



Joe Wayne Gersch Sr.

April 19, 1946 - May 26, 2019

Joe was unexpectedly called into the presence of the Lord on Sunday, May 26, 2019 at the age of 73 following a motorcycle accident in Cartersville, GA. Born on April 19, 1946 in Hammond, he was a long-time resident of Tangipahoa and Livingston Parish living the past 38 years in Independence. He obtained the rank of Staff Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps Reserve and subsequently worked many professions over the years. Since 2006, "Farmer Joe" and his wife have owned and operated Yawn Station Christmas Tree Farm where he has helped bring joy to countless families and their homes during the Christmas season with his friendly personality, cheerful smile, Christmas spirit, and Christmas trees. He enjoyed many hobbies including beekeeping, coin collecting, amateur radio, and Harley riding. He was loved by many and will be missed by all that knew him. To know him was to love him.

He is survived by Kay Purvis Gersch, his wife of over 49 years; his children, Charla Burchfield (Billy); Joe Gersch, Jr. (Connie); and Amanda DiZinno (John); his sister, Gwen Bertone (Richard); brother-in-law Jackie Purvis (Virginia); grandchildren Brandon Burchfield, Laura Broussard (Seth); Heather Gersch, Brad Gersch, Kristin, Austin, and Kyle Newman; Hayden, Anna, Sophie, Isabelle, and Anthony DiZinno; and six great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Rollen and Wilton Gersch and his brothers, William "Bill" Gersch and Glenn Gersch.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the visitation from the chapel of

Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home, Hammond, on Sunday, June 2, 2019
from 2:00 p.m. until the funeral service at 4:00 p.m. Bro. Kip Shuford will
officiate and interment will follow in Bankston Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Bankston Cemetery

28366 Turkey Creek Rd.
Independence, La

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 2. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home - Hammond, LA
12012 Highway 190 W
Hammond, LA 70401
(225) 567-1884

Funeral Service

JUN 2. 4:00 PM (CT)

Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home - Hammond, LA
12012 Highway 190 W
Hammond, LA 70401
(225) 567-1884

Tribute Wall



“ *The Southern Christmas Tree Association is a better organization for having had Joe Wayne as a contributing and involved member and officer. SCTA’s members benefited from his hands-on approach and how he shared knowledge with those facing similar challenges. SCTA stands behind Kay and their families as each continue their journey.* ”

Mike Buchart, SCTA - June 28, 2019 at 08:38 AM



“ *I am Ronald Allen an Army veteran saying I am sorry for your loss.* ”

Ronald Allen - June 02, 2019 at 04:54 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joe Wayne Gersch Sr..* ”



June 02, 2019 at 12:14 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joe Wayne Gersch Sr..* ”



June 01, 2019 at 07:55 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Joe Wayne Gersch Sr..



June 01, 2019 at 05:20 PM



“ The Sugarcane Boutique Family purchased the Sacred Garden Spray for the family of Joe Wayne Gersch Sr..



The Sugarcane Boutique Family - May 31, 2019 at 11:21 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Joe Wayne Gersch Sr..



May 31, 2019 at 06:18 PM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Joe Wayne Gersch Sr..



May 31, 2019 at 04:15 PM



“ *Fairest of All* was purchased for the family of Joe Wayne Gersch Sr..



May 31, 2019 at 03:48 PM



“ *Delightful Dieffenbachia* was purchased for the family of Joe Wayne Gersch Sr..



May 31, 2019 at 02:21 PM



“ *Garden Cross* was purchased for the family of Joe Wayne Gersch Sr..



May 31, 2019 at 12:25 PM

SC

“ Mrs. Kay, Gwen & Family,
One memory I have of Joe @
Wayne: he always had a smile 😊 on his face. That alone would
Brighten my day!! But he loved to give...and he gave back....every
time Ms. Lea called, yep, vampire lady my Momma, so he made a
difference to Me! And I'm praying God give you all strength, grace,
& peace in the days ahead. There's a verse from Matthew 5:4 I
hope y'all get comfort to you all:
Blessed are those that mourn for they shall be comforted!
Much love being sent to you all.

Sue Crockett - May 31, 2019 at 12:05 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the
family of Joe Wayne Gersch Sr..



May 31, 2019 at 09:54 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for
the family of Joe Wayne Gersch Sr..



May 31, 2019 at 09:53 AM

MB

“ When Troy, Madison, and I were in a VERY severe car accident and she was flown to children’s hospital with her dad in the helicopter with her, your concern and love was shown as you drove me from Hammond to New Orleans to meet them! I’ll always remember your loving support during that incredibly difficult time!! We love you, Joe...
Melissa Bunde



Melissa Bunde - May 31, 2019 at 07:30 AM

MM

“ Kay and family, my prayers are with you. I hope you take comfort in knowing your husband is in the arms of Jesus

Mary Margaret Mocsary - May 31, 2019 at 01:54 AM

JM

“ Kay, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time. May Jesus comfort you.

Jean Miley - May 30, 2019 at 10:43 PM

GM

“ Yes! To know him was to love him !
I’m remembering many fun times-Esp when y’all lived next door2MawMaw’s/BR... Water balloons, etc!
Shedding tears in Colorado 🙏♀️ LOVE Gloria W 🌹🙏 GodBU All ❤️

Gloria Watts M. - May 30, 2019 at 07:44 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joe Wayne Gersch Sr..*



May 30, 2019 at 05:22 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joe Wayne Gersch Sr..*



May 30, 2019 at 03:05 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joe Wayne Gersch Sr..*



May 30, 2019 at 02:38 PM



“ *There are no words that I can say that will adequately describe the impact that God had used Mr Joe in my life at a time I needed it the most. He was a man who opened his heart and life to us all. Mrs Kay, Lil Joe and the rest of the family, we are praying for you all. Much love to your beautiful family.*

Maureen Fontenot - May 30, 2019 at 02:09 PM