



## Joseph A Gerdelmann Jr

February 15, 1934 - September 24, 2016

Joseph A. Gerdelmann, Jr. of Hainesport passed away on Saturday, September 24, 2016 at his home surrounded by his family. He was 82.

Born in Camden, Joe was a lifelong Hainesport resident. He was one of the first Altar Boys at OLQP Church and a graduate of Mount Holly High School. He was a self-employed mechanic who was best known for his drag racing career and his tow trucks. Joe was inducted into the NHRA Hall of Fame in 2000. He was a member of the EZ Rodz car club, a lifelong member of Hainesport Fire Co., and a lifelong member of Our Lady Queen of Peace Church.

Joe is survived by his wife of 55 years, Gail; 2 children: Joseph (Nancy) Gerdelmann III and Connie Sue (Frank) Garrano all of Hainesport; 8 grandchildren: Lynda Gail, Joe Boy & Paige Gerdelmann; Russell Jr, Blaine, & Erica Gail Johnson; Nikki & Sam Garrano; 4 great-grandchildren; and his loving sister Maryann Kirvan of Mount Laurel.

Relatives and Friends are invited to visit with the family on Thursday from 5-8 PM at the Perinchief Chapels, 438 High St., Mount Holly. Mass of Christian Burial will be Celebrated on Friday at 10:30 AM at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Marne Highway, Hainesport. Interment will follow in Sacred Heart Cemetery, Hainesport. Contributions in Joe's memory may be made to the

Hainesport Fire Co., 106 Broad St., Hainesport, NJ 08036.

# Cemetery Details

## Sacred Heart Cemetery

Washington St.  
Hainesport, NJ

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **29**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Perinchief Chapels  
438 High Street  
Mt. Holly, NJ 08060  
(609) 267-0399  
info@perinchief.com  
<http://www.perinchief.com>

## Mass of Christian Burial

SEP **30**. 10:30 AM (ET)

Our Lady Queen of Peace R.C Church  
1603 Marne Highway  
Hainesport, NJ

# Tribute Wall



“ *Joseph A Gerdelmann Jr*

October 29, 2022 at 11:57 AM



“ *Joseph A Gerdelmann Jr*

October 29, 2022 at 09:53 AM



“ *My memories of Joe run deep & sincere. He proved to be a part of my life which has left this planet without HIS honesty, dedication, sincerety & humor! To Gail & the family, my condolences!!! A great friend!!! Tim Cranmer*

**Tim Cranmer** - March 13, 2018 at 01:11 AM



“ *So many memories of Joe. The most generous person with both time and knowledge. And as so many tributes mentioned, full of great stories and love of drag racing. To Gail, Connie and Joey, my deepest sympathies for your hughe loss.*

*Dick Goldner*

**Dick Goldner** - December 26, 2016 at 05:30 PM

BC

“ I am going to miss Joe. He had so many stories to tell! It was fun going with him to a car event. Really a nice person and good friend. My heart goes out to his family!

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**Bob Cross** - September 29, 2016 at 12:34 PM

JM

“ God Bless one of the nicest guy- spent a lot of time with him in the 70 and 80 just found out at 8:55 wish I had known sooner -



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**Jim McCulley** - September 28, 2016 at 08:01 PM

EL

“ My sincerest condolences to the Gerdelmann family. Joe will be sorely missed. He always had a story to tell and was a wealth of information of the "good old days" of racing. Be assured he's crossed life's finish line a winner.

