



Joel A. Drees

January 9, 1939 - November 6, 2024

Joel Drees, 85, of Fond du Lac, unexpectedly died on Wednesday, November 6, 2024, at his residence.

He was born on January 9, 1939, in Milwaukee, the son of Joseph M. and Myra E. Breitkruetz Drees. He was a graduate of West Milwaukee High School and attended MATC – Milwaukee.

Joel was a director and producer at Channel 12, in Milwaukee, where he oversaw production of Dialing for Dollars and Kid Show on Channel 10. He worked as a historian and office manager at WI Memorial Park in Brookfield.

Joel was a member of Fondy Vintage Car Club, owning a 1953 and 1965 Studebaker. He was a very proud Catholic, and member of Holy Family Parish – Sacred Heart Church. Joel loved animals and was “Volunteer of the Year” at the Fond du Lac Humane Society.

He is survived by his sister Judi Ziemann of North Fond du Lac, his good friend Pam Krause of Van Dyne, loving uncle to Anthony (Tracy) Ziemann and Earl J. (Tina) Ziemann; great uncle to five and great-great uncle to nine.

He is preceded in death by his parents, his niece Kellie Keller, many friends and relatives, and his beloved cat Lionel.

Per Joel’s request, cremation will take place.

Memorials are to be directed to any of the animal shelters.

Tribute Wall

BB

“ I got to know Joel when I worked at Marian and he would walk through the Administration Building during his daily walks. It turned from a quick "hello!" to longer, deeper conversations. He brought in a scrapbook of Lionel, talked about his friends, his sister Judi, his Studebakers and car shows and was such a pleasure to visit with. I brought him fudge one time after a visit up north. I was sad to hear of his passing, he was in remarkably great shape for an 80 year old! I just wanted to take a moment to remember Joel, and say that I am happy to have known him. Blessings to all who knew and loved him.

Bianca Birschbach - May 29, 2025 at 10:52 AM