



John Joseph Fitzgerald

October 30, 1936 - May 16, 2020

Albany - John Joseph Fitzgerald, 83, passed away peacefully at his home on Saturday, May 16, 2020.

Joe is survived by his high school sweetheart and wife of 55 years Denise Fitzgerald (Domagalski), his daughter Laura and her husband Mike Butler, his sons Brian and Matthew Fitzgerald, his son Eric Fitzgerald and his partner Hope Bough, his son Sean Fitzgerald and his wife Ellen and their children Madeline, Grace and Catherine, his brothers Mark and Tommy Fitzgerald, and his sisters Mary Anne Ruf, Margaret Mary Neiles, and Rose Fitzgerald Wolfe.

Born at Brady Hospital in Albany on October 30, 1936, Joe was the loving son of John Joseph and Ruth Murphy Fitzgerald and fondly remembered his boyhood in Albany's Delaware Avenue and North Albany neighborhoods. After dropping out of high school, Joe enlisted in the U.S. Army, serving honorably from 1954 to 1957 as a communications specialist. Upon his discharge Joe enrolled in Cardinal McCloskey High School in Albany, graduating with honors and a full scholarship to Siena College in Loudonville, NY.

Joe worked as a research biologist for Sterling Winthrop Research Institute in

East Greenbush, NY for 30 years, then took on a second career working security at St. Peter's Hospital in Albany until his retirement last year.

Joe celebrated his Irish American heritage and his neighborhood pride as a longtime member of the North Albany Limericks, serving as Grand Marshal of the City of Albany's St. Patrick's Day Parade in 1996. Joe was a talented artist and freelance cartoonist whose work will be cherished by his family, friends, and coworkers. Joe's passion for physical fitness was well known and he could often be seen jogging or riding his hopelessly outdated single speed bike throughout the streets of Albany. An avid reader and student of history and politics, Joe's frequent Letters to the Editor of the Albany Times Union offered his opinions and insights on a wide range of topics.

More than anything, Joe was a devoted father, grandfather and husband who loved spending time and having fun with his family. He will be remembered by his children and grandchildren for countless visits to playgrounds and museums, hikes in the woods, far flung road trips, and for always being there whenever you needed him.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the family will hold a private service at Lasak & Gigliotti Funeral Home in Albany. Friends and family are encouraged to visit www.LGfuneralhome.com to share a memory or to send condolences to Joe's family.

Tribute Wall



“ *Lasak & Gigliotti Funeral Directors created a Tribute Video in memory of John Joseph Fitzgerald*



Lasak & Gigliotti Funeral Directors - May 20, 2020 at 03:17 PM

D(

Denise, Sean and family. I am so sorry for your loss. Joe was a wonderful, caring, funny neighbor and friend. I loved our conversations and laughs. I will miss him dearly. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. May God comfort and bless you during this difficult time. If you need anything please reach out to me. Xxoo

Donna Bullinger (Goitz) - May 24, 2020 at 05:37 PM

PW

“ *Denise & family*

I am sorry for the loss of Joe, husband, father, grandfather.

It has been mention that Joe is one of a kind, I could not agree more.

I remember 4th of Julys at Uncle Joe's. Husbands playing pinochle, wives cooking dinner and us kids setting off firecrackers, cherry bombs and M-80s under the "loose" supervision of Joe. He showed us how to blow up pears, ant hills, the burn barrel.

Phil Wilk

PHILIP Wilk - June 06, 2020 at 11:14 AM

KM

“ Joe was one of a kind -- smart, funny and always ready to help. Many great memories of jokes and especially wonderful drawings. We still have and we cherish some of Joe's work. Our favorite is the one entitled "racy matrons" which depicts nurses hanging out at the nurses station. Denise, would love to see you but lost phone no. Ours is 518-859-2510. We moved to 7 Greenbrier Way, Halfmoon last year so all info change. Love and prayers for you and the kids. Kathy and Henry

Kathleen Marsch - May 22, 2020 at 04:47 PM

BC

“ Spent many a night in the Security Annex talking to "fitz" about so many topics from history, art, to current events and politics to pop culture. Great guy. I'll miss him.

B. Coye - May 20, 2020 at 01:36 PM

BF

“ Much too much to remember from a friendship of over sixty years. Fortunately we got to share many of those memories over the past months. All my sympathies go out to Denise and the rest of the family.

Bill La Fleur - May 20, 2020 at 12:25 PM

JM

“ Denise and Family, sending sympathy to you. So sorry. -Jeanne and Dennis McDonald

Jeanne & Dennis McDonald - May 19, 2020 at 11:10 AM

J.

Joe, good guy, no doubt.

J.Woodger - May 19, 2020 at 07:06 PM

AB

Denise and family, we are thinking of you and your family, and sending caring thoughts your way to support you through this. The elegant video says it all - Joe will always be remembered. He impacted the world in so many beautiful ways. They will be remembered with love and joy forever. It is often hard to find the right words at a time like this. May you all find peace, comfort, and all the love you need in the days to come.

Antos and Pat Bilski

Anthony Bilski - May 21, 2020 at 12:29 PM

JM

Denise, Tom and I both are touched by the video which bring back so many good memories.

*Your neighbor of many years
Tom and Joyce Martin*

Joyce Martin - May 22, 2020 at 09:25 AM



“ *Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of John Joseph Fitzgerald.*



May 19, 2020 at 11:04 AM