



Theodore "Ted Drewes" Raymond Drewes Jr.

February 17, 1928 - August 26, 2024

Theodore Raymond Drewes Jr., known to many as Ted Drewes of St. Louis, Missouri, was born February 17, 1928 in St. Louis, Missouri to Theodore Sr. and Mildred (nee Schaefer) Drewes and entered his heavenly home on Monday, August 26, 2024 at the age of 96 years.

He is preceded in death by his parents Theodore Sr. and Mildred (nee Schaefer) Drewes; daughter, Debra Katherine Drewes; sisters, Dolly (Bob) Hoyer and Margie (Fred) Aussieker; brother-in-law, William Gray.

He is survived by his loving wife Dorothy Jane Drewes; daughters, Christy (Travis) Dillon and Cynthia (Kirk) Verseman; grandchildren, Esq. Lauren (Dr. Todd Richardson) Verseman, Kristin (Zachary) Bodendieck, Drewes Verseman, Bryan (Kristen) Dillon, Joshua Dillon and Rebecca (Andrew) Scott; great grandchildren, Teddy Bodendieck, Quintin Bodendieck, Rose Bodendieck, Desmond Dillon, Kai Dillon, Bruce Dillon, Kaylee Scott, Dillon Scott and Esther Scott; sister, Joan Gray; sister-in-law, Judy (John) Rodden; along with numerous other nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family and dear friends.

A native son of St. Louis, Ted loved the city that he called home his entire life. He will forever be remembered for his unwavering love for his faith, family and city. Born and raised in St. Louis, Ted Jr. carried on the legacy of his father,

Ted Drewes Sr., by operating Ted Drewes Frozen Custard for over 60 years and starting the Christmas tree business in the early 1950's. Under his leadership, the family business became a household name, a cherished tradition for locals and visitors alike. Whether at a Muni show, the symphony, a Cardinals game, or simply enjoying a summer night, generations of St. Louis families have delighted in the frozen custard that has become synonymous with the city, thanks to Ted's dedication and passion.

In 1997, Ted entered semi-retirement, but true to his all-in nature, he embraced his new chapter with the same vigor that defined his life. He was a man who gave his heart fully to everything he pursued, whether it was serving his community, his family, or his church. His deep connection to St. Louis was mutual—just as St. Louis was a big part of Ted Drewes, Ted Drewes became an integral part of the city's cultural fabric. His legacy will live on through the memories shared over cones and cups, a symbol of warmth and tradition that will continue to bring joy to generations to come.

A Celebration of Life will be held for friends and family to join Saturday, September 14, 2024 at 11:00 am at Concordia Seminary - 801 Seminary Place, St. Louis, MO 63105 in The Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to Historic Trinity Lutheran Church in St. Louis, Missouri. In honor of Ted, the custard stand will be closed on Saturday the 14th for all to attend the service. Arrangements under the direction of Chapel Hill Mortuary. Family and friends can review and share stories, photos and condolences online at www.stlfuneral.com and follow details of this event and others in the community at www.facebook.com/stlchapelhill.

Cemetery Details

Chapel Hill Mortuary - Kirkwood

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

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

SEP 14. 11:00 AM (CT)

Concordia Seminary
801 Seminary Place
St. Louis , MO 63105

Tribute Wall



“ *I forgot to ask this question: Did anyone ever get married at Ted Drewe's over the years?* ”

Rosemary Morgan - September 20, 2024 at 10:07 PM

RM

“ I am sending my prayers and condolences to the entire Ted Drewes Jr.'s family. Ted Drewe's was so much more than a custard shop but a memory icon in which you could savor the best custard and share any occasion there celebrating with your friends and family. I remember stopping there to enjoy the velvety richness and honey flavor and would see a whole group of people exiting a tour bus onto the Drewe's lot to experience the iconic treat. Or I would observe a school bus unloading students there on a stop from a field trip excursion. Over the years, I had observed wedding party members, excited and gorgeously-attired prom couples, joyous high school graduates, and St. Louis celebrities relishing the joyful and satisfying experience. Also, I can recall seeing many non-Missouri license plates on the parking lot. I never saw anyone without a smile of anticipation while awaiting the arrival of their order.