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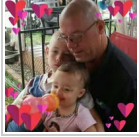
**Edward Laird** - September 28, 2016 at 10:25 AM

SW

“ Lots of fond memories of the "Best Garage in Town". Spent many hours there when it was also the home of Al's Custom Interiors. Joe is what memories are made of. Rest in peace. Steve and Chickie Woodward, Seminole, Florida

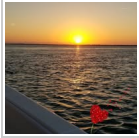
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**Steve Woodward** - September 28, 2016 at 09:30 AM



“ *What can be said of a man of his caliber, Gayle, Connie and Joey our thoughts and prayers are with you and the family.*

Chris Foxhill - September 27, 2016 at 11:08 PM



“ *Although we just met Joe within the last year his stories, memorabilia, and cars were an inspiration to our family of racers. Thanks for spending the time sharing the stories and letting us into your home and garage. You will be missed but your legend lives on. Our deepest sympathy to those you leave behind.*

*Harry and Barbara Lutz*



Barbara Lutz - September 27, 2016 at 07:48 PM



“ *Mike Pullen lit a candle in memory of Joseph A Gerdemann Jr*



Mike Pullen - September 27, 2016 at 07:17 PM



“ *I married into the McCarthy family in 1986 (Kathy's husband). I remember many years of Christmas parties at the Gerdemann's. Terrific fun. And Joe wouldn't have it any other way. The cars, the stories, photos and memories. We'll never forget it and we'll never forget him. Thank you for those memories. You'll be missed. Steve & Kathy Trachtenberg*

Steven & Kathy Trachtenberg - September 27, 2016 at 06:53 PM

JR

“ Joe was one of a kind with his love for cars especially MOPARS. He will be missed at EZ Rod Meetings, auto shows and our social gatherings. His stories of days passed and how drag racing evolved to where it is today were always entertaining. He is one of the rare breed that was there to lend and hand help with his knowledge of MOPARS. God bless the Gerdelmann Family. Renee and Joe Rivera

Joe Rivera - September 27, 2016 at 06:00 PM

SB

“ Gail, Connie and Joe, I am so sorry for your loss. Joe was a great guy with a huge smile and an even bigger heart. He was always so kind and welcoming to me, especially after Darrell's death. He left his mark on this world and will be greatly missed. I will not be able to attend the services because of previous commitments but my thoughts and prayers are with you. Susan Bryant



Susan Bryant - September 27, 2016 at 04:29 PM

WL

“ Joe was a mentor when it came to Mopar people. When I was very young and staying at the shore, I went to the Vineland Dragway to watch Joe in his #67 rail. I saw the twin engine Hemi at Becker's and his Hemi roadrunner later. I was hooked and even have a 68 Road Runner now. Joe was the authority on anything Chrysler and willingly shared that knowledge. He will be missed ,but his legend lives on with Mopar fans everywhere.  
W.B. Luckenbill



Wm. Luckenbill - September 27, 2016 at 12:37 PM

KH

“ *Kim Hensley lit a candle in memory of Joseph A Gerdemann Jr*



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**Kim Hensley** - September 27, 2016 at 08:20 AM

DK

“ *Dale Kitchin lit a candle in memory of Joseph A Gerdemann Jr*



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**Dale Kitchin** - September 27, 2016 at 12:14 AM

 Erica Johnson

“ *Where do I start.. Poppop you were and continue to be my hero. The past 7 years living with and seeing you every single day has been such a blessing. Your big smile, big heart, and funny jokes will be missed . You are my biggest supporter and the best grand father I could ever ask for. I know your still here in spirit but it's not the same .. I miss you so much pop and nothing could ever ease the pain. I would do anything to bring you back to our family... But I know your with your family in heaven and building a badass race track and car (yes, with a hemi). Ugh as I'm sobbing writing this.. I just want you to know that I love you so much.*

*Love,  
Your little Errie*



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**Erica Johnson** - September 26, 2016 at 10:54 PM

Jl

“ He was a great man and a fair man. I bought a car off of him and I could only afford to give him \$25 a week and while I was in process of paying him someone came along and offered him cash, he refused the offer and he eventually helped me realize my dream of owning a muscle car. He would also let me and my friends visit his shop and would give us advice on cars and life .

