



## Earl "Joe" J. Christian

May 16, 1943 - November 14, 2020

Earl Joseph Christian was called upon by God to return home on November 14th, 2020. He passed away in his home, surrounded by love and family after a long battle with cancer at the age of 77. He was born on May 16th, 1943 to Denver and Jennie Christian in Bay City, MI.

Joe lived most of his young life in Bay City, MI before joining and serving in the Army and would soon meet and marry the love of his life, Catherine Burrow in 1963. They began their life together and had 3 amazing children. Joe valued family above all else, but anyone who knew him understood his love for nature and all of God's creatures. He would take long walks with his best friend Larry, a loyal and feisty duck who would follow him wherever he went. He would often feed chipmunks that would come visit him on his porch, tend to the numerous bird feeders and always made sure the deer had a safe place to come and eat. He also valued working hard and retired as a welder from the UA Local 85.

Joe is survived by his wife Cathy Christian, his sister Lois Kruger and her husband Jerry, his two sons Jeff Christian and wife Mallory, Jon Christian and wife Chris, his daughter Pamela Govitz and husband Brian. He is also survived by his grandchildren Jared Govitz and wife Desiree, Zachary Govitz and wife Alex, Colby Christian, Conner Christian, David Christian, Kelly Christian and 2 great grandchildren, Noah and Finn Govitz. Joe was preceded

in death by his parents, Denver and Jennie Christian, sister Janet Wallaker and brother Bill Christian.

Per Joe's request, the family will have a cremation with no funeral services and will be kept with family. The family will hold a private memorial at a later time. Joe wished that everyone would remember the best times. In lieu of flowers, memorial gift donations in memory of Joe can be made to: The Clare County Veteran's Affairs at 225 E Main Street in Harrison, MI 48625 or the Clare County Animal Shelter at 4040 Hazel Road in Harrison, MI 48625. Arrangements were handled by the Clare Chapel of Stephenson-Wyman Funeral Home. On-line guestbook at [www.stephenson-wyman.com](http://www.stephenson-wyman.com)

# Tribute Wall

BC

“ Joe was a great guy and always jolly. I worked on many jobs with Joe as a welder. He will be missed, not a means bone in his body, RIP my friend.

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**Blaine Colbry** - November 19, 2020 at 06:10 AM

SW

“ So sorry to see the passing of Joe. We were neighbors and my son, Kent and Lynda are friends with Jon thru his wife, Chris, who is a relative to Lynda. Often wondered where Joe and Cathy moved to. We enjoyed chatting with them and were very nice neighbors. We will be praying for the family during this difficult time but sounds like Joe is at peace now. Rest in Peace, Joe.

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**Sandy & Clark Wentz** - November 18, 2020 at 12:28 PM

EM

“ Sending thoughts and prayers at the loss of Joe. He was special and close to my heart. I'm glad that he took time this summer to share some of his memories of his youth with us. He was always one to put a smile on your face no matter what.

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**Eloise Manyen-Cummings** - November 18, 2020 at 02:28 AM