



Joseph Zalewski

March 25, 1958 - August 24, 2019

Zalewski, Joe. Age 61. Born in Royal Oak on March 25, 1958 to Louise and Walter Zalewski. A lifelong resident of Madison Heights, Joe graduated from Madison High School and went on to attend college at Central Michigan University. He was employed as a mail handler at the United States Postal Service Distribution Center in Troy, until his retirement for health reasons. An avid sports fan, Joe was always watching his favorite teams on television and working on his fantasy sports teams. He enjoyed fishing, hunting and spending time on Lake Michigan. Beloved son of Louise and the late Walter. Loving brother of Arlene (Robert) Mele and Carol Zalewski. Proud uncle of Rob (Lisa) Mele, Ryan Mele, Melissa Mele (fiance' Alan Adorjan) and great uncle of Logan and Colette Mele. He will also be missed by Sierra. Visitation Wednesday 3-8 pm with a 7 pm Rosary at Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 705 W. 11 Mile Rd. (4 blocks E. of Woodward), Royal Oak. Funeral Thursday, in-state 9:30 am until time of Mass 10 am, at National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica, Royal Oak. Memorial contributions to Michigan Humane Society are appreciated. Share your memories at www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com.

Cemetery Details

White Chapel Memorial Cemetery

621 W. Long Lake Road
Troy, MI 48098

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 28. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak
705 W. Eleven Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067
(248) 541-7000
royal@sullivanfh.com
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

Rosary

AUG 28. 7:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak
705 W. Eleven Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067
(248) 541-7000
royal@sullivanfh.com
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Funeral Mass

AUG **29**. 10:00 AM (ET)

National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica
2100 W. 12 Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48073

Tribute Wall



“ *Roxie Davis lit a candle in memory of Joseph Zalewski*



Roxie Davis - August 28, 2019 at 10:48 PM

SA

“ *Joe and I hired in at the post office on the same day and we quickly became great friends. We both had a love for baseball and all sports for that matter. I remember going to the race track with him and to Tigers games too. It was fun to go to Joe's house and watch a game or just hang out with him. We had a fantasy baseball team together that won first place. I have so many great memories of Joe and I will always cherish them. RIP my friend.*

Scott Agne - August 28, 2019 at 09:47 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Joseph Zalewski.*



August 27, 2019 at 07:21 PM

RC

“ Joe- although we stayed in touch by phone more than in person, I always had a great time when we were together.

A great sportsman, you were always looking forward to your next adventure. You certainly had a lot of tales to tell - especially relating to time spent out west. So glad that you were able to do what you really wanted. Not everyone gets that opportunity- Or jumped at it when is there to be had-but you did, and you had great tales to tell of it.

Thank you so much for getting us to game 5 of the Tigers winning the World Series at home- it was because of your knowledge of the teams, Strank's and weaknesses that enable you to pick the right teams to go all the way through the playoffs to the World Series and pick the game you wanted to go to, including your friends that you were going to I don't know how many games in the summer of 84, we were the true bleacher bums!

Thanks For the fishing tips-Whether it be for tying spawn in babushka for steelhead, or fishing off the end of the pier in Pentwater at 5 o'clock in the morning for salmon (“remember Rex - keep that rod tip up or you'll lose that fish”) to “ boy, that's a dandy!”

So many more memories than this-I know I'll never forget them-but I wanted to say what an impact you made in peoples lives, Joe. You really left an imprint.

It was indeed a pleasure to know you, and think of as a friend. See you in the next room.

Rex

Rex Colthorp - August 27, 2019 at 09:18 AM

RS

“ So many memories! Joe your always going to be in my heart when I see a fisherman pulling up a big fish or a hunter talking about his awesome deer season, but most of all during football seasons when I am trying to figure who to keep or get rid of on my fantasy team. Your heart was big and full of love for your family. You will be missed little brother, you will be missed.

Rita Smith - August 26, 2019 at 10:55 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Joseph Zalewski.



August 26, 2019 at 10:47 PM

ME

“ Uncle Joe was the best uncle...he loved spending time with the family! ❤️



melissa - August 26, 2019 at 06:22 PM

DS

Dear Louise and Joe's family, although we have never met, we are Joe's Montana's family. I hope you get this message! I just tried to call him to tell him how much we miss seeing him this time of the year and worried when the phone was disconnected. After researching further, I sadly found this. I wanted you to know how sorry we are for your family and much we loved Joe. What a character! It was such an amazing story how our families met as well. He always kept up with everyone and I worried when I had heard from him.

He was such a great hunter, fisherman and a great sports fan. When my son Shann (Joe called him "his little buddy") was drafted by the Atlanta Falcons, Joe was one of the first to call us to congratulate us. I think he was more excited than us! He also attended the Lion/Falcon game one of those years that Shann played and Shann got to meet up with him afterwards. It was always a highlight when Shann got to see Joe!

Anyway, I could tell stories forever but just know Joe touched so many lives! Some you will never even know. We will miss him! If You ever get to Montana, look us up! R.I.P. Joe, our wonderful friend. Until we meet again.....

Jim & Debi Schillinger

Debi & Jim Schillinger - October 26, 2020 at 09:37 PM