



Joseph Robert Cataldi

August 14, 1939 - October 17, 2025

Joseph Cataldi, a lifelong resident of southeast Michigan, passed away at the age of 86, surrounded by love and light.

Joe built a life defined by dedication, craftsmanship, and quiet strength, and was a devoted husband to his cherished wife, Rose, who survives him. Married in 1967, they built a beautiful home and life together, sharing laughter, playfulness and affection through all of life's many ups and downs - a strong and true partnership built on great resilience, unwavering support, and deep love, for over 58 years.

Joe was beloved by many friends and family including his brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, William (the late Ettia) Grima, John (Anne) Grima and nieces and nephews Michelle (Curt), Kristle (George), Billy (Brian), Sarah (Marc), Matthew and the late Tonya, and cousins Jenna (Steven) Frank Jr. (Julia), Linda, and the late Frank Sr., Lorraine, and Peter Cataldi.

Joe is also survived by his brother Bernard with whom he shared a strong bond and sense of humor, his son-in-law John Waggoner whom he loved dearly and greatly respected, and his daughter Candice, whose life was shaped by his wisdom, wit, and unconditional love. Whether laughing at inside jokes, discussing projects, or watching sci-fi, they shared a similar rhythm of life - two peas in a pod, as Rose would often say.

Joe was also the father of Dorothy, who passed away in infancy - he held her forever in his heart.

He proudly served in the United States Army, carrying with him a deep respect for service and country. One of his many joys was watching the military planes fly in and out of Selfridge Air National Guard Base, a sight and sound that always stirred his admiration.

He had a lifelong passion for woodworking and trains, along with an appreciation for architecture and technology. He found happiness in sketching designs, crafting and building, or just enjoying quiet nature. Joe had a kind, gentle spirit and a special place in his heart for animals.

In accordance with Joe's wishes, there will be no funeral services. Those who would like to pay tribute to Joe may make charitable donations in his name to Alzheimer's Association, or a favorite animal rescue, wildlife organization or veterans' support group, honoring his compassion for all creatures, and great respect for those who proudly served.