



Joseph "Joe" Charles Cavanaugh

DEC 8, 1931 - JUN 8, 2015



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Joseph "Joe" Charles Cavanaugh, 83, of Lewes, DE passed away on June 8, 2015 at the Delaware Veterans Home in Milford, DE.

Joe was born in Johnstown, PA on December 8, 1931. He was one of nine children to Rita and Thomas James Cavanaugh. After graduating from Nanty Glo High School in 1949, Joe continued his education receiving his undergraduate degree and Masters of Education degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy working as a torpedo man during the Korean War traveling around the world. For many years, Joe also served as a popular elementary school principal at Four Corners Elementary and Georgian Forest Elementary in Montgomery County, MD. After retiring Joe and his wife, Agnes (Gabor), moved to Lewes in 1989.

Even after retirement, Joe enjoyed staying active. He volunteered many years with Meals on Wheels, was a member of the American Legion Post 28 in Millsboro, the Elks Club, the Shawnee Golf Club and the National Horseshoe Pitching Association. He participated in the Horeshoe Pitching Championship in Maryland and Delaware. If not pitching horseshoes, Joe could be found on the golf course with his golfing buddies.

Agnes and Joe were married for 63 years, and enjoyed traveling together. Some of his favorite adventures were to Ireland, Yellowstone National Park, the Grand Canyon, Hawaii and Alaska. In addition to traveling the world, Joe enjoyed gardening, loved listening to music, especially '50's classics and dancing the Pennsylvania Polka!

Keeping him busy at all times were his six children and nine grandchildren. He was a devoted father and grandfather who enjoyed visits from his family when they traveled to Lewes.

In addition to his parents, Joe was preceded in death by his brother, George Cavanaugh and his grandson, Shaun Matlock. He is survived by his loving wife, Agnes Cavanaugh of Lewes, DE; six



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children: Jolene Matlock and her husband, Ray, of Frederick, MD; Roxanne Beal of Frederick, MD; Patrick Cavanaugh of Denver, CO; Michael Cavanaugh and his wife, Sydel, of Gaithersburg, MD; Kevin Cavanaugh and his wife, Mary Ann, of Mequon, WI; and Joseph Cavanaugh and his wife, Mandy, of Cumming, GA; his grandchildren who called him PapPap are Mandy Greene and her husband Marc, Kaylee and Brooke Beal, Christina, Katie and Jack Cavanaugh and Charlie and Will Cavanaugh.

He was a kind, gentle, loving, humble and caring soul who had the "Irish Gift of Gab" and never met a stranger he didn't call a friend. Throughout the years, there were several special friends that helped Joe in his later years, especially Don.

Friends may visit on Monday, June 15, 2015 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium, Atkins-Lodge Chapel, 16961 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958, where Military Honors will be held at 7:00 PM.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Tuesday, June 16, 2015, at 11:00 AM, at St. Jude The Apostle Catholic Church, 152 Tulip Drive, Lewes, DE, where friends may visit beginning at 10:00 AM. Interment will be held at a later date at the Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Millsboro, DE.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to the Delaware Veterans Home, 100 Delaware Veterans Blvd., Milford, DE 19963 or the Gull House, 38149 Terrace Road, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971.

Please sign Joe's guestbook located on this site.

[PDF Printable Version](#)




Events


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Interment

 **Monday**, June 15, 2015

 12:00 AM ET

 **Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery**
26669 Patriots Way, Millsboro DE





Tribute Wall

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PR

Pat Ray posted:

I'm so sorry to hear of Mr. C passing. I remember at Four Corners Elementary, I won the tie tying contest, and had to tie a 6' tie on Mr. C. Many laughs later, I got that dang tie on him. He was a lot to me and my brothers and sisters, and I know heaven is filled with laughter and love with him. Keeping your family in our thoughts and prayers.

October 9 at 5:21 AM

JM

Jerry & Pat Millward posted:

So sorry for your loss. Sending prayers to Agnes and her family. Didn't know till it was in the journal. Sincere sympathy Jerry & Pat Millward

June 27 at 8:00 PM

SC

Sandy And Larry Cooley posted:

We are so saddened to hear of Joe's passing. We have very fond memories of the years we spent together on Myer Terrace. We had some great parties! Joe was always such a caring sweet man and We know he will be missed by family and friends. Our thoughts are with all of you.

June 16 at 8:00 PM

SS

Sharkey, Diana And Josh Smith posted:

We are sorry for your loss. May God bless you and your family, may he give you strength in this time of sorrow.

June 14 at 8:00 PM

KH

Krista And Scott Hall posted:

Our thought and prayers are with your family as you celebrate the life of your father and grandfather!! Indeed a wonderful soul who will be sorely missed!

June 11 at 8:00 PM



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CM

Connie Manson posted:

My thoughts are with all the Cavanaugh family on the passing of your Husband, Father, and Grandfather. Rest well Mr. Cavanaugh.

June 10 at 8:00 PM

JC

Judi Cavanaugh posted:

In the silence of my heart, I am thinking of all of you and how very special your family is. Joe was a warm, funny, wonderful person whom I will always hold dear. My deepest condolences during this sorrowful time. Judi Cavanaugh

June 10 at 8:00 PM

LS

Lee Sirkis posted:

Agnes & Family, I will always have fond memories of our wonderful years at Georgian Forest Elementary (1974-1983). My last memories are from 4 years ago when you attended my 60th; seeing you both was one of the greatest surprises ever. Joe was a great boss and always made the school seem like an extended family. Thoughts & prayers of peace are with you.

June 10 at 8:00 PM

RS

Rhonda And Jim Santos posted:

Mrs. Cavanaugh and the Cavanaugh Family - Jim and I want to express our sympathy for your loss. I will always remember Mr. Cavanaugh welcoming me into your home with a glass of wine! I have lots of fond memories of visiting your home in Rockville! Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

June 10 at 8:00 PM

SC

Steven Cavanaugh posted:

Please accept our condolences and deepest sympathies. You are in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Uncle Joe was a great guy and he will definitely be missed. Once again, please accept our deepest sympathies for your loss. Love Steven, Tiffany, Claire & Christian Cavanaugh

June 10 at 8:00 PM



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Jack And Carol Fisher posted:

Agnes, Carol and I were saddened by the loss of Joe. I am happy that I had a chance to get to know him since we moved to Bay Breeze. I am sure he enjoyed how you cared for him and looked after him. You and your family will be in our thoughts and prayers. Jack and Carol

June 9 at 8:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Joseph by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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