



Joseph Andrew Soloducha

February 15, 1956 - November 21, 2021

Joseph A Soloducha, age 65, of Kansas City, MO passed away Sunday, November 21, 2021 at St. Luke's hospice house from recently diagnosed pancreatic cancer.

Joe grew up in Kansas City, MO. He attended St. Vincent's and St. Louis grade schools and Bishop Hogan High School, class of 1974. After high school, he served in the US Navy aboard the US Puffer SSN 652, a submarine stationed in Pearl Harbor, HI. After being honorably discharged, he began a career with the US Postal Service. He started as a letter carrier. Through snow, rain, heat and gloom of night, he delivered mail throughout Kansas City, MO. Before retiring in 2014, he spent several years as a supervisor, working in different stations. When asked for advice, he would usually reply "mail early, avoid the Christmas rush."

Joe was an avid Mizzou fan. At an early age, when his sons and grandchildren heard MIZ, they knew to reply ZOU – Go Tigers! He enjoyed watching the KC Royals, KC Chiefs, KC Kings, and KC Blades. He was in attendance for the 1985 I-70 World Series with the St. Louis Cardinals. He was thrilled to see two KC World Series wins and two Super Bowls wins.

Joe played many sports including football, soccer, basketball, golf and rugby. The challenging course at Pebble Beach was the site of his first birdie. His

most interesting stories were from playing rugby, first with Rockhurst College and then with the KC Blues. In basketball, he had a three-point shot that was automatic. At one of his homes, he removed a pool to put in a half court, which hosted several weekend games and one infamous fraternity party.

Joe cherished time spent with his family. At St. Thomas Moore grade school, he helped coach his boys in basketball and football. He also coached his sons' baseball teams for several years at Kansas City MO 3&2. Players could count on him to provide bubble gum and sunflower seeds in the dugout, transportation to games, practices that included a lot of running, and Slurpee's after a game. He always had time to help a player with their game or sometimes just to talk. Some of his fondest baseball memories were watching his son, Andy, pitch a no-hitter and, documenting the baseballs of his many homeruns. In football, he helped coach his son, Alex, to several grade school championships.

Besides sports, he was proud of Alex's chess and mathematic skills and Andy's musical and artistic abilities. Joe loved to cook. If you came to his house for a party, sporting event or holiday, you could always count on plenty of food. His Thanksgiving dinners were legendary, especially his stuffing. He enjoyed experimenting with recipes and always had several willing taste testers. Kathy brags that in 42 years, she may have prepared ten meals.

He and Kathy spent the last five years living full-time at the Lake of the Ozarks, specifically in Sunrise Beach, MO, mile marker 12.5. According to Joe, being on the water was the best place to be. Joe enjoyed fishing, boating, having a beer on his deck and watching "rush hour" on the water. The annual Fourth of July family vacation was the highlight of every summer. Grilling, smoking ribs, playing badminton on the deck, shooting fireworks off the dock, and simply enjoying our time together – great memories.

It was also the occasion for the family photo. Our first-year Joe decided everyone should wear a Hawaiian shirt. Since most didn't bring one, Joe outfitted everyone one from his extensive collection. Joe said a person wearing a Hawaiian shirt always looks like they're ready to celebrate.

He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Kathy, sons Alex (Susan) and Andy; grandchildren, Diana and Noah; sisters, Sophie (Sam) Harris and Rose Moore; brother-in-law, Pete (Cara) Campbell; sister-in-law, Connie (Dan) Biondo; father & mother-in-law, Bernard & Beverly Campbell; and his extended family who he adored.

Joe was preceded in death by his father, Andrew Soloducha; mother, Hellene Soloducha; brother, Ed Soloducha; and brother-in-law, Duane Moore.