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**joe iacono** - September 26, 2016 at 10:52 PM

DL

“ We are so sorry to hear about Joe's passing. My parents used to park there trucks in the back lot many years ago and became great friends to our family for a very long time. I worked for Gerdelmann's garage in the office as a Co-op Student from RVRHS and was very honored to work for them while in high school. He sure will be missed by so many people. Heaven has gained another angel to watch over all of us. He will have a lot of stories to tell when he gets there. RIP Joe! Love Always, Donna, Bruce and family. ❤️

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**Donna Gribbin Loehr** - September 26, 2016 at 09:36 PM

SS

“ Blessings to the Gerdelmann family. Our Sincere Sympathy in the Passing of Joe. He was a wonderful man who meant a lot to our family. Always teaching us something new and making us feel like part of his family. My husband and Father in Law Frank thought of him as one of their Very Close friends. Recently he even became close with my youngest son Anthony. A fantastic Man with beautiful family Ethics. Rest now our friend, Till we see you someday again.

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**Susan Stagg** - September 26, 2016 at 08:08 PM

SS

*Susan Staff not Stagg ?*

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**Susan Staff** - September 26, 2016 at 08:09 PM

DP

“ I remember changing an engine on my 1963 Plymouth at his garage on Rt. 38 with my brother-in-law, Bud Millinghausen. Joe was a great guy to know!

*David W. Peters*

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**Dave Peters** - September 26, 2016 at 07:44 PM

JJ

“ My car was down because it needed a distributor gear pressed on and pinned. A close friend of mine and Mr Gerdelmann's asked if he could help me out. He did the job the same day and my car was running by 5 o'clock that night. I always appreciated what he did for me that day. Thank you, rest in peace sir.



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**John Paolone Jr** - September 26, 2016 at 07:30 PM

KG

“ Joe will always be a great man. I remember going to all the car shows with Babe and my husband Charlie. He will be missed dearly

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**Kisha Gaskill** - September 26, 2016 at 07:14 PM

MB

“ Sad to hear about the loss of Joe. He was a great guy, always willing to help anyone in need. He loved hauling the Relief Fire Company's Steamer to Wildwood for the Firemen's Convention. Miss you Joe, RIP

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**Martin Bruce** - September 26, 2016 at 07:01 PM

MC

“ *Mr & Mrs Richard Cocuzza lit a candle in memory of Joseph A Gerdemann Jr*



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**Mr & Mrs Richard Cocuzza** - September 26, 2016 at 06:58 PM



“ *Wendy Snyder lit a candle in memory of Joseph A Gerdemann Jr*



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**Wendy Snyder** - September 26, 2016 at 06:52 PM

JM

“ *Always kind. Always a gentle man. Always a firm handshake while looking you in the eye. You couldn't for a better Man. Forty years of hearing him say, "how's real estate, you still driving a Chevy?" .....He will be missed many. RIP Mr G.*



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**Jeff Masishin** - September 26, 2016 at 05:56 PM

LC

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this difficult time. What s really nice man and I'm glad I got to know him. .. May you all find comfort in knowing he is at peace. God Bless*

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**linda Clauss** - September 26, 2016 at 05:38 PM

SP

“ Shirley Powell lit a candle in memory of Joseph A Gerdelmann Jr



Shirley Powell - September 26, 2016 at 05:12 PM

Kenny Wigley

“ My thoughts and prayers are with Gayle Joey Connie and the whole extended Gerdelman clan. Big Joe was a huge influence in my life as a young man. Being in his bigger than life presence and sharing his racing stories set me on a life long course of wrenching and racing Chryslers his favorite brand became mine. I'm grateful for his inspiration and once again so sorry for your loss

Kenny Wigley - September 26, 2016 at 03:36 PM

MC

May prayers be with your family. Mr & Mrs Richard Cocuzza

Mr & Mrs Richard Cocuzza - September 26, 2016 at 07:03 PM

Charles Cron

I was a young guy but I remember seeing Joe every sunday at the Garvey races. he would be there with his lift truck putting the boats into the water and pulling them out at the end of the day. His crane work was a big part of the show. Thanks for the memories Joe

Charles Cron - September 27, 2016 at 05:05 AM