



Joe Pelaez

January 2, 1922 - January 24, 2015

Joe Pelaez, age 93 of Sandy Avenue, Moundsville passed away January 24, 2015 at his home.

He was born January 2, 1922 in Weirton, WV the son of the late Rafael and Rosalie Perez Pelaez.

Joe worked hard as young boy working for Burley's Bakery from age 10 to 14 to help provide for his family. He graduated Moundsville High School where he played basketball.

After high school, Joe attended Alderson-Broaddus College until he joined the Army in 1943 and served during WWII, he was honorably discharged on May 1, 1946 with a rank of Sergeant and several medals.

Joe would return to Alderson-Broaddus in 1946 until graduating in 1948 with a degree in History and Physical Education. He would receive his Masters Degree from WVU.

He would go to teach and coach basketball at Sharples High School in Logan County, then onto Phillip Barbour High School, and then to Moundsville High School where he coached basketball from 1965 until 1969. In 1980, Joe retired from public education after 35 years.

He was a member of the American Legion-Earl Francis Post #3 in Moundsville and a member of Simpson United Methodist Church, Moundsville.

In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his wife, Mary Ann Pelaez; a daughter, Jan Taylor; two brothers, Manuel and Floats Pelaez; three sisters, Angeline Zink, Mary Johns, and Louise Taylor; and a grandson,

Robert Hunter Taylor.

Survivors include a son, Joel (Cynthia) Pelaez of Wheeling; a daughter, Jody (Rennie) Scarnecchia of Moundsville; a brother, Bob Pelaez of Moundsville; a son in law, Rob Taylor of Glen Dale; four grandchildren, Brianne (Corey) Young, Jasey (Matthew) Snead, Jenny Scarnecchia, and Molly Taylor; two great grandchildren, Preston Snead and Emma Young; and several nieces and nephews.

Family will receive friends on Monday from 11am until the time of the Memorial Service at 1pm at Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory, 400 Jefferson Avenue, Moundsville with Pastor Dennis Mehaffie officiating.

Interment in Parkview Memorial Gardens, Wheeling, WV.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Simpson United Methodist Church, 800-7th Street, Moundsville or to Valley Hospice, 10686 SR 150, Rayland, OH 43943.

Cemetery Details

Parkview Memorial Gardens

1922 Warden Run Road
Wheeling, WV

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 26. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Grisell Funeral Home - Moundsville
400 Jefferson Ave
Moundsville, WV 26041
(304) 845-0400
<https://www.grisellfuneralhomes.com/>

Memorial Service

JAN 26. 1:00 PM (ET)

Grisell Funeral Home - Moundsville
400 Jefferson Ave
Moundsville, WV 26041
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Tribute Wall

AK

“ Joel - I am so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in my prayers.

Ann Koegler - January 29, 2015 at 02:05 PM

BB

“ My father, Ray Bowers, and I of Philippi, WV were very sad to hear of Joe's passing. Ray played basketball at AB after the war with Joe and his brothers and they remained great friends thru the years. I remember talking to Joe at an AB basketball game 3 or 4 years ago and he told me to tell Ray to get out of the house some and come to a game. Dad always said he was one of the best athletes he ever knew. Bill Bowers

Bill Bowers - January 28, 2015 at 11:43 AM

SC

“ I am truly sorry for your loss. May you find comfort from God's promise to "swallow up death forever, and to wipe away tears from all faces.." (Isaiah 25:8)

SCH - January 28, 2015 at 08:07 AM

BS

“ my deepest sympathies and prayers go out to your family...Jody, your father was a wonderful coach, teacher, and I bet, a pretty good father as well..as I read the comments from so many people below, he will certainly be missed

Bill Santmyer

Bill Santmyer - January 27, 2015 at 11:04 PM

RF

“ I wonder from time to time how he was/is doing since our visit with him in 2013. I'm sure Dad (Ben Fernandez - Sharples High Class of 1947....whom passed away almost 17 months ago) and the 'ol Sharples team greeted the 'ol coach appropriately!

