



John Joseph Benjamin

July 30, 1935 - November 7, 2025

John Joseph Benjamin (Joe), age 90, passed away peacefully on November 7, 2025, in Valparaiso, Indiana. Born on July 30, 1935, in Gary, Indiana, Joe lived a life marked by devotion to family, service to others, and a deep commitment to his favorite cause, the HHAC Hunky Hollow Club, supporting cerebral palsy in Northwest Indiana.

A proud graduate of the Emerson High School Class of 1955 in Gary, Joe entered the United States Navy shortly after graduation. From 1955 to 1957, he served honorably aboard his battleship in the Mediterranean Sea. His time in the Navy instilled in him a lifelong sense of pride that he carried into every aspect of his life. On leave from the military, he came home to marry his sweetheart, Jeannie Carr, and they just celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary in October.

Following his military service, Joe returned home to Northwest Indiana where he took over the family painting business. For 45 years, he led the company with integrity and dedication, proudly continuing a legacy that spanned three generations. Under his leadership, the business became a trusted name throughout the region.

Joe was deeply committed to giving back to his community. For over four decades, he was an active member of the HHAC Hunky Hollow Men's Club. His 45-year association with this organization was one of his greatest passions. He dedicated countless hours to supporting its mission of providing for individuals with cerebral palsy in Northwest Indiana. His tireless efforts and

warm spirit left an indelible mark on all who worked alongside him. He was so proud of the Center for Education, named in his honor, for his contributions. Above all else, Joe cherished his family. He is survived by his beloved wife of 69 years, Jeannie; son, Joe Jr. (Susi); grandsons: Jay Pierce (Katie) and Chadd Pierce (MacKenzie); one great granddaughter, Charlotte; brothers, Don Benjamin and David Benjamin; sisters, Rosanne Sharp and Delores O'Reilly; and numerous nieces and nephews who were touched by his kindness, generosity, and special handshakes.

Joe was preceded in death by his beloved daughter, Christy Lynn; his parents, Anna and John; and his older brother, George.

Those who knew Joe will remember him as a gentle soul who greeted everyone with a smile and made friends feel like family. His life was fulfilled by his vast group of friends, referred to as the Miller Mafia. He found joy in simple pleasures—playing cards with friends, hitting the golf course whenever he could, and spending treasured time with his grandsons, Jay and Chadd.

Joe's legacy is one of love, service, laughter, and unwavering dedication—to his country, his work, his community, and most importantly, to those he held dear.

May his memory bring comfort to all who knew him. A visitation will be held at Burns Funeral Home and Crematory, 10101 Broadway, Crown Point, IN, on Friday, November 14, 2025, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Funeral service will be held on Saturday, November 15, 2025, at 10:30 a.m. at Burns Funeral Home & Crematory, 10101 Broadway, Crown Point, IN. Chaplain Ryan Johnson officiating. Interment Oak Hill Cemetery, Gary, IN. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Joe's memory to Cerebral Palsy of Northwest Indiana, 22 Tyler Street, Hobart, IN 46342. www.burnsfuneral.com

Cemetery Details

Oak Hill

Gary, IN

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **14**. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (cst)

Burns Funeral Home & Crematory - Crown Point
10101 Broadway
Crown Point, IN 46307
(219) 769-0044
info@burnsfuneral.com
<https://www.burnsfuneral.com/>

Funeral Service

NOV **15**. 10:30 AM (cst)

Burns Funeral Home & Crematory - Crown Point
10101 Broadway
Crown Point, IN 46307
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<https://www.burnsfuneral.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ From The Zartman Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Joseph Benjamin.

From The Zartman Family - November 14, 2025 at 10:07 AM



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



November 14, 2025 at 10:07 AM



“ Mayte Medina- Glamour purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of John Joseph Benjamin.



Mayte Medina- Glamour - November 14, 2025 at 09:26 AM



“ Mayte Medina- Glamour planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Joseph Benjamin.

Mayte Medina- Glamour - November 14, 2025 at 09:26 AM

AN

“ Andre & Nina purchased the *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet* for the family of John Joseph Benjamin.



Andre & Nina - November 13, 2025 at 09:18 PM

WH

“ Warmest regards, Tommy and Autumn Hoke purchased the *Medium Dish Garden* for the family of John Joseph Benjamin.



Warmest regards, Tommy and Autumn Hoke - November 13, 2025 at 12:14 PM

KK

“ Kevin & Cristy Krakora purchased the *Ocean Breeze Spray* for the family of John Joseph Benjamin.



Kevin & Cristy Krakora - November 13, 2025 at 10:12 AM

KK

“ Kevin & Cristy Krakora planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Joseph Benjamin.

Kevin & Cristy Krakora - November 13, 2025 at 10:12 AM

TF

“ *The Donato Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of John Joseph Benjamin.*



The Donato Family - November 12, 2025 at 07:48 PM

TF

“ *The Donato Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Joseph Benjamin.*

The Donato Family - November 12, 2025 at 07:48 PM



“ *A Full Life was purchased for the family of John Joseph Benjamin.*



November 12, 2025 at 03:05 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John Joseph Benjamin.*



November 11, 2025 at 02:10 PM

FF

“ *Flamingo Family purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of John Joseph Benjamin.*



Flamingo Family - November 09, 2025 at 10:47 AM

SD

“ *Joe & Family my condolences on the loss of your father.*

Sandra Divich - November 09, 2025 at 09:56 AM

SC

“ *My heartfelt condolences to the family, Joe was loved and will be missed and thought of by all who knew him. He was a true friend over the years to my father through thick and thin and I always enjoyed his company when we'd bump in to each other at the Country Lounge and at numerous Hunkee Hollow events back in the day.*

Steven Cvitkovich Corey

Steven Corey - November 09, 2025 at 08:22 AM

RS

“ *My condolences to the Benjamin family*

Rob Schuckers - November 08, 2025 at 05:14 PM

JV

Sorry for your loss.... my prayers are with your family...

jose kiko velez - November 17, 2025 at 10:52 AM