



## Joseph M. Golichnik

October 24, 1933 - October 15, 2022

Joseph M. Golichnik, 88, of Fond du Lac, died Saturday, October 15, 2022, at his residence.

This is what our Dad wanted his obituary to say – “Joe died, Corvette for sale”. We always tried to honor his wishes, but not this one!

Joseph Methodius Golichnik was born October 24, 1933, to Joseph and Anne (Jeray) Golichnik, in Sheboygan, WI. They had a family of four children: Anna Mae, Joe, Laurie and Mike.

Dad attended Sheboygan South High School and met our mom at a CYO meeting – he knew when she walked in wearing her navy-blue pea coat that he was going to marry her! They married on October 24, 1952, and moved to Fond du Lac for Dad to work at G&L. Shortly after, they started their family – Cheryl, Kate, Mimi and Joe. In 1963, he started his career at Mercury Marine, serving in a number of different positions making many friends, including some he met in his travels to Japan. He was highly respected and touched the lives of many.

Dad’s retirement started a new adventure for him and our mom – first being a 3 month “job” in Maui, Hawaii. They enjoyed all their memorable travels.

Dad enjoyed playing cards, meeting friends for lunch, going out for dinner, having a gimlet while cooking on the grill, making and giving away bird houses, “scattering joy”, visits from family and friends, especially the “little ones” who would be directed to the candy cupboard and maybe even given a dollar when they left! He also did enjoy a cocktail or two! He has been a

member of St. Patrick's/Holy Family for 70 years. Our mom was forever his "bride" – he adored her and she was his everything.

Dad is survived by our mom, Marilyn (Progar), children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren: Cheryl (Jeff – deceased) Kuhn and family Brian (Dawn) Kuhn – Anna and Addy; Julie (Nick) Rusch – Lilly and Henry; Dan (Sarah) Kuhn – Hayden, Hadley, Dawson and Leelah; Kate (Gary) Flohr – Tony (Katie) Mathos – Sophia and Ben; Mimi (Jeff) Ipsen – Angela Ipsen, Amy (Jonathan) Leonard – Lydia, Alyssa, Ellie and JJ; Joe (Katie) Golichnik – Callie (Charles) Barfield – Lou; Patrick & JT; he is also survived by nieces, nephews and cousins.

VISITATION: The family will greet friends from 4:00 – 6:00 PM, on Friday, October 21, 2022, at Kurki Funeral Chapel & Crematory, 31 East Division Street, Fond du Lac.

SERVICE: A Memorial Service will be held at 6:00 PM on Friday, October 21, 2022, at Kurki Funeral Chapel & Crematory, with Deacon Dale Paczkowski officiating. Cremation has taken place.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations are appreciated to Hospice, St. Vincent's, Salvation Army or Holy Family.

Dad's daily prayer: Lord, thank you for my life, I thank you for my wife. I thank you for my family and friends. I thank you for my health. I thank you for my wealth. I thank you for this world full of wonders without end. For all these things and more, I thank you.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **21**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Kurki Funeral Chapel & Crematory  
31 E. Division Street  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935  
(920) 921-4420  
info@kurkifuneralchapel.com  
<https://kurkifuneralchapel.com>

## Service

OCT **21**. 6:00 PM (CT)

Kurki Funeral Chapel & Crematory  
31 E. Division Street  
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# Tribute Wall

TC

“ My childhood home was two doors down from Joe’s house, and I would often spend time there visiting when I was young. I don’t remember much about those times now, but I know that I must have really enjoyed his company because I would visit often. One vivid memory I do have: I was very shy growing up, but had decided I wanted to do a puppet show for neighbors; before I started I nervously peaked out at the audience, and Joe gave me a thumbs-up and the most genuine “you got this” smile, an expression I can still see in my mind as I write this now. A story I don’t remember but that has been recounted to me numerous times by my mother: one day I went to Joe’s house to hang out but was bummed to see that he didn’t answer his door; undeterred, I checked the door and found it to be open, so I went in and quietly sat at the bottom of the stairwell by the door; given that Joe was taking a shower upstairs at the time, he was quite shocked when he walked down the stairs and found he had a guest in his house waiting for him!

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**Tim C.** - November 06, 2022 at 07:32 AM

JP

“ I knew Joe from working with him at Mercury. He was a really good guy.

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**Jim Piper** - October 24, 2022 at 10:47 AM

LG

“ If you got to know Joe Golichnik, you were one lucky person - and he would have said he was the lucky one to have met you! We will miss seeing Joe when we come to my mom’s and Andy will certainly miss having his drink and talks with him. He truly was a gem! Bless his soul! Love, Laura and Andy

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**Laura Glandt** - October 21, 2022 at 05:11 PM

KK

“ Our sincere sympathy to the Golichnik family. Joe was my first boss at Mercury Marine 1971. He had an infectious personality, a kind, encouraging, honest person. Linda and I loved our regular evenings out with Joe and Marilyn, which we referred to as a Sebastians run, and after dinner it was back to one of our homes to continue our conversation along with dessert and an Aber gut cocktail!  
Lots of Love from Kerry and Linda

Kerry and Linda Karpathian - October 21, 2022 at 09:08 AM

EM

“ To Marilyn & Family, My thoughts & prayers are with with you during this difficult time. Joe was a kind, friendly & a true gentleman.He will be missed, but may the care & support of family & friends along with the fond memories of Joe help to give you some comfort & peace.  
Sincerest sympathy, Esther Mand

Esther Mand - October 20, 2022 at 08:49 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Joseph M. Golichnik.



