



Joseph A. Pedrazzini

July 26, 1935 - February 16, 2016

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Joe passed away at his home in Napa on February 16th after a 3 year long courageous battle with Lymphoma. Born on July 26th, 1935, Joe was a PROUD native of Vallejo! The son of immigrant parents from Switzerland, Alfred Pedrazzini and Oliva (Cantoni), Joe spent his youth on the baseball fields of Vallejo. His passion for the game would take him from the "Peanut League", to being a standout at Vallejo High School and finally led to being signed by the Boston Red Sox Organization and a 10 year professional baseball career that ended in 1964 with the Seattle Rainiers (AAA). He was inducted in 2015 to the Vallejo Sports Hall of Fame which added to his Solano College and Fresno State College Hall of Fame honors. Joe was a master craftsman of many talents that extended from sports to Carpentry. After 10 years of teaching Industrial Arts at Vanden High School, he followed his passion for woodworking into the trades. Joe was a licensed Contractor and member of the Carpenters Local 180. After retirement, Joe spent many hours as an avid and awarded Bocce Ball player on various courts throughout the Bay Area and was a member of the Sons of Italy.

Joe will be sorely missed by his family and leaves behind his loving wife

Gabriella; children Sharon Parras, Colleen and Deron (Suzanne); step-daughters Lisa Jensen-Melville (Curtis) and Kimberly Saward (Jeff); grandchildren Ashley, Christin, Andrew, Alexia, Kelsey, Caitlin, Jacob, Laura, Ava, Liesl, Kirsten, and Lars; great-grandchildren Viviana, Layla, Phinaes. Anna, Aaron, Abigail, Amelia, Tysen, and Colby. Joe was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Louise Pedrazzini.

The family would like to recognize the care he received from the Kaiser Permanente Oncology Department and Napa Valley Hospice.

A private ceremony and celebration of life will be held at a date to follow. Memorial donations may be made to the Salvation Army, Hannah Boys Center, or Napa Valley Hospice.

Tribute Wall



“ *Joseph A. Pedrazzini*

September 29, 2022 at 04:54 PM



“ *Joseph A. Pedrazzini*

September 29, 2022 at 02:55 PM

“ I just discovered that Joe had passed away as I was looking around the web for people from my past. My condolences to his family.

Joe grew up 2 houses down the street from me on Holly St. He was years older than me, but he and my older brother were best friends. My grandfather, Herb Martin, was a semi-pro ball player at the turn of the century and used to watch the neighborhood kids playing pickup ball games in our cow pasture. (Joe was probably 10 or 11 at that time.) He noticed something in Joe and took him under his wing teaching him his batter's stance, how to pull a ball or hit to the opposite field – which, for Joe, would be right field. Joe wanted to play shortstop, but because he was left-handed, Grandfather encouraged him to play first base. It didn't take long for Joe to get used to that position.

My mother used to cut the hair of her 4 boys as well as her dad's hair. Joe's dad Alfred also would walk up the street and mom would cut his hair. I remember once when my grandfather, who lived next to us was sitting on the couch talking to mom when my Pedrazzini came for his haircut. By this time Joe was in high school and was one of the best players in town. Joe's dad was a little angry with my grandfather for continuing to coach and encourage Joe to play ball. He wanted Joe to learn a trade or a profession that was more stable than baseball player. There was a long discussion, but it ended up with my grandfather saying that Joe had the talent to play ball at the higher levels in the sport, and if he didn't allow Joe to pursue his dream that Joe would regret it later in life and blame his dad for putting a damper on it. Mr. Pedrazzini finally gave in. My grandfather would get a postcard from Joe as he moved around in the minor leagues, and always shared whatever news he had with us.

When Joe finally gave up the dream he came back, but to Napa. He moved into a house just around the corner from me, and we commuted to work at Mare Island together. He finally found different employment and I saw him only occasionally. We met near the pro

shop of a golf course once much later in life. He was waiting for his son, but we had a great conversation about "the old days".

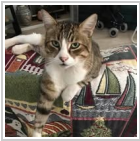
Joe was a good friend of my brother Ted, and he always treated me like an equal instead of a little kid 4 years his junior that was tagging along.

Herbert Martin (Marty) Stiewig - May 04, 2020 at 05:21 PM

TG

“ *Sorry to see your father's passing Deron.*

Tara Good - January 22, 2020 at 12:51 AM



“ *I grew up playing ball with Joe , we were team mates on the St. Vincents boys Club back in the day.He lived next door to my Uncle Dan Morasci , and all our familys got toether and visit. I have a lot of memories of Joe , and he will be missed. No one had the work ethic that Joe did when it came to baseball. He would spend hours in his garage hitting a ball suspended from the ceiling with a rope , Joe was always a good friend and I will miss him. Jim Grossi ,916-996-9134,*

Jim Grossi - February 23, 2016 at 08:34 AM

BK

“ *Joe`s Family So sorry about your loss Joe was A great guy and ball player I played with Joe in High School and peanut league he was a great buddy back in the 50`s we were in the same class He will be truly missed Ben Kuduk*

Ben Kuduk - February 22, 2016 at 09:32 PM

JB

“ *Dear Sharon, Colleen, Deron and Family,
We were so sorry to hear about your Dad's passing. We have many wonderful memories of spending time with your dad, grandparents and Louise at Swiss Picnics, polenta feeds and get togethers with all the Swiss people of Vallejo. Your dad was a very kind man and we will remember him fondly. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

*In Friendship and Love,
Ada Robinson and Family*

Joyce A Basta - February 22, 2016 at 08:01 PM