



Gary "Joe" Cook

July 29, 1946 - August 17, 2019

Obituary

Gary Ronald "Joe" Cook, Sr. of Beecher, IL. passed away suddenly on August 17, 2019 in Tomahawk, WI. at the age of 73.

He was born in Chicago, IL on July 29, 1946 to the late Richard and Sally (nee Mitchen) Cook.

He is survived by his beloved wife Margie (nee Lloyd). They were married on October 3, 1964 at St. Stephens Methodist Church in Chicago, IL. That union produced four children he loved dearly – Nancy Ramirez, Gary, Jr. (Cynthia) Cook, Adam (Karen) Cook and Jason (Jodi) Cook. He is further survived by 14 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren whom he adored.

He leaves behind his sisters – Margaret (late Robert) Rosinski, Janet (Tom) Wilson, and Kathy (Don) Chrisman. Also two brothers – Richard (Gail) Cook and Dennis (late Lynise) Cook. His sisters-in-law Janet (Ron) Vuich and Judy (Albert) Antoniazzi and brothers-in-law Rocky and Robert Lloyd, and many nieces and nephews.

He was also preceded in death by a granddaughter, Janie Cook, a great grandson Aiden Ramirez and a brother, Raymond Cook, Sr.

Joe was born and raised on Chicago's south side. He started working at Verson AllSteel Press Co. as a machinist in 1964, and continued his employment there until they closed in 2001. He then worked at Power Brake Dies until his retirement in 2012. Joe and Margie lived in Dolton, IL for 33 years before moving to Beecher in 2002.

They bought a piece of property in 1979 next door to his parents on the Spirit River in Tomahawk, WI. They soon built a home there and enjoyed many summers fishing, boating and swimming with their family and friends. Joe loved his "Wisconsin House", and spent his last days there.

He also loved Beecher, where he and Margie became active members of their church and community. They were members of Zion Lutheran Church, where Joe served as a trustee for many years. Joe also played "Santa" for over 40 years, 12 of those in Beecher, and always enjoyed kids of all ages who climbed up on his lap. He was also a member of the Beecher Lion's Club, and in 2016 was their "Citizen of the Year".

Upon his retirement in 2012, he started working at Alecia's House, a food pantry that served Beecher and other nearby communities. He also cut grass at Fireman's Park. He loved that zero turn! His cheerful demeanor and spirit of volunteerism earned him the "Citizen of the Year" award in 2015.

His passing leaves huge holes in our family, Beloved Zion and the town of Beecher, all of which Joe was a vital part.

Visitation will be Friday, August 23, 2019 from 3 to 8 pm at Hack-Jensen Funeral Home. There will also be an hour of visitation starting at 10 am before the funeral service on Saturday, August 24, 2019 at 11:00 am at Zion Lutheran Church, Beecher. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Zion Lutheran Church 540 Oak Park Ave, Beecher, IL 60401 or the Beecher Lion's Club P.O.

Box 3, Beecher, Illinois, 60401.

To send flowers to Gary's family, please visit our floral section.

Tribute Wall

JK

“ My sincere condolences to all the members of the Cook family, especially Gary Jr. and Cynthia, on the loss of their father and grandfather. I pray that "Joe" will rest eternally in the arms of Christ and that the memories of their loved one will always be warm.

Jim Kubalewski - October 02, 2019 at 03:45 PM

ES

“ A TRADITIONAL FUNERAL BASKET was sent on August 23, 2019 With our deepest sympathy. Joe was a wonderful man and will be greatly missed. Diane & Gerry Muntges, Dottie, Bud & Daniel Dankert.

Expression of Sympathy - October 02, 2019 at 03:45 PM

EB

“ Deepest sympathy to you. God’s peace and comfort to you all!
Todd and Ellen Boecker

Ellen Boecker - October 02, 2019 at 03:45 PM

ES

“ A MOUNTAIN MEADOW PEDESTAL ARRANGEMENT was sent on August 22, 2019 A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity. Proverbs 17:17
May these flowers in some way help to express our sympathy and support sharing in your sorrow - McHargue Family

Expression of Sympathy - October 02, 2019 at 03:45 PM

ES

“ A SWEET AND WARM REMEMBRANCE PEDESTAL
ARRANGEMENT was ordered on August 22, 2019

Expression of Sympathy - October 02, 2019 at 03:45 PM

ES

“ A BALANCE EASEL SPRAY was ordered on August 21, 2019

Expression of Sympathy - October 02, 2019 at 03:45 PM

ES

“ A FEATHERY PALM PLANT was ordered on August 21, 2019

Expression of Sympathy - October 02, 2019 at 03:45 PM

SS

“ RIP Uncle Joe. You will be missed!!!

Sara Scheafer - October 02, 2019 at 03:45 PM

ES

“ A HOPE AND HONOR CROSS STANDING EASEL was sent by
Jake Lloyd and Kathy Giba on August 19, 2019

Expression of Sympathy - October 02, 2019 at 03:45 PM

LD

“ A candle was lit by Leslie Durr

on August 19, 2019 2:08 PM

Love to the Cook Family from the Durr's

Leslie Durr - October 02, 2019 at 03:45 PM

ES

“ *A GRANDMA'S GARDENTABLE BASKET was ordered on August 19, 2019*

Expression of Sympathy - October 02, 2019 at 03:45 PM

MI

“ *Very sad news. Joe was truly a gentleman, a family man and a great man to his community. A man of honesty, integrity and character. He will be missed. May you rest in peace, Joe.*

Mike - October 02, 2019 at 03:45 PM

ES

“ *A SPATHIPHYLLUM was sent on August 19, 2019Rip our favorite Santa. Our deepest sympathy ,*

Pam Hurley & family

Expression of Sympathy - October 02, 2019 at 03:45 PM

CC

“ *Dad, you will never be forgotten! You touched so many people's lives in more ways than you ever knew! We love you, Cynthia*

Cynthia Cook - October 02, 2019 at 03:45 PM

LC

“ A candle was lit by Larry Sanders Jr. (Sanders Services Corp.)

on August 18, 2019 2:16 PM

Joe you were a great role model and I am glad to be able to say you were my friend. Not only did your family lose a man made from gold, the town of Beecher has lost one of the past Citizen of The Year recipients that actually earned this title year after year.

Rest in peace Gary "Joe" Cook, you will be missed.

Larry Sanders Jr. (Sanders Services Corp.) - October 02, 2019 at 03:45 PM

LS

“ So very sorry to hear of Joe's passing. May God be with you and your family at this difficult time. Our thoughts and prayers are with you

Larry & Sherry Sanders - October 02, 2019 at 03:45 PM