



## Joseph Jacob Dietrich

October 31, 1932 - February 11, 2025

Joseph Jacob Dietrich passed away on February 11, 2025, in Columbus, Ohio, at the age of 92. Born on October 31, 1932, in Bismarck, North Dakota, he lived a life marked by dedication to family, intellectual curiosity, and a love for the outdoors.

Joe pursued higher education with passion, earning a chemistry degree from St. John's in Minnesota before obtaining a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Iowa State University. His career culminated in retirement from Eltech Systems in 1995 after years of contributions.

Beyond his professional achievements, Joe was an avid fisherman and hunter. He also tended to his garden and fruit trees and had a deep appreciation for travel. His skill in winemaking (and tasting) was well known. He enjoyed his time volunteering at Habitat for Humanity, Hospice, St. Gabriel Food Pantry and Serra.

A devoted member of St. Gabriel Church, Joe's faith was an integral part of his life. He shared 65 years of marriage with his beloved wife, Florence. Together, they built a loving family that includes their children: Ann (Dan) Halsey, Mike (Karen) Dietrich, John (Susan) Dietrich, and James (Jennifer) Dietrich. Joseph was also a cherished grandparent to twelve: Gregory Halsey, Patrick Halsey, Joseph Halsey, Christopher Dietrich, Jon Dietrich, Elizabeth

Dietrich, Matthew (Emily) Dietrich, Joshua (Rachel) Dietrich, Jacob Dietrich, Stephanie Dietrich, Isabelle Dietrich and Noah Dietrich.

Joe was preceded in death by his son Gregory; parents Jacob and Elizabeth; and siblings Clem, Matt, Pete, Kay, Rose, and Tilly.

A Funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday, February 21, 2025, at Saint Gabriel Church located at 9925 Johnnycake Ridge Road in Concord Township, Ohio 44077.

Joe's legacy lives on through the family he nurtured and the many lives he touched. May his memory bring comfort to all who knew him.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to Habitat for Humanity, Hospice of the Western Reserve Hospice of the Western Reserve, P.O. Box 72101, Cleveland 44192 donate online at [www.hospicewr.org](http://www.hospicewr.org); or to St. Gabriel Food Pantry, 9925 Johnnycake Ridge Rd., Concord Township, Ohio 44077.

Arrangements entrusted to the Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home and Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor, Ohio 44060.

Offer condolences at [www.brunners.com](http://www.brunners.com)

# Previous Events

## Funeral Mass

FEB 21. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Gabriel Catholic Church  
9925 Johnnycake Ridge Rd.  
Concord Twp., OH 44060  
(440) 352-8282

# Tribute Wall

KR

“ Joe and Flo were our landlords for many years in Madison. I was able to assist Joe in some projects. We really loved living there with them as landlords. RIP Mr. Dietrich.

Kitty and Steve Rhodes - January 07 at 01:22 PM

RK

“ I thank God for placing us in this earthly time to see Him through Joe. He has left a spiritual legacy never to be forgotten. We love you all very much. Rich and Rosemary



Rich and Rosemary Koly - February 21, 2025 at 11:34 AM

AD

*Sending hugs and love*

Ann Dietrich - February 22, 2025 at 12:41 PM

LG

“ Lety & Gene Goldader purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Joseph Jacob Dietrich.



Lety & Gene Goldader - February 19, 2025 at 04:02 PM

LG

“ Lety & Gene Goldader planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph Jacob Dietrich.

Lety & Gene Goldader - February 19, 2025 at 04:02 PM



“ A grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joseph Jacob Dietrich.

February 19, 2025 at 09:48 AM



“ Love, Gary, Shelley and Gianna Merton purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Joseph Jacob Dietrich.



**Love, Gary, Shelley and Gianna Merton** - February 18, 2025 at 05:57 PM



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

February 17, 2025 at 06:51 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joseph Jacob Dietrich.



February 17, 2025 at 06:51 PM

KR

“ Keun Ryu, Daniel, Sharon, Paige planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph Jacob Dietrich.

Keun Ryu, Daniel, Sharon, Paige - February 17, 2025 at 03:36 PM

KR

“ Keun Ryu, Daniel, Sharon, Paige purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Joseph Jacob Dietrich.



