



Joseph Gregson

October 24, 1955 - May 5, 2021

Joseph Shannon Gregson, age 65 of Glen Arbor Michigan, formerly Davison Michigan, passed on to heaven Wednesday, May 5th, 2021. He passed away in the comfort of his own home, surrounded by his wife, daughters, and other family members.

Joseph is survived by his wife, the love of his life of 39 years, Katherine Marie Gregson, children: Shannon Gregson, Emily (Kyle) Valkema, Heather (Christopher Norris) Gregson, Grandson Nash Michael Norris "Superhero" and in womb Granddaughter which he nicknamed "Beep-da-beep." Siblings: Mark (Sally) Gregson, Jonathan Gregson, Matthew (Barb) Gregson, David Gregson, Gina (Osmund) Kelly; Sibling-in-laws Lillian (Keith) Stevens, John (Tamara) Herrick, Susan (Robert) Lemble, Barbara Herrick, Ann (Greg) Turgeon, Michael (Pamela) Herrick, Mary Wiggins, James (Terri) Herrick, Carolyn (Mark) Stebbins, Thomas Herrick, Steven (Dawn) Herrick; & Over 80 Nieces and Nephews who Joseph cherished dearly.

He is preceded in death by his parents Billy Joe and Anna Marie Gregson.

Joseph was a loving, dedicated, and compassionate Husband, Father, and Grandfather. Everything that he did, he did with his family in mind. Joseph adored and loved his wife Katherine immensely, and made sure that everyone knew how in love they were. He loved and valued his daughters, their significant others, and his grandson; spending every possible moment with them was the joy of his life. Joseph was a highly loved man and considered by all to be the patriarch of both sides of his big family. Joseph's life was well-lived, and he was well-loved and respected by many. Joe would brighten up a room with his wits and humor, his personality and positive outlook impacted and changed the lives of everyone he touched for the better. He was a mentor to many, always encouraging and teaching people to reach their highest potential. He inspired everyone who talked with him and was considered to be a highly influential, down-to-earth, and intelligent man. He loved to teach about nature, the outdoors, his love of music, and his love of God, leading others to restore their faith and walk with the Lord. There was not a day that went by that he didn't pose an off-the-beaten-path adventure. He was an adventurer, outdoorsman-

including hunting, fishing, and conservation, a Seaman in the United States Navy, a world traveler, and a very accomplished man. Joseph worked extremely hard for his accomplishments and received his Bachelor of Business Administration as well as Masters of Public Administration from the University of Michigan, GO BLUE. He put in many years working for General Motors, starting from the bottom, and working tirelessly to the top. He retired from General Motors and continued to work for ZF Lemforder until his passing. Joseph lived his last years in his paradise of Glen Arbor Michigan, which he spoke about continuing the legacy and honoring the family home his parents had built. It was important for Joseph that he and his wife were able to live in such a beautiful place and welcome so many people into their home. Joseph was a very determined individual and even completed many hikes, bike rides, and hiked to the top of his favorite "Alligator Hill" all throughout his treatment. He battled AML with grace and courage while keeping his sense of humor. He will be tremendously missed by many and was immensely loved by all. "Shine on you crazy diamond."

A memorial service will be held at St. John Catholic Church 404 N. Dayton Street, Davison Michigan on Friday May 21st, 2021. Visitation will be from 10am-12pm with a service following at 12 pm.

Cemetery

Great Lakes National Cemetery

4200 Belford Road

Holly, MI, 48442

Events

MAY **Visitation** 10:00AM - 12:00PM

21

Saint John Catholic Church

404 Dayton Street, Davison, MI, US, 48423

MAY **Memorial Mass** 12:00PM

21

Saint John Catholic Church

404 Dayton Street, Davison, MI, US, 48423

Comments



“ I JUST looked up Kathy on FB (Sat am) & learned of Joe’s passing. I would have went to the Memorial had I known! Missed it by 1 day :(So sad for the entire Gregson& Herrick family’s, & all who knew & were touched by him. Truly a special person & I have many fond memories of Joe & Kathy & were in my eyes the “ perfect” marriage! Fly high w/ the Angels Joe & guide & protect your loved ones w/ Jesus. Hugs & love Kathy & girls. Dawn & Mark Nelson



Dawn Nelson - May 22 at 10:09 AM



“ Joe was genuinely a wonderful guy, he was a great co-worker and even a better friend. We shared a lot of laughs over the years and I am grateful for having known him. He will always have a special place in my heart. He will be missed by all. Kathy and family I am deeply sorry of your / our loss and I emphasize our as Joe was loved by so many. He will be missed.