Sincerely,
Rick Fernandez
Bevis, Ohio

Rick Fernandez - January 27, 2015 at 08:31 PM

DW

“ Joe was a good man and a great representative for Moundsville High School. We'll miss seeing him at Simpson Church each Sunday morning. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family!
Dave and Carol Whipkey

Dave and Carol Whipkey - January 26, 2015 at 02:34 PM

BS

“ I feel your loss. May
God put his arms around you and comfort you.
Love, Betty Snead

Betty Snead - January 26, 2015 at 01:58 PM

MT

“ Mary Glover He Was Great Teacher lit a candle in memory of Joe Pelaez



mary glover he was great teacher - January 26, 2015 at 01:19 PM

MG

“ *Mr Mrs Terry Glover lit a candle in memory of Joe Pelaez*



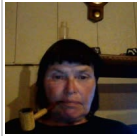
mr mrs terry glover - January 26, 2015 at 01:18 PM

MG

“ *Mr Mrs Terry Glover lit a candle in memory of Joe Pelaez*



mr mrs terry glover - January 26, 2015 at 01:17 PM



“ *was he the on roberts ridge i use to talk to him all the time i met him down at the old jr high back in 71he was a nice man and floats too the was both a coach i think and twins*

Mary Littleton - January 26, 2015 at 12:37 PM

KJ

“ *I think my father and Mr. Pelaez were cut from the same cloth. His family values and work ethic, mirrored my own upbringing. How wonderful, Jody, that you were able to be here for the last couple years of his life. I know he was happy to have you here. Celebrate the wonderful, fruitful life he experienced as I am sure he would not want you to mourn. I am sorry I will not be able to be there today, but I will be in touch.*



Karen Janes Jones - January 26, 2015 at 09:38 AM

SA

“ Due to the weather I will be unable to express my sympathy in person but loving thoughts and prayers are with you today.

Sara Jo Anderson - January 26, 2015 at 08:07 AM

DK

“ Donna Lucas Kenney lit a candle in memory of Joe Pelaez



donna lucas kenney - January 25, 2015 at 11:59 PM



“ Jaime Minter lit a candle in memory of Joe Pelaez



Jaime Minter - January 25, 2015 at 11:38 PM

CY

“ Cyndee Holden Yeater lit a candle in memory of Joe Pelaez



Cyndee Holden Yeater - January 25, 2015 at 09:34 PM

JC

“ Jimmy and I send love and prayers to the family ? We are glad we got to see him at the last reunion, (glad I had the pleasure of meeting him)
RIP Uncle Joe you will be missed.



Jimmy Cottrill - January 25, 2015 at 09:14 PM

SA

“ On behalf of former Sharples High School students who remembered your dear father and grandfather I wish to send you our thoughts and prayers during your time of sorrow.

Sharples High School Alumni - January 25, 2015 at 07:31 PM

Jill Knight

“ Jill Knight lit a candle in memory of Joe Pelaez

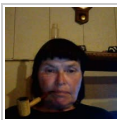


Jill Knight - January 25, 2015 at 06:03 PM

Jill Knight

A great man with a great heart. You will truly be missed Great Uncle Joe!

Jill Knight - January 25, 2015 at 06:05 PM



yes he was

Mary Littleton - January 26, 2015 at 12:40 PM

JD

Joel and Cynthia...So sorry for your loss.

JoAnn Brettell Dunham - January 26, 2015 at 06:30 PM

PW

“ *Jo was a great guy. Worked for his son Joel for 15years He came to the nursing home every day to see his wife Mary Ann. RIP*

patty wells - January 25, 2015 at 04:18 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joe Pelaez.*



January 25, 2015 at 03:55 PM

RW

“ *Joel and family, We are surely thinking of you and send our love and prayers. We remember your dad fondly and were sorry to hear of your loss. We know you will miss him. Retta Wayne and Mary Ellen Wayne Van Camp*

Retta Wayne - January 25, 2015 at 03:35 PM

JB

“ *Janey Bragg lit a candle in memory of Joe Pelaez*



Janey Bragg - January 25, 2015 at 03:33 PM

JB

So many beautiful memories of Joe through the years. He left an irreplaceable light in my life.