Keun Ryu, Daniel, Sharon, Paige - February 17, 2025 at 03:36 PM

CF

“ Cathy and Todd Ostrowski and family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Joseph Jacob Dietrich.



Cathy and Todd Ostrowski and family - February 16, 2025 at 08:20 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joseph Jacob Dietrich.



February 15, 2025 at 11:41 AM

“ My Grandpa and Grandma Dietrich are two of the biggest role models in my life, and Grandpa will be dearly missed.

*From the age of two, Grandpa had a fishing rod in my hand and a garden vegetable in my other hand, teaching me his ways. The fondest memories of my life were heading up to Chautauqua and getting up with Grandpa at the crack of dawn to go fishing while everyone else was still sleeping like normal, reasonable human beings. One of my specific fondest memories is when I was a youngster and Grandpa took me and cousin Chris out on the boat at Chautauqua for some quick sunset fishing before dinner. We ran into a school of feeding white perch, and they were biting so voraciously that we caught one every cast, and Grandpa was so busy helping us take them off the hook that he didn't even have time to fish himself. But that's who Grandpa was, someone always trying to help those around him as a priority.*

*Over the years, I continued to share my love of fishing with Grandpa. Even after they sold their home at Chautauqua, I would drive over multiple times every summer to venture out on Lake Erie with Grandpa. It was more than just fishing though with Grandpa, it was learning about life and sharing my friends with him. I dragged many of my non-fishing friends out on the boat with us over the years, who Grandpa would patiently help teach his fishing mastery and Grandma would make sure to have her famous V-burgers ready upon our return (with or without any fish).*

*As I got older, I wanted to not just be as good of a fisherman as Grandpa, but as good of a man as him. He was my inspiration for maintaining my Christian faith and pursuing a PhD. Even when Grandpa started to slow down over the last few years, we vicariously fished together as I sent pictures of random fish caught from neighborhood ponds—sometimes multiple times a week. While I remember the last earthly fish Grandpa caught with me three and a half years ago at Chautauqua (a fat yellow perch, even though we were trolling for walleye), I know that he is currently catching many*

*more heavenly fish right now, and I'm looking forward to our next fishing trip together.*

*Love and God Bless,  
Matthew Dietrich*



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**Matthew Dietrich** - February 15, 2025 at 10:10 AM

KD

*Wonderful memories Matt* 🙏❤️

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**Karen Dietrich** - February 23, 2025 at 11:42 AM

SM

“ We send our sympathy to all of the Dietrichs and their families. My Uncle Joe will be greatly missed, but will forever be in our hearts. I have fun memories with him. Anyone that knew him will agree that he always knew how to have a great time. He was a strong family man who did so much for his children and especially Aunt Flo. They always made us feel welcome when we would visit Pennywhistle Circle. It's hard to summarize all of the great times in just a small space, so here are a few things hopefully everyone will remember. Uncle Joe had a great love of the Lord and he and Aunt Flo did a lot for their church and community. The great example he was can be seen through his children (my awesome cousins) and their families. He was a great role model and my dad would always tell me how blessed he was to have Joe as a brother in law. They loved entertaining everyone. Some of my favorite times were catching up with everyone, playing table tennis, playing the player piano and singing songs. Uncle Joe and the guys would play poker. Wine tasting was always taking place and I can still remember the smell of the wine that Uncle Joe would make downstairs. I still buy concord grapes every Fall, just to bring back those memories. He took pride in the grapes he grew out back. One time he took my dad, cousins and I out on his boat in Lake Erie. We caught a ton of fish and then we took them back and had them for dinner. He and Aunt Flo had us all out to Chautauqua for a family reunion. If Uncle Joe was ever at your wedding reception, I bet he danced all night like he did at ours. I know he is dancing with his savior right now. Thank you Uncle Joe for the memories!

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**Shelley (Koly) Merton** - February 15, 2025 at 12:01 AM

AD

Love you!!