Matt Worthing

Matt Worthing - May 18 at 11:01 AM



“ Thank you Matt. He was the most wonderful husband and friend. I will forever be lost without him.

katherine - May 18 at 03:51 PM



“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



katherine - May 17 at 09:31 PM



“ I am very sad to hear of the passing of Joe several weeks ago. I had the pleasure to get to know Joe a bit more than many of my team members as Joe was one of the most reliable and dedicated ZF team member to take on difficult remote assignments during supplier performance shortfalls over the years of which I too would visit in person. I had the opportunity to spend time therefore over dinner and a 'few pops' sharing our personal experiences and ideas outside of work topics.

I spoke often via text or cell with Joe during the pandemic and his fight of his terrible disease. I retired at end of last year, but continued to keep in touch with Joe even though my last call with him was 2 months ago. Time just flies by. We spoke about his recovery and outlook and as always his spirit was upbeat with even being back on the job post his transplant. He told me he was getting great support from his family as he was very much a family man loving his wife and family as well as his home in upper lower peninsula.
He will be missed by many.

I am glad to be able to remember Joe for those nights together and will always keep a laugh and smile in my heart when reminiscing those days.

My deepest sympathies to Kathy and the Gregson family.

Bruce

Bruce Wrenbeck - May 17 at 07:55 AM



“ Thank you. I've never been so proud. He was dedicated to his job and actually enjoyed it and everyone he worked for
This was unexpected as he was fighting hard
This is our greatest loss!
Katherine

katherine - May 17 at 09:29 PM



“ As we heard about the loss of Joe we are absolutely shocked and shattered. We would like to express our deep felt compassion for Kathy and the whole family and wish for the following time all our strength and compassion.

Tim & Ilka



Tim de Vries - May 14 at 05:07 AM



“ KATHY and Family, I am so very sorry to hear of Joe's passing. He was the best. . . .Husband, Father, Son, Friend and all that I did not include. I love you Kathy. If you ever need to talk, just call me. Love, Jerri

Jerri Quijada - May 17 at 03:07 AM



“ My thought and prayers for Kathy and the whole family. I am so sorry for such a loss.

Sarah Kelly Hartman - May 12 at 09:29 PM



“ My heart is with the Gregson family. I am truly saddened with Joe's passing. Joe and I were really close in high school and did some wild and crazy things. I have lots of great memories of those days - he was like a brother during that time. We got sidetracked in life and then many years later we tried to reconnect in 2020. He was trying to overcome his illness and we were not able to meet and share once again those old memories. Joe is a good man and his passing is making me rethink some of life's priorities.

Dennis Ford

Dennis A Ford - May 11 at 08:44 PM



“ My deepest condolences to the entire family. Joe lives on in each of you through your memories. Many prayers for all of you.



Barbara Scott Scally - May 11 at 08:08 AM



“ Stefan Pohlmann lit a candle in memory of Joseph Gregson



Stefan Pohlmann - May 11 at 06:47 AM



“ I was a pleasure to get to know Joe and to work with him. We will miss him and his positive and always helpful mind.

Stefan Pohlmann - May 11 at 06:49 AM



“ Peng Huiran ZF Shanghai lit a candle in memory of Joseph Gregson



Peng Huiran ZF Shanghai - May 11 at 01:24 AM



“ My sincere condolences for the whole family. I consider Joe a successful gentleman in every aspect of his life. ... always with a great smile on his face and showing a very positive attitude in the life.. He really loved his family. every time he was in Toluca, Mexico, he was excited to talk to me about his beloved wife and grand children, and he was also very committed with his job, and very proud to belong to the ZF team. May he rest in peace.
Lolita Villagran- ZF Toluca

Lolita Villagran- ZF Toluca - May 10 at 03:22 PM



“ Thank you. He was genuine too! I'm so proud and Blessed to be his wife
katherine - May 17 at 09:33 PM



“ Joe, we will certainly remember you not only for our time at work but for knowing you as a person. I always enjoyed your visits and your great human qualities. Rest in peace dear colleague.



