



## Joseph Jaske

October 17, 1953 - April 30, 2026

Joseph D. Jaske, 72, of South Bend, passed away on Thursday, April 30, 2026, at Memorial Hospital in South Bend following an illness.

He was born on October 17, 1953, in LaPorte to the late Sylvester and Phyllis (Wheeler) Jaske. Joe lived a life defined by hard work, generosity, and a spirit that brought joy to those around him. A true craftsman, he previously owned and operated Ideal Interiors, where he dedicated himself to helping others improve their homes. He took great pride in his work and built lasting relationships through his honesty and skill.

Joe was known for having a heart as big as they come. He was the kind of man who would give you the shirt off his back without hesitation. His kindness, humor, and fun-loving nature made him unforgettable to all who knew him—many would say he was truly one of a kind, a true Legend!

He was widely known as a tremendous athlete. From playing basketball, football, and track. He and his brother Poss were known all over the county as the “Jaske Boys” and they were a true force to be reckoned with when they were together. Joe was recruited to play at Penn State, but family circumstances came up and he was not able to attend. He also almost tried out to be a Chicago Bear, but again family circumstances prevented him from a life in athletics that he could have had. He was also a member of the Koontz Lake Ski Club where he was the first to learn how to ski barefoot. Joe was also known for his love of golf.

Above all, Joe cherished his family. He loved deeply and spoke often with

pride about his daughter and sister, who meant the world to him. His greatest joy came from the time he spent with those he loved.

He is survived by his daughter, Janelle (Douglas) Wilkening; two granddaughters, Mabel and Edie Wilkening; and one sister, Patricia (Jimmy) Snodgrass.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Leonard "Poss" Jaske.

Visitation will be held from 1:00 to 5:00 PM EDT on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, at Rannells Funeral Home, Koontz Lake Chapel. Funeral services will follow at 5:00 PM EDT at the funeral home.

Joe will be deeply missed and forever remembered for his hardworking nature, generous heart, and the love he gave so freely.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 5. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Rannells Funeral Home - Koontz Lake Chapel  
7984 N. State Road 23  
Walkerton, IN 46574  
(574) 586-2120  
rannellsfh@mchsi.com  
<https://www.rannellsfuneralhome.com>

## Funeral Service

MAY 5. 5:00 PM (ET)

Rannells Funeral Home - Koontz Lake Chapel  
7984 N. State Road 23  
Walkerton, IN 46574  
(574) 586-2120  
rannellsfh@mchsi.com  
<https://www.rannellsfuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall

JW

“ Joe hired me at Ideal Interiors in 2000. I was a 1st year painter apprentice at that time. Through good and bad and In one~another's faces,at times, we accomplished great things!I was with him,Jay Seniff and Bruce Birchfield for 12 yrs. He was a great mentor to me. I was fortunate to work with him at Christman Construction before I retired in '24. God,bless him, for taking a chance on me. I still drive his '91 Chevy truck from Ideal Int.

jeff wiley - May 05 at 04:22 PM

TB

“ The Baumgartners purchased the Your Light Shines for the family of Joseph Jaske.



The Baumgartners - May 05 at 10:49 AM

TB

“ The Baumgartners planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph Jaske.

The Baumgartners - May 05 at 10:49 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joseph Jaske.



May 05 at 08:22 AM

MY

“ As we get older people tend to lose friends rather than make new ones. I've known Joe 5 years and can truly say I had made a new friend.

99.99% of people will never know the depth of his generosity. He was kind to a fault. He was our “Norm” from “Cheers”, where everyone was glad to see him at American Legion Post 357 and Fireman's 362. He loved talking sports, loved Da Bears and and would get passionate and discuss with like-minded people about world and local affairs. He loved his family, dogs and friends. Joe's passing has left a void in my life that'll stay forever. I'll always shake my head and wonder why when I think of him BUT I will also smile and remember the times we shared.

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**Michael Yarbrough** - May 05 at 08:02 AM

BD

“ Bellman Construction - Quality Drywall purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Joseph Jaske.



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**Bellman Construction - Quality Drywall** - May 04 at 05:38 PM

BD

“ Bellman Construction - Quality Drywall planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph Jaske.

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**Bellman Construction - Quality Drywall** - May 04 at 05:38 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joseph Jaske.



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May 04 at 10:12 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joseph Jaske.

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May 04 at 10:12 AM



“ Joe was my very best male friend in high school. I shared many great times with his family at Koontz Lake and loved them all. We tried to keep in touch every time I visited and I drove him nuts making him promise to attend our last reunion but he didn't make it and I genuinely miss that last hug and opportunity to say thank you my dear friend. ☹️🙏❤️

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**Dona Kesl Given** - May 03 at 10:24 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joseph Jaske.

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May 03 at 06:46 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joseph Jaske.



May 03 at 06:46 PM



“ Lala & Kaki purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Joseph Jaske.



Lala & Kaki - May 03 at 06:43 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Joseph Jaske.



May 02 at 10:23 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joseph Jaske.

May 02 at 10:23 PM