



Joseph P. Hovanec, Sr.

September 18, 1928 - June 9, 2013

CROSWELL: Joseph P. Hovanec, Sr., age 84, died Sunday June 9, 2013 peacefully at his home.

He was born in Beaverdale, PA September 18, 1928, the son of the late Michael and Helen Hovanec. He was the 7th of their 8 children.

Joe was a Marine Corp draftee during the Korean War. He received a Bachelors Degree from St. Francis College in Loretto, PA, and a Masters Degree from the University of Pittsburgh. Joe spent 34 years in education; first as a chemistry, physics, and biology teacher, then as an Assistant Principal at Mott High School in Warren, MI. His last 17 years in education was serving as Principal of Croswell-Lexington High School in Croswell, MI. He was a father figure to his students and emphasized the need for higher education and giving 110%, whether in sports, the classroom, or life.

He married Audrey Vicic September 13, 1952 in Beaverdale, PA. This past year, they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. They had 10 children together.

Surviving are his children Martha (James) Pierce of Huber Heights, OH, John of Port Huron, James (Nancy Susan) of Croswell, Nancy Tanner of Croswell, Anne (Randy) Craig of Croswell, Audrey (Thomas) Martin of Marysville, Paul of Croswell, and Amy (Jeffrey) Boswell of Orchard Park, NY. Joe was a loving and devoted grandfather to 21 grandchildren: Andrew and Gregory Brown, Jennifer Pierce-Ruff, Matthew, Jason, Mark, and Michael Pierce, Valerie and Joshua Hovanec, Adrienne Tanner-Henderson, Christine Tanner-Weiler,

Jonnette Tanner-Garske, Jacob, Joseph, and Lucas Tanner, Danielle and Adam Craig, Alison and Zachary Martin, and Katelyn and Nicholas Boswell. 11 great-grandchildren; Evan and Liam Brown, Grady and Alaina Brown, Lucy and Joseph Ruff, Olivia and Kenzlie Henderson, Deegan Weiler, Elizabeth and Madilyn Garske. Two sisters, and one brother.

He was preceded in death by his children Joseph Paul, Jr. and Mary Ann Brown; one brother, and 3 sisters.

The most important things to Joe were his faith and family. He left an indelible mark on all those whose lives he touched. For his family, Joe will live on in the many memories and lessons learned.

Visitation will be held from 2 to 9 PM Friday at the Pomeroy Funeral Home, Crosswell. Funeral and burial will be private. www.pomeroyfuneralhomes.com

Tribute Wall

BW

“ Dear Hovanec Family- You are in my thoughts and prayers today, as you mourn and remember a truly admirable man. I hope you find peace, and eventually joy, as you take comfort in his memories and in the knowledge that he enjoys eternal happiness in Heaven.
Bob West and family

Bob West - June 14, 2013 at 03:01 PM

RR

“ May you rest in Gods peace, and thank you for always being thier for me, for loving me when i wasnt so loveable and always being a friend. *Pat Robbins*

Rev. Pat Robbins - June 13, 2013 at 08:44 PM

PS

“ Joe Hoavanec was a fine man, always a teacher, and above all he was never to busy to help. I have not seen him since my graduation in 1968 but the obituary hit the nail on the head with his drscription. I am a better person for knowing him just as all the "kids" that came in contact with him. He will be missed.

Peter Souriall - June 13, 2013 at 12:53 PM

DM

I loved that man he was the most wonderful man that walked this earth. Before cros-lex he came from the same school district I came fom in 1973. I'm sorry to hear he is gone. Margaaret (peggy) Milidrag Miller. David also feels the same way and yes we are still together after 46 yrs. I believe it is.

David Miller - February 03, 2020 at 05:37 PM

SD

“ Jim & Family, I'm so sorry to hear about your Dad and Grandpa. From everything you've told me, He was a very good man.

Steve Dalton - June 12, 2013 at 08:40 PM

MD

“ Rest in peace, Joe...to Audry and the rest of the family we pray that after the storm settles that you will find peace and comfort in your many wonderful memories. God's blessings to you all.

Mike and Patty DeVore - June 12, 2013 at 06:02 PM

JT

“ Amy, Jeff, Katelyn, and Nick, Sorry to hear about your dad/grandpa's passing. Sending hugs of comfort your way. Thinking of all your family during this difficult time. We love you guys! Jodi, Jim, and the boys.

Jodi Trisler - June 11, 2013 at 08:52 PM

TD

“ My sympathy goes out to the Hovanec family. Joe gave me my first teaching position at Cros-Lex. and I appreciated his confidence in me back then. He was very instrumental in my early teaching years and will be greatly missed.

Todd Diederichsen - June 11, 2013 at 07:24 PM

HM

“ Our condolences to the Hovanec family at this time. Joe was the man that hired me and I spent 35 years at Cros-Lex High School. His support of me, especially in my first years at the high school was never forgotten. Harry/Mary Ellen Mageski

Harry Mageski - June 11, 2013 at 04:25 PM

WS

“ God Bless you all. Mr Hovanec made such a difference in so many of our lives and we are all better for knowing him. Prayers for you in this time of loss....

Wendy (Jackson) Stubbe - June 11, 2013 at 03:38 PM

EJ

“ Joe was just an awesome guy! I believe that he actually hired my dad into the school system. Loved every moment I spent with him as a "teachers kid"....I was always safe to go hide under Joe's desk when I was hiding from dad in the school! Pleasure to know him and it is just awesome to know the impact he made on peoples lives!

Eric Jackson - June 11, 2013 at 03:21 PM