Alfonso Villa - May 10 at 02:39 PM



“ My condolences, I fondly remember running into Joe at a bowl game in Orlando and weekly discussions I had with him about College Football. He was just a great all around guy to work around and he will be missed.

Tommy Boner - May 10 at 12:00 PM



“ I am so very sorry for your loss, my thoughts and prayers are with you. It is impossible for me to imagine what a huge loss you are feeling. Joe always had a helping hand and a smile for everyone. I sat next to him at ZF for a period and he had an unmistakable contagious laugh. Such a genuine person - he will be greatly missed.

Adrienne Stajich - May 10 at 11:57 AM



“ He was truly the best!!

katherine - May 17 at 09:35 PM



“ I've been trying to piece together all I have to say but I really am at a loss for words. I could write an entire series on how great of a dad, husband, papa, brother, uncle and friend you were to us all. I want to first say I am so thankful for the last three years you traveled down to GR every week to spend time with Nash, Chris and I. Dad, you are one of a kind and no one will ever be able to be the man you were. I am saddened that Nash will not have more time with you but I'm glad for the time he had. We are all missing you so dearly.. we are all questioning how we will ever be able to keep on.. You would want us to and we will continue to move your legacy... I miss you dad.. I miss one of my best friends. Please protect over us all! Till we meet again! Love Guppie



Heather Gregson - May 10 at 11:53 AM



“

katherine - May 17 at 09:36 PM



“ Loved “A larger than life presence whose personality always filled the room. A one of a kind and unforgettable man! Meet you on the flip side, Joe!
Ozz”

William Kelly - May 10 at 08:52 AM



“ WE loved to have Joe visit the plants and talk hunting and politics. He was genuine and always made time. He will be remembered as a friend and someone we will truly miss, this side of Heaven! Until we meet again Friend, I prayed for you often, but the Lord's timing is best. RIP Joe!
Kurt D. Brown - Lapeer ZF plant

Kurt Brown - May 10 at 08:51 AM



“ Thank you!
katherine - May 17 at 09:36 PM



“ I love you my brother. Thank you for all the laughter and smiles! There's no one like you and we are gonna miss you. I wake up every morning with a prayer fir you.



Gina Kelly - May 10 at 08:50 AM



“ Joe was a great mentor and friend to me at ZF. He knew his work well and was the kind of guy that was a 'go to' - always ready to solve an issue. Positive and smiling.....will be missed.
Marcie Hradil

Marcie Hradil - May 10 at 08:32 AM



“ Smile and positive person , I will remember his support in all critical moment in work but we know that after difficult days forever we need to keep a smile.

Thank you Joe

Verenice Villaseñor

Verenice Villaseñor - May 10 at 08:10 AM



“ Dear Family Gregson,
be assured that we as younger colleagues learned a lot from Joe. He was always helpful with his knowledge and experience - and I learned one of the most wonderful idioms from him "Don't count with the Vendor Defender Department" - the one of you who have had the opportunity to talk to Joe in regards to this >> you know what he wanted to say...

We will miss him in our circle and I will keep great memories on him! Ch. Brinkmeier

Christian Brinkmeier - May 10 at 08:10 AM



“ I will remember him with a smiling face. He was always very positive and a good friend. We will miss him and we will never forget him.
I am sharing your hard days.
Erdal Duran

Erdal Duran - May 10 at 07:57 AM



“ I express my deep felt compassion for Family.
Julia Terre



Julia - May 10 at 07:27 AM



“ Dear family,
I don't found the "right" words for you. I would like to say, Joe was not only a member in our team. He was a friend for us. He has supported us in a lot of critical situations in the last more than 10 year.
A great man an colleague has left us and leaves a big gap. We will keep him in our minds.
I'm with you in this hard time.
Dirk Neumann

Dirk Neumann - May 10 at 07:17 AM



“ Thank you. Unexpected. He fought hard. He enjoyed working for you Dirk. Thank you.
Katherine

katherine - May 17 at 09:40 PM



“ Joe was everything his wife, daughter's and others have said, and more.

As his youngest brother, I can say he taught me about hunting, fishing, camping, cycling, swimming and influenced me with his positivity & his winning smile.

Joe was positive, humorous and kind to friends and family.

Joe had a rich education, many of us share at the University of Michigan, and Charles Stewart Mott College.

