



Joseph McErlane

February 10, 2011

McErlane, Joseph J. Age 62, of Edina. Born March 5, 1948 in Philadelphia, PA, passed away February 2, 2011 at the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, OH. Survived by his loving wife of 42 years, Florence; children, Joan R. McErlane, Rebecca A. McErlane, Megan McErlane Gaupp (Scott), Erin McErlane Bale (Eric), and Joseph McErlane, Jr.; grandchildren, Nola McErlane, Kamea and Braden Bale; sisters, Patricia Webb and Jane Pellegrino (Donald); nephew, Dallas J. Webb; niece, Marilee Webb. Preceded in death by parents, Joseph and Theophila McErlane; and brother- in-law, Dallas W. Webb. Joseph was a 1970 graduate of Villanova University. He was a very proud, active alumni, serving as a recruiter for prospective students in the Minneapolis area. He was one of the original founders of National Benefit Resources and served as the company's chairman and CEO, retiring in 2006. Prior to National Benefit Resources, Joseph was the Vice President of Group Sales for the IDS Life Insurance Company. Joseph was very generous with his time, talents and resources. A loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend. He will be deeply missed and will live on in our hearts forever. A special thanks to National Jewish Health and Rose Medical Center, Denver, CO, and the Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH for the special love and care given to Joseph over the past month. Visitation 4-8 PM Thursday, Feb. 10, Washburn-McReavy Edina Chapel, West 50th St. & Vernon Ave at Hwy. 100, Edina. Mass of Christian Burial 10:30 AM Friday, Feb. 11 with visitation beginning at 9:30 AM at the Church of the Annunciation, 509 W. 54th St., Mpls. Interment

Lakewood Cemetery. Memorials preferred to Prader-Willi Syndrome Association (USA), 8588 Potter Park Drive, Suite 500, Sarasota, FL 34238 or Annunciation School, 525 W. 54th St., Mpls 55419. Washburn-McReavy Edina Chapel 952-920-3996

Tribute Wall



“ *Based on these comments, it sounds like Joe continued to be the man and good friend that I knew in Villanova. He was always of good spirits, kind, generous and just one of those people you wanted to associate with because he made you feel good. It's been awhile...too long in fact but I do mourn his passing and hope that time will heal the wounds of Joe leaving us way too early. With loving memories, Bob McKiernan '70 Villanova*

[Contact Me](#)

August 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ *I only recently learned of Joe's passing and was very saddened. We were classmates at V.U. and he was like a big brother to me. Rest in Peace, Joe and my deepest condolences to Flo and Kids.*

~

Ginny Malzone,

Florida

Ginny Malzone - July 29, 2012 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ Dear McErlane Family: I just became aware of Joe's passing over a year ago and my thoughts and prayers go out to all of you at this time. I knew Joe from his NBR days (and Fluff I remember meeting you on NBR trips to Bermuda and Kauai). Our company did a fair amount of business with NBR (because of Joe) as I owned a TPA in Kansas City. Joe was the consummate professional, very bright and fun to be with...but what I will always remember most about Joe was how he "always did the right thing" and treated his clients and customers the same way in which he would have wanted to be treated. I remember one situation in particular where Joe himself approved the payment of a six-figure claim for one of our clients even though all of the "i"s weren't dotted and the "t"s weren't crossed...a very easy claim to deny.....but after looking at all the facts he knew it was the right thing to do in that given situation and he did it....from my perspective he was exactly the type of person I wanted to do business with because I always knew I could trust Joe to do the right thing in any situation we encountered. Joe also taught me a few fun \$2 betting games to play on the golf course one afternoon when he hosted me at Edina Country Club....I still play those games in KC today. Again, I am so sorry for your loss and pray that as time has moved on you have all been able to embrace the multitude of wonderful memories Joe I know has left you with. God's Blessing to All the McErlane's! George McDonnell FMH CoreSource

~

George McDonnell,

Leawood, Kansas

George McDonnell - February 29, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BM

“Dad, thank you for giving me 40 years of absolute unconditional love. I am so very lucky to have you, my Father. Your 1st granddaughter Nola is missing you, from the day she was born you two were bonded. She completely understood, communicated, played and loved you. You loved spoiling her. You knew what a great child she is and wanted to give her everything because of that. Dad you understood the big picture in life. I will strive to understand that. Your love for your 5 children, 3 grandchildren is amazing. The love for Mom was so dedicated and instant. Thank you for our long talk before you passed. And smiling at Mom as you die, so amazing. I have to believe someday we will be together again. I just want one more hug from you. Your daughter forever.