Janey Bragg - January 25, 2015 at 03:36 PM

BC

“ *Bev. Cottrill lit a candle in memory of Joe Pelaez*



Bev. Cottrill - January 25, 2015 at 03:19 PM

VA

“ *I remember MR.Pelaez.. He was a good teacher, very kind.he will be missed.GOD BLESS you Mr. pelaze*



vickie welling, arp - January 25, 2015 at 03:05 PM



“ *Frances Bitzer lit a candle in memory of Joe Pelaez*



Frances Bitzer - January 25, 2015 at 02:06 PM

CM

“ *sorry for your loss*



Christy Murphy - January 25, 2015 at 02:04 PM



“ *I'm so glad I got to see him at our Family Reunion last summer. A great man and will be sorely missed! Rusty & Amanda Bragg*



Russell Bragg - January 25, 2015 at 02:03 PM



“ *Christy Murphy lit a candle in memory of Joe Pelaez*



Christy Murphy - January 25, 2015 at 01:34 PM

SC

“ Jody, You and your family are in my prayers asking Him to embrace each of you and bestow His peace and His comfort. Jody, your Dad and your Uncle Floats were inordinately patient with me. When I switched from St. Francis Xavier to Moundsville Junior High after 7th grade... leaving an environment as structured as St. Francis for the "freedoms" of MJHS, my study habits and grades started to slip. Your Dad knew I grew up without a father so he took license to 'gently' jerk a knot in my shorts. <chuckle> As time went on, he would come up behind me, put his arm around my shoulder and ask me what I wanted to do with my life. I'd tell him... but add I'd never be able to achieve this or that. He'd look at me with a furrowed brow and firmly ask, "Why not? I think you can. Are you going to tell me you're smarter than I am or know more than me?" I'd immediately answer, "No sir!" Coach was always a source of encouragement, inspiration and motivation. He helped me believe in me. As I said earlier, he was one of my "angels on earth" .. without whom I would not have achieved what little I have. He convinced me that where one begins has absolutely nothing to do with where one ultimately ends up. He made me feel empowered to determine my destiny. I thank God for allowing my life's path to cross with that of Coach Joe Palaez. I'm especially grateful that through Facebook, I was able to relay my deep and heartfelt appreciation to Coach first through Jan and later, you. If only every American educator was the blessing that Joe Palaez was! He'll live on in the hearts of so, so many. I firmly believe a man's (or woman's) greatest legacy is the positive impact they have on the lives of others while here on earth. Joe Palaez leaves behind a Platinum legacy as he no doubt now walks Heaven's streets of gold. God bless you Coach. I pray for your eternal peace and great reward for all the good you did on this earth. See you soon and I look forward to giving you a bear hug when I'm called home.

Steve Crabtree - January 25, 2015 at 01:14 PM

BB

“ *What a very dear man he was. I enjoyed having him as a teacher in school. Love him. God bless him. Beverly Coffield Burns*

Beverly Burns - January 25, 2015 at 12:38 PM



“ *For many years we kids of Ben Fernandez heard of good 'ol Joe & his wonderful accomplishments. Finally met him a couple of yrs. ago w/ some of his family. Great day that was for us to see our dad & his coach together for one memorable time. Prayers from the Fernandez family to you all w/ many special memories of a life well led.*

Ron Fernandez - January 25, 2015 at 10:59 AM

RF

Well said! :-)

Rick Fernandez - January 27, 2015 at 08:26 PM

WE

“ *Dear Joe and Family,
We are sending you lots of love from California. And, fond memories of you, Joe, as a funny, loving, wise, athletic man who left us with a posse of wonderful cousins in West Virginia and beyond. We love you all, though we do not see you as often as we would like. We celebrate you, Joe! With love, Wendy, Scott and Elizabeth*

Wendy Pilette Endsley - January 25, 2015 at 10:50 AM

PC

“ Dear Joel and Family,
I am so sorry to learn that you have lost your beloved father. He is irreplaceable in your life, in your family and in our world. I care and am praying for blessings for him and for you.
Peggy Cartus

