



Joseph Patrick Thompson

March 17, 1943 - March 1, 2026

Joseph Patrick Thompson of Cadillac passed away, Sunday, March 1, 2026 at Munson Healthcare Cadillac Hospital. He was 83.

Joseph was born March 17, 1943 in Cadillac to Clark and Josephine (Sheridan) Thompson.

Joe graduated from Cadillac High School in 1961, and later earned his bachelor's degree in history from Wayne State University. Joseph taught middle school in Swartz Creek for several years, teaching history, geography and helping to coach the boys basketball team. He was then commissioned as a Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps, doing his basic training and OCS at Quantico. Joseph served as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps, 3rd Battalion 3rd Marines, India Company, during Vietnam, where he was shot in the head and back and "other places". He is remembered fondly for his irrepressible sense of humor, and the joy he took in simply being alive, following such a critical injury. Joseph moved back to Cadillac in 1988, to take care of his mother.

He is survived by his children: Stuart (Robin) Thompson of Atlanta, Georgia, Charlie Thompson of Cadillac, Alice (Herbert) Gualpa of Los Angeles, California; grandchildren: Josephine and Atabei Gualpa, Kai and Nia Thompson; siblings, Martha Lund, Harry (Chris) Thompson; his cousin, Doug

(Jill) Brown of Cadillac.

In addition to his parents Joseph was preceded in death by his brothers Tom, Dick and Jack Thompson.

Cremation has taken place and a celebration will be held at a later date at the Amvets in Cadillac. An online guestbook is available at www.petersonfh.com.

Tribute Wall

HM

“ My mother was a dear friend of Joey, I remember seeing him at the amvets often and we had him over to the house when I was younger. He always had a massive smile and was one of the happiest people I had met. He will be dearly missed by all his friends and family.

Hunter Maitland - March 22 at 07:00 PM

MB

“ I was so saddened to see Joe had passed away. Joe was always kind and made one comfortable to be in his presence.. ..He had such a sense of hu.mor that made one happy to be around him.. May God our father hold each each one of the family. close to His Heart to give them peace.. R.I.P JOE !!

Mary Bush - March 11 at 09:55 PM

PJ

“ I remember him always driving around in his mustang. R.I.P. Joe

Phillip Jones - March 11 at 08:28 AM

JH

“ One summer day my next door neighbors were not home, and Joe and Tim Meyer and I discovered a large floating batch of dead fishon the shore of Lake Cadillac. We discovered we could easily pitch many of them up on the roof of the Fellows' lovely home. Naughty but fun! And I smile remembering it! Joe was one of my dearest friends.

julie Daugharty Hirschfeld - March 09 at 04:13 PM

JG

“ *Kiaya and I always loved visiting with Joe at Curry House. Such a great guy with such a good sense of humor and wit! We had such delightful discussions about politics, current news happenings or just about anything. He was always so gentle with Kiaya and she loved his attention. We will truly miss him. Sending our love and prayers.*

Julie & Kiaya Gentry

ATD Therapy Dog Team at Curry House

Julie Raabe Gentry - March 08 at 07:36 PM

HT

“ *May you now rest in peace. You have suffered long enough. God bless you.*

See you soon, Harry.

Harry Thompson - March 07 at 11:58 AM

CK

“ *I am so sorry to hear of Joe's passing. He was a great man and would always enjoy going into the Amvets with my dad (Tom McKeever) and talking to Joe.*

Rest in peace!

SEMPER FI

Caroline Kelley - March 05 at 05:59 PM

FC

“ When I saw news about Joe Thompson’s death many, many memories ran through my mind. I grew up in Cadillac with his family.. Harry Thompson was my classmate. The Thompson family was a warm, joyful gathering. Joe always lit up the room with his presence, laughter and joy. Harry and I sometimes played Mass in the family den and drafted Joe to be the altar boy. A role he did not cherish.

Joe was a gift to everyone and a joy to be around. We were all blessed to know him. When in Cadillac I would often visit Joe at Curry House. I would feel bad when I left but was very grateful for the gift. He was a person of friendship and joy. Joe, thanks for ‘the all of it’.

Joe, may the wind be on your back and the sun on your face to warm you. May all those gone before welcome you home. May the angels and saints clap hands for joy. May the Blessed Mother welcome you and present you with a bouquet of fresh flowers and take you to her son, Jesus, who will present you to Almighty God. May Almighty God embrace you and welcome you home. He will say ‘Welcome home Joe. Welcome. I thank you for all the good you did, it did not go unnoticed. Your life was a good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over.’ Amen. Fr. Pat Cawley

Fr. Pat Cawley - March 05 at 05:11 PM



“ We came to know Joe while visiting at Curry House. What a guy! We loved his sense of humor and how he liked to give us a hard time. We enjoyed our visits and hearing his stories. He will be missed. "The Sunshine Ladies", Judy Slater, Rita Nixon, and Kathy Powers.

Kathy Powers - March 05 at 03:34 PM

JS

“ Sorry to hear about Joe's passing. Condolences to the family. Springberg family.

Jean Springberg - March 05 at 01:12 PM

KT

“ Hanging out with my Uncle Joe at his big 50th Shot In The Head Party! It was quite a celebration in honor of him. The whole town showed up, literally! I love him with all my heart and am going to miss him dearly 💔



Karla Thompson - March 04 at 10:45 PM

CH

“ 1 file added to the album Joe



Charlie - March 04 at 04:24 PM