



Joseph T. Kunce

December 14, 1928 - December 15, 2017

Joe Kunce

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Kunce, Joseph Tyree, of Columbia, Missouri, was born on December 14, 1928 in Kirkwood, Missouri, to Ralph Waldo and Mabel Enid (nee Warren) Kunce, and passed away on Friday, December 15, 2017, at his residence in Columbia, Missouri, at the age of 89 years and 1 day.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Harriet Joan Kunce (nee Himebaugh), his parents and four siblings, Ralph Waldo Kunce, Jr., Henry Warren Kunce, Mabel Enid Gibby and Susan Lee Erickson.

He is survived by three children, Jeffrey J. Kunce, Karen J. Rubio (Brad Lane), and Linda J. Kunce (Mike Cheavens); eleven grandchildren, Lucas, Alice, Warren, Ellen, Mercedes, Terra, Gloria, Anna, Sophia, Patrick and Derek; nine great-grandchildren, and many other relatives and friends.

Joe was a caring and thoughtful person who devoted his life to his wife, family and career. He was an army veteran, a professor of counseling psychology at the University of Missouri--Columbia, and a leader in the field of personality assessment research. His genuine desire to assist others find their life paths made him a superb mentor for his family and many graduate students.

Joe had a spirit of adventure, whether it was sailing, camping, designing a log home with his wife Joan, or traveling in the United States, Europe and Mexico.

He loved animals, having many pets throughout his life, and enjoyed spending time at his farms north of Columbia, riding horses, gardening and driving his tractor. He also loved painting, playing the piano, and listening to ragtime music. Joe was quick-witted, had a dry humour, and was always ready with a pun or joke. In retirement, he enjoyed playing golf and pool or having a cup of coffee with his friends, and continued his scholarly work for many years.

Joe was actively involved in the life of the church and, in recent years, he was a member of Trinity Presbyterian Church in Columbia, Missouri. He is dearly loved and will be remembered for his lasting examples to live by: his charm and kindness, his devotion, and the work he put into each relationship.

A celebration service is Monday, December 18, 2017 at 4:30 p.m. at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Columbia, MO. Visitation and service is Tuesday, December 19, 2017 12:00 - 1:00 pm at CHAPEL HILL MORTUARY, 10301 Big Bend Road, Kirkwood, Missouri. Memorial donations can be made in honor of Joe to the Alzheimer's Association or Trinity Presbyterian Church: Brotherhood Fund, 1600 West Rollins Rd., Columbia, MO 65203. Family and friends can review and share stories, photos and condolences online at www.sulfuneral.com.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

DEC 18. 4:30 PM (CT)

Trinity Presbyterian Church
1600 West Rollins Road
Columbia, MO 65203

Visitation

DEC 19. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Chapel Hill Mortuary - Kirkwood
10301 Big Bend Road
Kirkwood, MO 63122
(314) 965-8228
info@stlfuneral.com
<https://www.stlfuneral.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Joseph T. Kunce*

January 06, 2023 at 10:46 PM



“ *Joe mentored me as a researcher during the two years I worked as a psychologist in the University of Missouri Medical School. I found him to be a kind, patient, and generous teacher. I remember him fondly and owe him a great deal!*

ROBERT MCMAHON - September 08, 2022 at 10:16 PM



“ *This man changed my life and ministry. He took me as a newly ordained Methodist minister and gave me the opportunity to be his student for three years and obtain a doctorate in psychology. My work of 25 years in the Department of Veterans Affairs taking care of combat vets and 20 years teaching and working with students and patients in other public settings is in large part due to his belief in me and what I could accomplish. Dear Joseph, I look forward to seeing you again. Stephen H. Getsinger, PhD. ThM.*

Dr. Stephen Getsinger - April 04, 2019 at 06:41 PM




“ *I remember Dr. Kunce as a wise and caring instructor, researcher, and mentor. He played a significant role in my training as a psychologist. I grieve his passing.*

Michael Stevens - January 10, 2018 at 12:03 PM

BA

“ I used to be your parents next door neighbor (for many years) and recently moved to Wisconsin. I occasionally look at the Tribunes site to catch up. I just saw your Dad's obituary and was stunned to see your Mom had passed in July. My condolences to all of you. Your parents were so dear, so kind, and such gentle people. My thoughts and prayers are with you and may they rest in peace.


Bonnie Allard - December 30, 2017 at 09:35 AM


Michelle
Flowerree

“ My deepest Condolences to Joe's family. He was so special to me. Gods speed Joe



Michelle Flowerree - December 24, 2017 at 07:42 PM


Michelle
Flowerree

“ Joe loved going to eat at Honeybaked Ham, and each time I pass by I will think of him, and the good times we had.

Michelle Flowerree - December 24, 2017 at 07:38 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joseph T. Kunce.



December 21, 2017 at 02:11 PM

MS

“ I remember visiting Mr and Mrs Kunce at their farm when they had their horses with their nephew and good friend Jim Kunce. My condolences to the family. He will be missed

Mike strong - December 20, 2017 at 07:52 PM