



Joseph L. "Joe" Spear

July 7, 1941 - March 12, 2024

Joseph L. "Joe" Spear, 82, of Annville passed away on Tuesday March 12, 2024 at Hospice and Community Care in Mt. Joy. He was the husband of Barbara K. (Hickernell) Spear with whom he shared 57 years of marriage. Joe was born in Philadelphia on July 7, 1941 to the late Joseph F. and Marcella (DeMatt) Spear. He graduated from The University of Scranton and then obtained his master's degree from Bryn Mawr College. He worked with children and youth in social work for the State of PA. He was a parishioner of The Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Palmyra and was a member of The Knights of Columbus. He enjoyed woodworking, golfing, sailing, classic cars, and traveling the world with his wife. He was past president of the Harrisburg Region Austin Healy Sports and Touring Club and involved with prison ministry at Lewisburg Federal Penitentiary and Trenton State Prison. Joe greatly loved April Fool's Day and his wedding anniversary.

Surviving in addition to his wife are his children, Melissa K. Bird and her husband Kevin of Pine Grove, J. Mitchell "Mitch" Spear and his wife Debbie of Middletown, four grandchildren, Jacob Spear, Joey Spear, Katie Laverty, Drew Laverty, and brother, Robert Spear and his wife Sue of Willow Grove, PA.

A Memorial Mass will be held on Saturday March 23, 2024 at 12:00 at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 300 W. Pine Street, Palmyra. There will be a visitation with the family from 10:30AM-12:00 at the church. He will be laid to rest in Millbach Community Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to his church, in his memory for

the Presider's/Pulpit and Altar Server chairs.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 23. 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Holy Spirit Church
300 W. Pine Street
Palmyra, PA 17078

Memorial Mass

MAR 23. 12:00 PM (ET)

Holy Spirit Church
300 W. Pine Street
Palmyra, PA 17078

Tribute Wall

LT

“ Will always miss seeing him every year, love you guys!❤️ -Paula, Pat, Lexi, and Patrick Towey



Lexi Towey - March 30, 2024 at 12:02 PM

AL

“ Our deepest sympathy. Alison, Greg and Jacob Shuler



AlisonS - March 22, 2024 at 08:02 PM

DM

“ Joe has been a good friend for over 60 years when we were roommates at the University of Scranton, Since then so many dinners and lunches and visits that we shared with Joe and his wonderful wife Barbara were a constant source of fellowship and joy. Their children, Mitch and Melissa are a joy. Our prayers go out to them and to Barbara for their terrible loss. Will greatly miss you joe, While you are up there please say hello to my wife Jo Ann and tell her I will be coming soon. Denny McMahon

Dennis McMahon - March 22, 2024 at 05:08 PM

JC

“ A truly beautiful man, loving husband, father, and grandfather. His presence at St. Paul's has been missed. Always generous with his time and a pleasure to speak with. Plenty of fond memories working beside him at St. Paul's Summer Bazaar and seeing him man the Dice Wheel. Thoughts and prayers to Barb and the entire family. God bless him, may his soul, and all the souls of the faithfully departed, rest in peace, Amen!

Joseph Connor

Joseph Scott Connor - March 20, 2024 at 08:19 AM

CF

“ Colleen F. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph L. "Joe" Spear.

Colleen F. - March 20, 2024 at 05:54 AM

GK

“ Many years ago we met Barb and Joe Spear for the first time at an Austin Healey function, of course. This friendly, fun-loving couple asked if they could sit with us for dinner, we hit it off immediately and it turned into a lasting friendship. Joe was a kind soul and his goodness was felt by all that knew him. His humor was unstoppable and I will never forget his participation in a FunKhana. I watched him as he patiently waited his turn and completed the Healey course ...on his motor scooter. Who needed a car? The scooter was the hit of the day!

It breaks my heart to think of his beautiful family, and his Healey Family too, without him. However, he had given each one of us his love and we are lucky to have known him. God bless you, Joe, and thank you for being our friend. We love you.

Gerri & Steve Kirlin

Gerri & Steve Kirlin - March 19, 2024 at 04:19 PM

MB

“ Joe Spear was my husband (JerryBeurket)'s college room mate at the University of Scranton. One of my lucky days was meeting Joe Spear.

He was kind, generous, loving, caring and many other attributes! I was so very gifted to be a cherished friend with both Joe and Barbara.

My thoughts and prayers are with you. God Bless. Sistie Beurket

Mary M Beurket - March 16, 2024 at 09:36 PM

DH

“ Dave And Priscilla Hooper lit a candle in memory of Joseph L. "Joe" Spear



Dave and Priscilla Hooper - March 16, 2024 at 10:01 AM

ND

“ Barb...There is nothing harder than the loss of a loved one. Focus on all those wonderful years and good times you & Joe had together. I'm keeping you and your family in my prayers as you go through this difficult time.



Nancy Deiter

Nancy Deiter - March 15, 2024 at 06:01 PM

TK

“ Thomas K. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph L. "Joe" Spear.

Thomas K. - March 15, 2024 at 10:45 AM

MJ

“ Uncle Joe was the kindest man. I don't remember ever seeing him without a smile. He was generous and fun. He loved Aunt Barbara, Melissa, Mitch and his grandchildren with all of his heart. I know if ever there was a man who was welcomed home to Gods Glory, it is Joe Spear.

Mary Somerset Jans - March 14, 2024 at 07:21 PM