will be a memorial service for his close friends and family members held at a future date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Appalachian Trail Conservancy; 405-886-0563 at www.appalachiantrail.org/home, in memory of Joseph Harlin, Trail name "Smokin Joe";

Arrangements are under the direction of Jennings and Ayers Funeral Home, 820 South Church St., Murfreesboro, TN 37130. 615-893-2422. Please leave online condolences at www.jenningsandayers.com.

Comments



“ Debra sent a virtual gift in memory of Joseph James Harlin



Debra - May 25, 2016 at 12:25 PM



“ Thank you Barbara for being there for Dad...his doctor appointments, being his advocate. Mom..you are an angel. After years of being divorced from Dad....you were there for him. Encouraging him, making sure he took his meds, cooking him dinners, getting him outside the 'box' to socialize and take walks. Its been a long journey. I am proud to say that, "THIS IS MY FAMILY". I have been blessed.

Debra - May 25, 2016 at 12:23 PM



“ My dad has always encouraged him. He would say why are you helping me. I would tell him Dad when I was younger you took care of me , now its my turn to take care of you Pop's. A sweet man, stubborn at times. But always willing to help someone else and encourage them. He would still take of his hat in a elevator if a lady was present or hold the door for someone. A true gentleman. I miss you pop's

Barbara Porschakin - May 22, 2016 at 08:29 PM



“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Liz Belwish-Sellers - May 21, 2016 at 11:18 PM



“ We love you Uncle Joe! Wish I had A rubberband to shoot all the way to heaven!

Liz - May 24, 2016 at 09:40 PM



“ I tried to post a note here twice and it does not seem to share. Uncle Joe was always our favorite. He made us laugh when we wanted to cry. He encouraged and listened to all our gripes! So thankful for the beautiful memories we shared throughout the years! Climbing the mountains with him and my brother Peter will always be my most favorite memory. Love you Uncle Joe. Thanks for the love you gave so freely. We will see you in heaven one day ready to dance!

Liz - May 29, 2016 at 01:25 PM



“ My uncle first, my friend second. I am so thankful for all the memories we share. You will always be in my heart. I love you Uncle Joe!



Liz Belwish-Sellers - May 21, 2016 at 11:09 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. Seems like the Lord needed alot of our loved ones here lately,,

Becky Flatt - May 21, 2016 at 08:11 PM



“ Will always remember sitting with him at Olympics and practice, listening to Mr. Joe's jokes and stories. He was such a fun person to be around. Will be greatly missed. God bless you in your grief Barb, Ben and family.

Connie Phillips - May 21, 2016 at 11:15 AM



“ Rest in Peace Uncle. My memories of you when we were young.
You always made me smile even when I didn't want to
You always had a joke for me
Even if it was a knock knock
I never saw you hateful or angry. I just never did
I saw you be gracious and kind to everyone. In front of me you never judged anyone.
You are one of the reasons my heart is open
I see no color
I help when I can
In my eyes you are a good man.

I will always have fond memories of
My Uncle Joe. Love You

Millie Cummings - May 21, 2016 at 10:41 AM



“ I saw Dad angry, lol...but, he wa my Dad. I also saw him so full of love he would cry. I've grown to love my Dad with all of my heart. I miss him. I miss his wisdom. I miss his hugs. I mis his smile.

Debra - May 25, 2016 at 12:12 PM



“ I miss you Dad

Debra - June 12, 2019 at 03:11 PM



“ I hope heaven is real, I hope you are with Joey, Aunt Margie, Aunt Carol, Aunt Josie....everybody. When it's my time...i hope all of you meet me again...right at the gate.

Debra - June 12, 2019 at 03:12 PM



“ My sincere condolences to the Harlin Family, especially to Barbara. You are a beautiful example of what it means to love and care for our parents. You served Pops well. May our Lord cover you, and your family, with his unflinching peace and love during this difficult time. Breathe in your eternal happiness "Smokin Joe". I know you are loving it!



Carla Maye - May 20, 2016 at 09:24 PM



“ Barbara Porschakin sent a virtual gift in memory of Joseph James Harlin



Barbara Porschakin - May 20, 2016 at 08:59 PM



“ Barbara Porschakin sent a virtual gift in memory of Joseph James Harlin



Barbara Porschakin - May 20, 2016 at 08:58 PM



“ Barbara Porschakin lit a candle in memory of Joseph James Harlin



Barbara Porschakin - May 20, 2016 at 08:55 PM



“ Dad and I had been able to reunite after many years of living in different parts of the Country. We were able to share the last seven years together...mending old hurts, understanding each other as mature adults. Nothing was left unsaid. I'd tell him "I love you Dad", he would always respond with, "I love you more"....and this last time I trumped that by telling him "I love you most". lol. He knew without a doubt I loved him. I know without a doubt he loved me. After all the ups and downs in life, I can say truthfully that my Dad had a good heart. He had many disappointments in his life, but he did enjoy the simple things. The important things that money can't buy. That's just one of the things I appreciated about my Dad. I love you most Dad. See you when I get there. Thank you for teaching me to see things in a different perspective. Lessons I won't forget. Stuff discussed between just the two of us. I love you Dad. I'm gonna miss your wit....and your hugs.

Debra - May 20, 2016 at 07:55 PM