Peggy Cartus - January 25, 2015 at 10:22 AM

PF

“ Our condolences to the Pelaez family. It was a privilege to have met our father's favorite coach, who he always told stories about and was very fond of and enjoyed his friendship through the years. Coach Pelaez, you were truly a great man and coach! One of your former players (Ben) will be excited to see you on the field and/or court again in heaven! Bless you all, Love the Fernandez Family

Paul Fernandez - January 25, 2015 at 09:58 AM

RF

Ditto

Rick Fernandez - January 27, 2015 at 08:27 PM

MB

“ Bob and I loved that man so much. Spurt Pool memories and laughter come back to me often as I think of Joe. They will re-unite in Heaven now, and I am afraid some big stories are being told. I would be there to pay my utmost respects but am out of the area. My love and best wishes to you all. Margie B.

Margie Baumgardner - January 25, 2015 at 09:10 AM

VK

“ I loved him and I will miss him.

Vickie Kamlowsky - January 25, 2015 at 09:08 AM

VK

“ *Vicky Wade Krupnik lit a candle in memory of Joe Pelaez*



Vicky Wade Krupnik - January 25, 2015 at 08:43 AM

VK

“ *There aren't to many teachers that can or have left such a imprint in so many of their students hearts. Joe Pelaez was one of them. R.I.P. Mr. Plaesz.*

Vicky Wade Krupnik - January 25, 2015 at 08:42 AM

BD

What a very true statement! The Pelaez's brothers were true role models for the MHS students! Prayers for all his family.

Betty Duffy - January 25, 2015 at 09:32 AM

JA

“ *Jody and Joel:*

I was deeply saddened to hear of your father's passing. He was one of the very few men in our area that my Dad always referred to as a "good man". He didn't use that term lightly. I can still remember the day I wore my Dad's old "Zincs" basketball jersey, from when he played for the smelter team, to school. Your Dad got the biggest smile on his face! I always felt as if he and your uncle Floats took care of me in school, because I was one of the Spaniards. He will be missed by many. May you find peace in the loving memories of your Dad.

John Artimez

John Artimez - January 25, 2015 at 08:18 AM



“ *May the love of God surround you and your family during this difficult time*

May you come to know that the love of God is with you always,

May your memories of Joe Pelaez, give you peace, comfort and strength...

Rest now in the arms of our Lord your work on earth is complete.

I thank you for your service and my Freedom. You will not be forgotten.

My thoughts and prayers are with the family of.....

US Army WW II Veteran, Joe Pelaez, “A True American Hero” God Bless†

† Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13 †

Cheryl Skinner, Tri-state Military Museum - January 25, 2015 at 06:20 AM

JC

“ *Jody, may God richly bless you and your family in this sad time. It seemed that your father might live forever--and in fact, will. I can only echo the sentiments of so many other students that were touched and motivated (scared to death at times) by your father. Please know that I add my prayers for you and your family.*

Jack Clegg - January 25, 2015 at 03:26 AM

DK

“ Toni so sorry for your loss prayers & god bless you all

donna lucas kenney - January 25, 2015 at 01:10 AM

GC

“ To the family of Mr. Pelaez I am sending prayers and condolences in this time of need. We have lost a father, grandfather, friend, and a symbol of our community. He was well known at MHS by all students. Rest In Peace Sir and get the basketball out and teach God the sport of basketball and challenge him to a game. Moundsville has lost a "Great" man.



Gary Church - January 24, 2015 at 11:34 PM

SD

“ Sandra Holbert Desilvestri lit a candle in memory of Joe Pelaez



Sandra Holbert Desilvestri - January 24, 2015 at 11:24 PM

CE

“ Carolyn Emery lit a candle in memory of Joe Pelaez



Carolyn Emery - January 24, 2015 at 10:43 PM

CE

He was one of the best at MJHS a great man

Carolyn Emery - January 24, 2015 at 10:44 PM

SH

“ Sharon lit a candle in memory of Joe Pelaez



sharon - January 24, 2015 at 10:40 PM

SH

Prayers for your family and the peace from above!

sharon - January 24, 2015 at 10:41 PM

SM

“ My heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family of Mr. Pelaez. He was truly a gentleman. I have known him all of my life and his passing today has brought a few tears to my eyes. You are all in my prayers and thoughts.

