



Joseph Bergen Merrill

DEC 2, 1999 - JAN 31, 2017



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Joseph Bergen Merrill, 17, passed away on January 31st, 2017. He is survived by his parents, Richard and JoClaire Merrill, his brothers, William and Tommy Merrill, and loving grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. Joe was a junior at St. Benedict at Auburndale High School where he ran cross country and played lacrosse. He loved his school, his friends, and he was a loyal son and brother. He also leaves his girlfriend, Emylee Enright, whom he described as his “best friend.” Joe will always be remembered for his quick wit and his lively conversational abilities. The family would like to thank the staff and students of St. Benedict at Auburndale for their prayers and ongoing support during this difficult time. We would also like to thank the priests and staff at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church for being ever present when we needed them. Lastly, our profound gratitude is extended to the skilled and compassionate staff of Regional One Health, all of whom worked diligently to return our son to us. Visitation will be held at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Saturday, February 4th, from 10:00-11:00am, with a funeral mass immediately following at 11:00am. Interment will follow at Memorial Park Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts can be made to St. Benedict at Auburndale High School, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, St. Francis of Assisi School, or Regional One Health. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Memorial Park Funeral Home and Cemetery, 5668 Poplar Ave., Memphis TN 38119 (901) 767-8930. “Celebrating Life....Behind the Stone Wall.”



Tribute Wall

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JS

Jeannette Sutton posted:

We, back at your old church home, are so saddened to hear of this tragedy. All the comments indicate that you raised Joseph up righteously and he demonstrated his beliefs to others. Keeping you and the boys in my thoughts and prayers.

February 8 at 5:29 AM

JG

Joanne Guasco posted:

JOE was one of my FAVORITE guys ever! Being his substitute teacher was a privilege! Love him and his precious smile and wonderful eyes! What a handsome young man. My heart and prayers are with your family! God bless you all! RIP ange!! Fly high!!

February 6 at 2:36 PM

SS

Susan Stjohn posted:

My son joined the LAX team this year and he's the youngest on the team. He was impressed with your son and how kind he was to him. It is a great loss to us all. Susan St John

February 6 at 8:50 AM

LJ

Linda Jarmulowicz posted:

Keeping you in my heart and thoughts.Linda Jarmulowicz

February 6 at 8:46 AM

RA

Randall posted:

May God be with the family in this time of sorrow. My family and I will keep you in our prayers.Randall Tatum

February 4 at 4:33 AM

MS

Mr. And Mrs. Charles S. Sullivan Jr. posted:

Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Sullivan Jr. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Joseph Bergen Merrill.

February 3 at 9:16 AM



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DS

Deborah Spencer posted:

Richard, Jo Claire and family, I am so very sorry to hear this. My prayers and thoughts are with all of you at this very difficult time. God Bless.Sincerely, Deborah Spencer City of Memphis, Engineering

February 3 at 6:01 AM

MP

Memorial Park posted:

Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Joseph Bergen Merrill.

February 3 at 5:50 AM

DE

Dee posted:

Jo Claire and Richard, I am so sorry for the loss of Joe. I wish I had known him. Praying for all of you at this time!

February 3 at 3:48 AM

MP

Memorial Park posted:

Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Joseph Bergen Merrill.

February 2 at 8:18 AM

SM

Shelley Miller posted:

I absolutely loved having Joe in my class – both times. He had an ever-present smile and a kind word for everyone. Even in 2nd grade, Joe exhibited a faith and spirituality that was strong beyond his years. His kindness and compassion were rare in a boy his age. I can't pick just one story to relate here, because all of my anecdotes of Joe (2nd grade prayer partners, 1st communion, practicing for confession, being Jesus in the stations of the cross, Camp McDowell, and on and on) are overlaid with the image of his smile. That's how I have always and will continue to picture him – with that big smile that he shared with infectious energy...I am so sorry. Please know you are all in my prayers. Shelley Miller

February 2 at 5:57 AM



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TZ

Terry Zazzara posted:

I am so sorry. My heart aches for your family. Please know your SBA family is praying for you. "God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away" (Revelation 21:4). The Zazzara Family (Joey SBA '18)

February 2 at 5:50 AM

TF

The Kohler Family posted:

We watched Joe grow up because his brother William and my son shared some time at Madonna Learning Center. I will always remember Joe next to his dad and brother William at Special Olympics games. Side by side, they coached the many different teams for his brother. Always cheering on the team! Such a dedicated and loving young man. Now you will be cheering from heaven!

February 2 at 5:33 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Joseph by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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