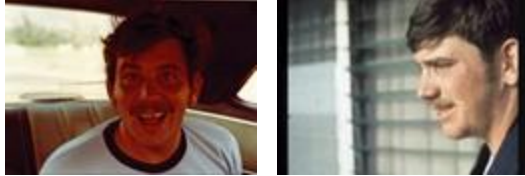
The family would like to thank the wonderful people who work with Saint Luke's Hospice and at Saint Luke's Hospice House. Their kindness gave us strength.

A Funeral Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Tuesday, November 30, 4:30pm at St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church, 14 W 75th St, KCMO 64114 with Rev. Thomas B. Curran, SJ presiding. A reception will follow in Seton Hall below the church until 7pm. To celebrate Joe, the family will be wearing Hawaiian shirts and invites everyone to join them. In lieu of flowers, we encourage donations to: St. Luke's Hospice House, 3516 Summit Street, Kansas City, MO 64111 or St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church (address above). Assistance by Funeral Advocates, LLC.

Tribute Wall

KK

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Kevin Kettner - December 05, 2021 at 07:35 PM

KK

Joe was shipmate of mine on the USS Puffer SSN 652. I considered him a lifelong friend. My thought and prayers go out to his family. RIP sailor, rest your oars.

Kevin Kettner - December 06, 2021 at 01:57 PM

DY

Oh man I was really hoping I would get to see Joe again sometime in the future. Someone who I really liked a USS Puffer mate. David Yepiz 03/30/24

David Yepiz - March 31, 2024 at 01:23 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joseph Andrew Soloducha.



December 01, 2021 at 04:26 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joseph Andrew Soloducha.*



November 30, 2021 at 01:23 PM



“ *9 files added to the album Memories Album*



Reflections Memorial Services LLC - November 29, 2021 at 03:57 PM



“ *Tom and Mary Hastings purchased the Beautiful i n Blue for the family of Joseph Andrew Soloducha.*



Tom and Mary Hastings - November 29, 2021 at 09:59 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Joseph Andrew Soloducha.*



November 29, 2021 at 01:59 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Joseph Andrew Soloducha.*



November 28, 2021 at 07:03 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Joseph Andrew Soloducha.*



November 28, 2021 at 05:56 PM

WS

“ Dear Kathy,

My prayers and support are sent to you at this time of sadness and loss.

Bless know of my prayers for you, Joe, and all who love him so dearly.

Blessings, Bill Oulvey, SJ

William Oulvey, SJ - November 25, 2021 at 09:42 AM

JL

“ Oh, Joe, a friend of my brother Gary Lofstrom, and our parents Dorothy and Al (Pete). I always remember your humor. My memory comes in 1978 when Gary, Joe, and Juan Garcia visited me in Chicago, where I had moved for a newspaper job. The three young men showed up at my apartment and took care of my car while I was working. They discovered my 1976 Cutlass didn't have water or oil in it. They took care of it and ensured the car was ready to go. Part of my job then was as a restaurant reviewer for the paper. So, the four of us went to the top of the Hyatt Hotel near O'Hare for a meal that became my weekly restaurant review. Gary reminded me as we recently talked about this event that the men were supposed to wear jackets, which I didn't know when we showed up. But - we went ahead without jackets for dinner and had a wonderful time, including an appetizer of escargot. I also had Gary and Joe over for dinner one night after I was married and renting a house in Praire Village. I had too many radishes in the salad, which made them both laugh and drink a lot of water. I had not seen Joe in many years, but he is someone who I will never forget growing up on 59th St. and at our house with Gary over the years. We will miss you, Joe.

Joyce Lofstrom - November 24, 2021 at 09:31 AM

AA

Sorry to hear about my friend Joe. We served on the USS Puffer SSN 652 Submarine at Pearl Harbor Hawaii. We were room mates for a while when we were in port. We played a lot of sports too. He was a good mas, good friend and great comrade. RIP Joe. Augie Abel, atd72@verizon.net I have also sent word out to other members of our boat

Augie Abel - November 27, 2021 at 04:01 PM