



Joseph 'Joe' Franey

July 8, 1940 - August 17, 2024

Memorial Mass for Joe Franey, 84, of Cullman, will be Monday, August 19, 2024 at 10:00 a.m., at St. Bernard Abbey; Abbott Marcus Voss presiding. Mr. Franey was born July 8, 1940, to Joseph and Wilma Sherwood Franey. He passed away at his residence on August 17, 2024.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a daughter, Sharon Franey. Survivors include his wife, Betty Franey; son, Buddy (Tammy) Franey; daughters, Tress (Mel) Bailey and Kara Franey; grandchildren, Calie (Tyler) Franklin, Lucas Bailey, Brandon (Cecily) Miner, Joseph (Tess) Franey and Tucker (Lena) Franey; great grandchildren, Eleanor and Ivey Franklin, and Wood, Cross, Paislee, and Willa Grace Miner, sisters Rosemary Wigger and Betty Drury.

Joe was known for many things. Some may remember him as an incredible basketball player where he was the leading scorer for Catholic High School in Memphis TN and was All City. He met his future wife Betty at a high school basketball game in Nashville, TN. His athletic ability earned him a scholarship to St. Bernard College in Cullman Alabama where he was a star basketball player. After graduating from St. Bernard he pursued his Masters Degree in Education at Peabody in Nashville. He returned to Cullman with his wife Betty to coach the first soccer team in Alabama at St. Bernard College. His coaching career expanded at St. Bernard as he became the basketball and golf coach. In 1971 the St. Bernard golf team won the NAIA tournament. In 1977, he joined his best friend Mike Knight to work at R.E. Garrison

Trucking Company. Roy Garrison was an incredible mentor to Joe and helped him to learn the business that he and Mike would eventually own. Joe loved golf and he continued to pursue his love of the sport as he and Betty moved to Destin Florida.

He was known for his ribs – if you have ever had them then you know. As the Franey family grew, “Coach” became known as “Papa” to his grandchildren and great grandchildren. He was “Uncle Joe” to a host of nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flower the family requests donations to either charity:

Greagath-Franey Memorial Fund

C/O DHR Cullman

PO Box 990

Cullman, AL 35056

ECCAC – Emerald Coast Children’s Advocacy Center

PO Box 1237 Niceville, Florida 32588

C/O: Julie Sacco Porterfield

Cemetery Details

Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery

Cullman, AL

Previous Events

Memorial Mass

AUG 19. 10:00 AM (CT)

Saint Bernard Abbey
1600 St. Bernard Dr
Cullman, AL 35055

Tribute Wall

JF

“ Coach Franey was my soccer coach at St Bernard College from 1972-75. I enjoyed my years there and played on some very good soccer teams. I also roomed my 2nd year with Neil O'Donoghue who was an All-American and later an NFL kicker. Coach Franey did a great job coaching us!

I'm sorry to hear of his passing and condolences to his family.

*Joe Fenlon
La Plata, Maryland*

Joe Fenlon - March 17, 2025 at 07:34 PM

PM

“ Joe and Betty were dear friends of Bruno E Masotti, my husband & former monk of St Bernard Abbey. He was a good, kind, & caring man. Joe will be missed by many here. I pray he has a well deserved peaceful life in heaven. My sincere condolences to Betty & family.

Patti Maxwell-Masotti - August 24, 2024 at 05:44 PM

DR

“ Betty and family, I am so very sorry for your loss. I remember he called me Nu-Nu. Daddy just found out today and told me. You all will be in my prayers.

*Debbie Mead Ray
(Jerry Mead's daughter)
debbie.ray329@gmail.com*

Debbie Ray - August 22, 2024 at 07:21 PM

CB

“ Christine B. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph 'Joe' Franey.

Christine B. - August 19, 2024 at 09:59 AM

YF

“ Your Prophet Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph 'Joe' Franey.

Your Prophet Family - August 19, 2024 at 08:37 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Joseph 'Joe' Franey.



August 19, 2024 at 08:37 AM

TH

“ The Huffakers purchased the Heavenly Light for the family of Joseph 'Joe' Franey.



The Huffakers - August 17, 2024 at 05:14 PM

TH

“ *The Huffakers planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph 'Joe' Franey.*

The Huffakers - August 17, 2024 at 05:14 PM

MH

“ *Joe was a long-term colleague and friend at St. Bernard. -- Sending prayers and condolences to Betty and family.*

Michael P. Howley - August 17, 2024 at 04:35 PM