



Joseph Elmer Karges

August 3, 1942 - May 8, 2025

Joseph “Joe” Karges was born on August 3rd, 1942 in Detroit to Elmer and Margaret. Joe passed away on Thursday, May 8th, 2025 at his residence at the age of 82. Beloved husband of 54 years to the late Maureen (Moe) Karges. Devoted father of Kirk (fiancée Connie), Ken (Amy), and Keith. Proud grandfather of Brandon, Bryce, and Rorie. A steadfast friend to many.

To his family he was known as “The Great Provider”. He always put family above all. His grandchildren gave him so much joy in the later years of his life. He loved them to the moon and back.

His icon was John Wayne, and he followed the Duke’s code, “Talk low, talk slow, and don’t say too much.” He loved a good game of Euchre and also “shooting the moon.” And there was nothing like Road Trips to George’s in Kentucky accompanied by his best friend Mike and family vacations every summer up north, where he enjoyed hitting the links, relaxing with a Rolling Rock, and umpiring the infamous annual family wiffle ball games.

He was a loyal Chrysler man for 31 years, where as a marketing manager he worked on several Chrysler sponsored golf tournaments, getting to interact with golfers such as Tom Kite and Chi-chi Rodriguez and celebrities like Bob Hope and Alice Cooper.

Devout Catholics, he and his wife were devoted members of St. Therese, and before that St. Athanasius, where Joe served as an usher and as member of the Men's Club, where he earned Father of the Year.

Joe will be remembered by family and friends as a solid role model, loyal confidant, and a playful soul. Whether he was making sure to have his grandchildren's favorite muffins for breakfast or parade around in a shirt or hat that was gifted to him - he had a way of making you feel special and important. His life, his quiet determination, and his unquestionable love of his family and friends will live on in all of us blessed to have known this caring soul.

The lion sleeps tonight.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, May 15, 2025 from 2:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. with a 7:00 p.m. scripture service at the Wasik Funeral Home Inc., 49150 Schoenherr Rd. (n. of 22 Mile Rd.), Shelby Twp. Instate Friday at 11:30 a.m. until a 12:00 p.m. funeral mass at St. Therese of Lisieux 48115 Schoenherr Rd., Shelby Township.

Family would appreciate donations be made to the American Cancer Society, <https://donate.cancer.org/?campaign=default&lang=en>

Cemetery Details

Resurrection Cemetery

18201 Clinton River Road
Clinton Township, MI 48035

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 15. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home, Shelby Township
49150 Schoenherr Rd.
Shelby Township, MI 48315
(586) 532-8600
shelby@wasikfuneralhome.com

Scripture Service

MAY 15. 7:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home, Shelby Township
49150 Schoenherr Rd.
Shelby Township, MI 48315
(586) 532-8600
shelby@wasikfuneralhome.com

Instate in church

MAY **16**. 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Therese of Lisieux Catholic Church
48115 Schoenherr Rd.
Shelby Township, MI 48315

Funeral Mass

MAY **16**. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Therese of Lisieux Catholic Church
48115 Schoenherr Rd.
Shelby Township, MI 48315

Tribute Wall

TJ

“ We have known Joe and Maureen for so many years. Sweetest couple always and so kind to My parents always. They loved them both. After my Mom passed Mr. Kargas would continue to send cards to my Dad and put coins on my brother and Mom’s graves. Such a caring guy. We will miss seeing him around and my Dad will miss his dearest friend. Peace and prayers to this wonderful family.
xo

Love, John DeBano & Tammy and Bob Joyce.

Tammy DeBano Joyce - May 15, 2025 at 09:43 PM

JK

“ We loved Joe. He had a warm smile that brightened every room, great stories to share and always interested in getting updates about our family. As we are also raising three boys I feel we had a special bond together he understood the madness in our house and shared some hints from his experiences. He was an additional father to us. We will miss him dearly. Sending our thoughts and prayers to the Karges family.

Jon and Keri - May 15, 2025 at 02:57 PM



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

May 14, 2025 at 09:12 PM



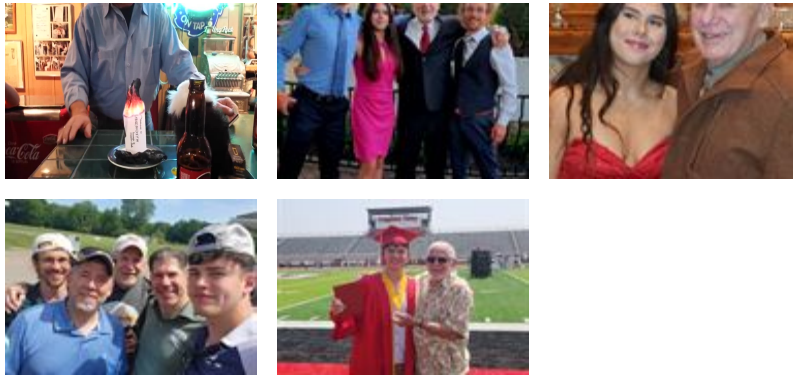
“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Joseph Elmer Karges.*



May 14, 2025 at 09:12 PM



“ *122 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Wasik Funeral Home, Inc. - May 13, 2025 at 05:34 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Joseph Elmer Karges.*



May 13, 2025 at 07:33 AM

LR

“ Love Elizabeth and Michael Rager purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Joseph Elmer Karges.



Love Elizabeth and Michael Rager - May 11, 2025 at 06:38 PM



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



May 11, 2025 at 12:28 PM

BK

“ Enjoyed working with Joe for all those years at Chrysler. Here's to good men everywhere. There's one fewer now. Rest in peace, buddy.

Bob Kirkwood - May 11, 2025 at 09:33 AM

JA

“ Josephine A. purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Joseph Elmer Karges.



Josephine A. - May 10, 2025 at 08:39 AM

KK

“ Joe was such a wonderful person with a huge and kind heart. I will miss the chats that we would have about his golf game, and his family and all the family trips and how much fun he would have and would be so excited to be with them and enjoy the time away. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends. RIP MY FRIEND....

Ken Kline - May 09, 2025 at 08:03 PM