And Christmas wouldn't be the same for me without seeing the Drewe's shop transformed into a Christmas tree lot. And the added benefit of eating custard while perusing the trees. I loved walking through the aisles of trees and inhaling the especially aromatic scent of the balsam fir trees.

I hope and pray the Drewe's tradition will continue for the next generations.

Thank you for making my life sweeter with all of the memories!!!

Rosemary M.

Rosemary Morgan - September 20, 2024 at 10:02 PM

WS

“ My family lived next door to Ted Drewes, Sr. (and Ted Drewes, Jr. when he was a kid) on Salome Avenue in Pine Lawn. I was only four when we moved across Natural Bridge Road to Manola Avenue, but my older sisters held fond memories of Ted Jr.

As an avid Cardinals fan since I was a kid and growing up in St. Louis, I also, of course, was well aware of Ted Drewes Frozen Custard. My father, the pastor of Nelson Presbyterian Church on Natural Bridge Road, made me aware of the first location of the Frozen Custard stand and of the tennis prowess of Ted Drewes, Sr.

Living in Jefferson City since 1980, our trips to the custard stand were limited but two stand out in my mind. Once I took our five children there and asked if Ted was there. The young lady told me he was and told him. He recognized the last name and came out to graciously meet and greet me and our children.

The other time was in the company of John Ashcroft while he was Attorney General of the United States. Having shared a modest pizza dinner with a group of us who had worked with or under him when he was Governor of Missouri, John said we needed to go the Ted Drewes for frozen custard for dessert. A motorcade of five vehicles proceeded from Clayton to Ted Drewes, did a U-Turn in front of the custard stand, and we filed out of our vehicle to get in line to order, in the midst of quite a crowd of curious customers. The dessert was absolutely delicious, of course, and the experience a precious memory.

God bless the Ted Drewes family on your loss. May the peace of God, which surpasses all human understanding, guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:7)

Bill Steinmeier
Jefferson City.

William D Steinmeier - September 15, 2024 at 07:33 PM

DS

“ My wife and I learned of Ted Drewes years ago and met him while buying both custard and Christmas trees. Later we met the Drewes at Trinity Lutheran and considered them friends. I offer heartfelt condolences to the whole family. Ted will be missed by many, many people. Don Strohmeyer

Don Strohmeyer - September 09, 2024 at 09:11 PM

DS

“ Ted Drewe’s is a favorite place of my family for 7 decades. It is a wonderful treat any night of the year. Donna S



Donna S - September 06, 2024 at 04:39 PM

JC

“ Spent many and evening after ordering our ice cream he sat on the hood of our cars with our friends and boyfriends girlfriends family on the parking lot. What a wonderful memory we had a part of the 60s and early 70s memories for me and have gone back many times over the years, thank you Ted and May God bless you richly in heaven

julie Sonnenschein Concagh - August 31, 2024 at 08:55 PM

DK

“ I grew up in St. Louis and lived there from the '50s to the late '80s before moving to Denver. Life would not have been the same without Ted Drewes! We would ride our bicycles to the Grand Avenue store when we were kids, and drive to the Chippewa store as teens after games and on the weekends. Later on, my fiance, now my wife, would go every Saturday to Grecian Village, have a gyro, and then head straight to Ted Drewes for dessert. Now, when we come back to visit family, the trip isn't complete unless there's a stop at "Drewes!" Even our 32 and 34-year old sons can't make a trip back to St. Louis without stopping and getting a Concrete! Ted helped and was inspirational to so many. The word "legacy" is an understatement. Ted Drewes was family!

Don Kalil - August 29, 2024 at 04:25 PM

KJ

I remember Ted & his family from Grace Lutheran Church. Such a kind & wonderful family

Kathy Johnson - August 29, 2024 at 07:16 PM

BK

“ Our condolences to the Drewes family for your lose, Ted was a man of faith and a man of generously. Jan & Bob Kraemer, Trinity Lutheran Church Soulard

Bob & Jan Kraemer - August 29, 2024 at 01:28 PM