



Joseph J. Gorka

June 23, 1933 - January 1, 2025

Joseph John Gorka, Sr. The World's Greatest Man went to Heaven on January 1, 2025, at 91 years old.

Joe was born on June 23, 1933, in the Fishtown section of Philadelphia, PA, against all odds. Yet, he did not allow circumstances to dictate his life. Joe forged a life to be admired and honored through hard work, honesty, and resilience.

These are just a few of his most excellent achievements: He served in the US Army and was stationed in Germany during the Korean War. He was a dedicated PA State Trooper. He retired after 26 years as a Lieutenant from the Philadelphia Police Department. He worked for the US Marshall Security Services for 10 years. He was also the President of the Polish Police Association for 10 years, and a member of the American Legion.. He was a member of many other organizations and worked multiple jobs throughout his years to provide for his family.

Believe it or not, Joe had time for his favorite hobbies. He started the family tradition of camping at Rosemount and Down the Shore. While hunting and playing a game of pool, he enjoyed the

companionship of his friends. He loved boating and fishing for flounder. Due to his avid reading of all things interesting, he was a walking book of knowledge. He would point the way precisely if you needed directions and he would note every monument along the way. He was a detailed storyteller and consistently added to his ancestry historical documents. He was a dependable man who selflessly did a million good things for family, friends, and strangers. We will tuck this in our hearts forever.

By far, Joe Sr. considered his loftiest accomplishment was when he established the Gorka Family on "The Twelfth of Never." He leaves his strength behind to his "Bride MARE" of 66 years, Maryann Galezniak. Together, they raised three kind-hearted children, MaryJo Donahue (Brian), Joseph Jr (Angel), and Jeanette Nolte (Ron Lange), with Christian values and tough love. Joe demonstrated to his children how to "do it yourself" in a very organized manner.

Joe's precious grandson, Trevor, predeceased him. He was also preceded in death by his siblings Rosie, Leon, and Stanley Sadowski. His sister, Dolores (Downey), survives him. He loved his family fiercely-even his in-laws!

Grandpop leaves behind fun memories and wisdom in the hearts of his cherished grandchildren: Amber, Joseph III, Krystle, David, MaryKate, and Jonathan. He also had five

sweet great-grandchildren. He set an example of loyalty, forgiveness, and being a great provider.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend a viewing Tuesday, January 7, 2025, 10am to 11:30am at Infant Jesus Parish at St. Margaret's Church, 3rd and Beech Streets, Woodbury Heights.

Mass of Christian Burial 11:30am at the church.

Joe's Interment will be at the Gloucester County Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Williamstown, NJ.

We thank you for your service and exemplary life, Mr. Gorka. Indeed, you were The World's Greatest Man.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention at <https://afsp.org/about-afsp/> or the National Kidney Foundation at <https://www.kidney.org/>.

Cemetery Details

Gloucester County Veterans Memorial Cemetery

240 S. Tuckahoe Road
Williamstown, NJ 08094
(856) 401-7660

Previous Events

Viewing

JAN 7. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Infant Jesus Parish at St. Margaret's RC Church
3rd & Beech Streets
Woodbury Heights, NJ 08097
(856) 848-0047

A Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 7. 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Infant Jesus Parish at St. Margaret's RC Church
3rd & Beech Streets
Woodbury Heights, NJ 08097
(856) 848-0047

Tribute Wall



“ *Boucher Funeral Home, LLC & Gloucester County Cremation Service created a Tribute Video in memory of Joseph J. Gorka*



Boucher Funeral Home, LLC & County Cremation Service - January 03, 2025 at 07:06 PM

EK

Joe was a member of Police Post 937 of the American League for 60 Years.He will be dearly missed.. Keep in your prayers.

Ed Kelleher - January 06, 2025 at 12:13 PM

MS

On behalf of the Infant Jesus Comforting Ministry we pray that Joseph's soul is resting in GOD'S eternal peace!! Many blessings to his family and friends! 🙏❤️

Maria Schiavo - February 07, 2025 at 03:45 PM

GG

“ *I Remember Joe. I'm sorry for His Loss.MY Twin Brother Gregory and I Used to Go to the Polish American Policemans Dinner At Kings Catering in Fairless Hills Many a Time.Also Seeing him at The Annual Pulaski Day Parade in Center City Or Seeing Him at The Polish American House in The Northeast.R.I.P.Juze Remember In Polish We Say Go Home and Go Home and Sleep.Iz Di Da Dom Iz Da Spacz*

Gary Gliwa - January 08, 2025 at 03:22 PM

JT

“ My husband Dennis enjoyed being a member of Square Circle with Joe, My deepest sympathy for your lost

Judy Timony - January 06, 2025 at 05:18 PM

EK

“ Joe was a member of Police Post 937 of the American League for 60 years. He will be Dearly Missed Keep Him in Your Prayers

Ed Kelleher - January 06, 2025 at 12:19 PM

PS

“ Maryanne, we are so sorry for the loss of Joe, if we can ever help you with anything, we are not far from you.. We will keep you & your Family in our prayers 🙏🙏 Pat & Reen Sully



Pat & Reen Sully - January 06, 2025 at 12:09 PM

B(

“ Barbara Nowak (Sadowski) purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Joseph J. Gorka.



Barbara Nowak (Sadowski) - January 06, 2025 at 04:24 AM

CM

“ Charmaine M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph J. Gorka.

Charmaine M. - January 05, 2025 at 09:08 AM

J)

“ My Deepest condolences to the Gorka Family. Joe was a great man, always willing to help others. I will miss him terribly.



Johnny D. (Di Benedetto) - January 04, 2025 at 07:29 PM

J)

Though our loved ones may be gone they are with us always, and in...ALL WAYS.

Johnny D. (Di Benedetto) - January 05, 2025 at 12:31 AM

FT

“ From Tricia, Ted, Triana, Manny & Tyler purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Joseph J. Gorka.



From Tricia, Ted, Triana, Manny & Tyler - January 04, 2025 at 09:28 AM

PP

“ Polish Police Association of Philadelphi planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph J. Gorka.

Polish Police Association of Philadelphi - January 04, 2025 at 12:44 AM

PP

“ Polish Police Association of Philadelphia purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Joseph J. Gorka.



Polish Police Association of Philadelphia - January 04, 2025 at 12:44 AM



“ 63 files added to the album Life Tributes



Boucher Funeral Home, LLC & County Cremation Service - January 03, 2025 at 01:36 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joseph J. Gorka.

January 03, 2025 at 07:13 AM



“ *Forever Our Angel Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joseph J. Gorka.*



January 03, 2025 at 07:13 AM



“ *Definitely the world's greatest man.
I have fallen in love with all things Polish because of you! You live on in my boys. Thank you.
Amazing Grace!*

angel - January 03, 2025 at 06:50 AM