October 20, 2022 at 07:27 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joseph M. Golichnik.



October 20, 2022 at 06:14 PM

BM

“ My most sincere condolences to the Golichnik family. I first met Joe while I was employed in the Personnel Dept. (now HR) for Mercury Marine in Fond du Lac in the mid 1970s. When the company needed to staff up and hire significantly in '76 - '77, Joe was most helpful in assisting me to hire the needed workers. He was patient, considerate, and so willing to share with me - a relatively new Plant Personnel Mgr. at the time. I will always be grateful to Joe for his help and direction. More than an Engineer or HR guy, Joe was a wonderful person. Although the time we were work colleagues was long ago, it is a tribute to him that his efforts and the type of person he was produced long-standing memories. Blessed indeed be his memory.

Brian McClure  
Fargo, ND

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Brian McClure - October 20, 2022 at 03:57 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joseph M. Golichnik.



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October 20, 2022 at 03:13 PM

PG

“ The obvious question is: “So, how much do you want for the Corvette?” Joe’s sense of humor must be recognized as one of the endearing things you remember about the man. He was one of the first people I met when I came to work at Mercury. We shared an office and he was instrumental in getting me off on the right foot. Joe and Marilyn become our friends and that has lasted all these years. Friends are defined as people that no matter how long you have been apart, you can pick up like it was yesterday. Memories run deep. We have never met better people than Joe and his family. Unfortunately health reasons will keep us from attending the memorial service, but we are definitely there in spirit. Rest in Peace old friend.

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**Patrick J Gannon** - October 19, 2022 at 05:11 PM

PB

“ I always enjoyed running into your Dad, he always had a smile on his face!

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**Pam Behnke** - October 19, 2022 at 04:13 PM

JM

“ The Munson Family is so very sorry to hear of Joe's passing. Lynn and I were fortunate to see Joe and Marilyn in 2017 when we were home to see Dad. We have very fond memories of fun days on Bischoff Street and Willow Drive, block parties, church picnics, etc. May God comfort you all, especially Marilyn, my dear Godmother. Thoughts and prayers to the entire family....Joe was a sweet, gentle man.

*Kurt, Lynn and Jane Munson*

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**Jane Munson** - October 18, 2022 at 11:40 PM

JD

“ My sincere sympathy to the family. Joe was my first boss at Mercury Marine 1973. I will always remember him as a kind, encouraging, honest person. Rest In Peace Joe.

*John Dart*

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**John Dart** - October 18, 2022 at 10:34 AM

BD

“ My deepest condolences to the entire family; especially to Marilyn; for the passing of Joe. I have very fond memories of both Marilyn and Joe who were dear friends of our parents Paul and Betty Richmond. Joe was always so happy and kind as also is Marilyn; I loved the time they spent with our family. May God bring his family strength and comfort; may he rest in peace. Barbara (Richmond) DiRegolo

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**Barbara DiRegolo** - October 17, 2022 at 10:07 PM

GS

*Dear Marilyn & family, Joe just saying his name his vibrant smile pops right up in my mind. Just a kind, warm, caring friend. George has many great stories & memories of the times they traveled & worked together, he greatly admired Joe & will cherish every memory. Love, prayers, condolences, & God Grant you Comfort & Peace.*

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**George&MaryAnn Scott** - October 18, 2022 at 01:27 PM

GS

*Rest In Peace Dear Friend 🙏*

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**George&MaryAnn Scott** - October 18, 2022 at 01:30 PM

SK

“ Dear Marilyn and family, I am so sad to know Joe will not be around to say hi and see his smile. What a great guy and what a character!! From being a neighbor on Schubert Lane to our joint adoration of Corvettes and making sure they were put to their winter sleep properly, serving together on Willow Bend Board and being friends, he will be missed. When you see Russ in heaven, give him a hug from me. We always have to say “see you later” to the best ones! Marilyn, I am on a trip this week but I will stop in soon to say hello! Sending hugs and smiles! Sue Kamphuis

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**Sue Kamphuis** - October 17, 2022 at 09:46 PM

CM

“ To all the Golichnik family, what a blessing you had in Joe! I remember him from when Cheryl and I were in grade school together at St. Pat's. Though I haven't seen Joe since that time, the obituary you wrote was perfect. It reminded me of just what a wonderful person he was.  
Chris McGrath

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**Chris McGrath** - October 17, 2022 at 09:01 PM

AB

“ My deepest sympathy to Marilyn and family. Rest In Peace my friend. You will be missed.

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**Andrea Blalock** - October 17, 2022 at 06:14 PM

MK

“ I would always keep Joe in my thoughts as a good friend of over 50 years. In fact I wanted to hook up with Joe and Marilyn this fall to share some fresh potatoes and beets from my garden, boy he sure enjoyed them. Joe and Marilyn would share there adventures and keep me updated on the family happenings. Thank You Joe for being one of the good guys!

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**Mike Krudwig** - October 17, 2022 at 05:11 PM

MB

“ Joe was a blessing! I am firmly convinced if it wasn't for Joe and Grandpa Frank, my kitchen in FdL would never have gotten finished! So many wonderful memories of your Family throughout our time in FdL and I will be forever grateful for the times we shared. My condolences and love to you all. Soar with the Angels, Joe!

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**Michele G Bemis** - October 17, 2022 at 05:08 PM

BD

So good to hear from you Michelle! Barb (Richmond) DiRegolo

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**Barbara DiRegolo** - October 17, 2022 at 10:09 PM