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**Ann Dietrich** - February 16, 2025 at 04:47 PM

SM

*Love you too!*

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**Shelley Merton** - February 16, 2025 at 11:39 PM

CG

“ *Clem and I wish to send sympathy to the entire Dietrich family, but especially Aunt Flo. May you find his life to be a blessing as you mourn and remember the incredible life he gave to the family. We cherish our memories of the fun we always had at family gatherings. He was such a special gift to anyone who knew him. It never was very long before he was sharing a glass of wine and engaged in a conversation on any topic at all. He was extremely well-versed in most anything and made every person present feel welcome. For this we say thank you, Uncle Joe and rest in peace. May your family draw comfort in being gifted with such a treasure for 92 years. Love, Janice and Clem Goldader*

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**Clem Goldader** - February 14, 2025 at 12:12 PM

JD

*The Thanksgiving get togethers at your parents in Chicago we're always a fun time with all our families. John*

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**John Dietrich** - February 14, 2025 at 10:23 PM

AD

*We loved visiting you. Hope you are well. So sorry for the loss of jimmy may he RIP. Sending hugs to all of you!*

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**Ann Dietrich** - February 15, 2025 at 09:14 AM

## “ Ode to Joe



*If you turn the clocks back to 50 years ago  
I remember going to Pennywhistle to play  
football*

*In the back-side yard with a pile of snow  
It was a lot of fun while we were all still very small*

*For birthday parties the kids, to the basement were sent  
Often including other children we knew from school  
It was more fun than any place (at the time) they could rent  
With many taking their turn playing with the bumper pool*

*In grade school football for Saint Gabe were playin  
At Painesville Lanes, our team was on the alley  
This is where I learned in bowling the score to tally  
Mr. & Mrs. Dietrich would keep us from mis-havin*

*Wasn't long and to Lake Catholic high school we went  
Parties in the basement still (occasionally) went on  
New high school friends to pass the basement party baton  
The Dietrich basement (to us) was heaven sent*

*As we became more adult, alcohol was increasingly present  
Many beer can were drank and the can was given a dent  
Responsible parents Joe & Flo to those too drunk to drive  
They just wanted to make sure everyone would return home alive*

*During the college days it was to bars and clubs we would go  
Often ending the night with French Bread Pizza in the oven  
The Dietrich freezer stocked with pizza took much lovin  
After the night at the club, the pizza gave me a warm glow*

*Around this time it, in summer the Chautauqua house was  
introduced  
Sometime a battle to see how many fish were produced*

*There was fun for everyone with water skiing  
Your walking on water, are you a human being*

*The fish kept alive in the lake to be filleted by Joe  
And then breaded and deep fried in the kitchen by Flo  
Watching Joe we were to learn Bass, Perch and Walleye Filet  
I still remember but have not filleted a fish to this day*

*As we all got older we all went our separate direction  
Occasional get together(s) on Pennywhistle did occur  
In the family room by the fireplace with a wide wine selection  
Catching up, joking, laughing and having fun for sure*

*Mr. and Mrs. Joe and Flo Dietrich had touched many people's lives  
in a positive way  
May perpetual light shine upon him.*

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**david brugmann** - February 13, 2025 at 10:54 PM

JD

*Don't forget the honey tasting that you'd come share when we visited  
Pennywhistle ☐  
And many more fond memories.*

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**jennifer dietrich** - February 14, 2025 at 09:15 AM

AD

*Dave*

*That was great!!!*

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**Ann Dietrich** - February 15, 2025 at 09:16 AM

SS

*Dear Flo, Ann, Mike, John and James,*

*Well do I remember fondly the Dietrich family from St. Gabriel Days! I was saddened to hear of Joe's death. What a legacy he and you, Flo, have left to your family and so very many others who knew you. Please know that you are in my prayers as you grieve his loss here on earth. Then remember, Joe is still very much alive just in another way. Watch for him when you least expect. He is still taking care of his loved ones.*

*With much sympathy and comforting prayer,*

*Sister Mary Lisa Novak, SND*

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**Sister Mary Lisa Novak, SND** - February 19, 2025 at 11:44 AM

AD

*Thank you!!!*

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**Ann Dietrich** - February 22, 2025 at 12:44 PM

KD

*Brugs. Thanks for your 'Ode to Joe' love you. Mike & Karen*

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**Karen Dietrich** - February 23, 2025 at 11:48 AM