Joe also self taught himself to teach others as well. He traveled the world in his job and prior his naval career on the USS Aircraft Carrier America.

He and my father's service, encouraged me to join the Coast Guard & later the Army.

My son Michael, (his nephew) chose the Navy to be in the family tradition of service to our nation.

Joe, notably has also other family who also served in the Armed Services he encouraged, such as the Marine Corps, and Army.

Many will miss Joe, his spontaneity & humor and ability to make others smile.

Our father, his nephew (My son Michael) and Joe all chose the US Navy, and all are together today, Joe and Michael taken too soon, in that unity and spirit.

David Gregson - May 09 at 05:56 PM



“ Joe, you were so dedicated and had a wonderful attitude even when you were dealing with difficult situations at work. ZF was lucky to have you.

Elizabeth Umberson

Elizabeth Umberson - May 09 at 12:55 AM



“ He handled every day like that as well. He was so very special. I miss him so very much!!

katherine - May 17 at 09:42 PM



“ How will I go on without you. This is so unreal. I love you so and miss you terribly. My dear love my comforter my hero I will be looking for that sign every day.



katherine - May 08 at 06:23 PM



“ Joe was everything his wife, daughter's and others have said, and more.

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David Gregson - May 09 at 05:37 PM



“ I Love you to the moon and back a million times. I already miss you so much and we are all so lucky to have had you as our father. I love you dad. Love your Geage.

To the Man that set the standards. How are we to go on living a good life without you in it? I will always be asking myself this. I feel like I'm in a nightmare, even though I know you're in a better place. But also which place is better than the home you created and continued the legacy for in Glen Arbor? My heart is absolutely breaking, and I don't think any of us could ever be prepared for a life without Joseph Gregson. You set the standards. The best dad any girl could ask for. The best husband a woman could make a life with, The best papa a kid can have, the best father-in-law a guy could have, the best Uncle, friend, cousin etc- that taught so many things to so many people and welcomed anyone who he came in contact with. Who can I count on for jokes now? To make any situation a better situation- even when fighting an aggressive cancer that robbed you of so many things. You kept such a great attitude through it all, so chivalrous in fighting something that I know scared the shit out of you. The countless talks we had about hope and asking for a miracle. It breaks me. I hate that you had to go through this, when you didn't deserve any bit of it. You said we would fill the great hall one last time for you- and we did. The amount of people who came to see you the last week and a half really showed you how important you are to so many people. I am grateful for the time we all had. Grateful that I was blessed with the best dad on this earth. I am grateful we were able to bring you back to your home, and that we could care for you these last days. Making jokes most of the time, and leaping through hurdles that no one thought you would for the remaining time. Please pray for my family. This is the hardest thing we will ever have to go through. I can explain to you how important this man was to so many- but it still wouldn't give any justice to the man you are. And to have parents who still love each other like the first day they met is incredible. Thank you for setting the standard on how to be a great husband, father, papa, mentor and beyond. I will forever cherish the memories, laughs, tears, adventures, nights spent staring at the stars and teaching us about space , and I am so thankful you were able to Pin me at my RN pinning ceremony. I love you tremendously. We jammed to some great music these last few days, having mini concerts in the living room- and as you kept mentioning/singing to me:

“Shine on you crazy diamond ”

Emily “Geage” Valkema - May 08 at 12:06 PM



“ Our greatest loss. We will never know why we will only have this great big hole in our lives. Love you Geage

katherine - May 17 at 09:45 PM



“ It seems so unfair sometimes when God Calls you home and you have so much life and living to do. Joe , you lived a wonderful life and was loved by so many. Praying for comfort for your family.

Judi Papp - May 07 at 08:12 PM



“ We all bow our heads knowing that God is caring for this wonderful strong man who cared for his family so well and brought joy to the world. Joe, you are so missed even by those who were just getting to know you. But your spirit is so strong.

Lissa Edwards - May 08 at 06:43 PM



“ Expressing our deepest sympathy for the family of the late Mr Joseph Gregson. You are in our prayers.....

From: Home Depot #2716
3rd shift Freight Team
Tom's Co-workers



Char Pippins - May 07 at 07:29 PM



“ Diane Klingenberg lit a candle in memory of Joseph Gregson



Diane Klingenberg - May 07 at 06:52 PM