Susie McIlvain Parker

Susie McIlvain-parker - January 24, 2015 at 10:09 PM

LB

“ Linda Gordon Baker lit a candle in memory of Joe Pelaez



Linda Gordon Baker - January 24, 2015 at 10:04 PM

CN

“ *Jan, Jody, and Joel, Your Father was a wonderful man and he made a difference in my life by being such a good person. May he rest in peace. Heaven is a much better place because he is there. Prayers to all of you and may God comfort you at this time.*

Carla Northcraft - January 24, 2015 at 09:44 PM

JK

“ *Very sorry to hear of Mr. Pelaez's passing. One of the lasting memories of my youth was as a 7th grader following the exploits of Coach Pelaez's 1966 Moundsville Trojans, led by Bob Hummel, in their quest for a state championship. They may have fallen short to Dunbar High, but I don't think there's a basketball fan over 55 in Marshall County who doesn't remember the "HOOSIERS"-like run or has heard someone talk about it. Mr. Pelaez was definately one of "Life's Good Guys" by any standards, who touched many lives and made this small part of the earth a better place then when he got here.*

JAY KNAPP - January 24, 2015 at 09:31 PM


Pamela
Shaffer

“ *Pamela Shaffer lit a candle in memory of Joe Pelaez*



Pamela Shaffer - January 24, 2015 at 09:16 PM


Pamela
Shaffer

Prayers for the family and our deepest sympathy.

Pamela Shaffer - January 24, 2015 at 09:27 PM

PR

Sorry to hear of Joe's passing. I remember him in school taking me and a friend out to the hall to tell us to get a note to be paddled. Of course we didn't but we never threw paper wads out the window again. I loved this man. Have ran into him many times in the last ten years and we joked about this. Such a kind sweet man. Prayers to the family and God Bless. Patricia Robinson.

Patricia Robinson - January 24, 2015 at 09:53 PM

GG

“ One of my heroes,RIP

grace gardill - January 24, 2015 at 08:28 PM

CK

“ You never know who the people will be that impact your life as you grow, this man was one of them for me! Thankful for his influence! God speed Mr. Pelaez!

Christopher Kitchen - January 24, 2015 at 07:04 PM

MY

“ As and a friend from church was a great person to see his smiling face on sunday morning you will be miss by many



Marlene Yoho - January 24, 2015 at 06:49 PM

 Sallie Dalton

“ Coach Pelaez.....Does anybody remember him by any other name? Coach Pelaez was a dedicated, caring teacher, coach, and father. I will always remember him, Floats Pelaez, and Chick Henderson every Friday night chaperoning dances in the old gym at Moundville Jr. High for the students of MJHS. These great guys gave up their time and took on this responsibility for the kids.

We were blessed as children to grow up with such positive role models in our life. Thanks Coach...we love you.

Sallie Price Dalton

Sallie Dalton - January 24, 2015 at 05:38 PM

GH

Jody and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Your father had a long and wonderful life. May God be with you during this difficult time.
Grace Hoffman

Grace Hoffman - January 24, 2015 at 08:07 PM

RS

Joel, My prayers are with you and your family May God give you peace and comfort. Knowing that life is eternal

Richard Saffol

richard saffol - January 25, 2015 at 11:29 AM

LW

rest in peace

lila wilson - January 25, 2015 at 12:16 PM

LN

Jody, I'm so sorry to hear this news. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Lu Ann Nelson - January 26, 2015 at 08:30 PM

CS

“ *Jody, my deepest sympathy. Prayers are with you and your family especially during these sad days. Love you.* ”

Cathy Stiltner - January 24, 2015 at 03:42 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joe Pelaez.* ”



January 24, 2015 at 03:35 PM