~

Becky McErlane,

Edina, Minnesota

Contact Me

Becky McErlane - February 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I am having a sad day today because I miss you so much. You were always the person who would make me feel better or to give me a kick in the pants when I needed one. I don't know how to live this life without you. You brought so much joy & laughter to everything & you loved being with us. Every occasion was special to you and now I feel so empty. I know you would want us to move on and be happy but that is easier said than done. Why did you have to go? Why couldn't you be with us a little longer? I miss your laugh, smile, & the way you would wave your hands in excitement. I miss all those things and I wish I knew if you are ok, in heaven. Tonight is Kamea's Christmas program & I know you will be there watching over her. This is your favorite time of year & it's not the same without you. God, I wish you were here. "My First Christmas In Heaven" I see the countless Christmas trees around the world below With tiny lights, like Heaven's stars, reflecting on the snow The sight is so spectacular, please wipe away the tear For I am spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year. I hear the many Christmas songs that people hold so dear But the sounds of music can't compare with the Christmas choir up here. I have no words to tell you, the joy their voices bring. For it is beyond description, to hear the angels sing. I know how much you miss me, I see the pain inside your heart But I am not so far away, We really aren't apart. So be happy for me, dear ones, You know I hold you dear. And be glad I'm spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year. I sent you each a special gift, from my heavenly home above. I sent you each a memory of my undying love. After all, love is a gift more precious than pure gold. It was always most important in the stories Jesus told. Please love and keep each other, as my Father said to do. For I can't count the blessing or love he has for each of you. So have a Merry Christmas and wipe away that tear Remember, I am spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year. Merry Christmas Dad! I love you

~

erin

December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

ER

I wish I met you so much even though you were just like me I wish you could've stayed Love the youngest grandkid Edie

Erin - May 25, 2021 at 08:48 PM

EB

“ *I miss you more & more everyday.I love you..*

~

Erin McErlane Bale,

Minnesota

Erin McErlane Bale - September 23, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BD

“ Dear McErlane Family; I met Joe through the Self Insurance Institute of America. I was a young lawyer and he was a seasoned professional. Over the years I enjoyed many a great conversations with Joe. He was always accessible. He was generous and kind. He spoke his mind and respected those that he differed with. He was a true gentleman and he will be greatly missed by all of us. Please accept my humble condolences on his passing. I am very sorry for your loss. Bryan Davenport

~

Bryan Davenport,

Franklin, Indiana

Bryan Davenport - March 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ Joe, It was an honor to be in your presence. Your warm smile and encouraging words made us feel special. Your love and kindness extended to our family will live with us in our memory forever. We're thankful and so very fortunate to have known you and your wonderful family. God Bless you Joe. With Love and Prayers.

~

The Urbaniak family, Jerry, Kris, Kathy and Monica,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

The Urbaniak family, Jerry, Kris, Kathy and Monica - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ I miss you so much Dad. I love you. I didn't want you to go , I didn't think you were going. You tried to explain but I didn't want to believe. I can't believe you have gone. But I do know where you are is a very special place given to those who loved the most. The rest of my life I will work hard in honor of you and I will love Nola so unconditionally like you did with me. I believe someday we will be together again. You lived the life of ten men, even though your life ended at the age of 62. Love you forever.

~

Becky McErlane,

Edina, Minnesota

Contact Me

Becky McErlane - February 23, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ *Dad, It's been two weeks since you left us. Life will never be the same but I know you would want us to continue to be good kids, be kind to others and to celebrate your life instead of being sad all of the time. I am trying to keep our happy memories alive in the forefront of my mind. I will do my best to be a better person and to make you proud of the legacy you've left with us. I hope you are ok and happy. I hope that you are enjoying a manhattan, playing pool tabs and most importantly....breathing easily. I miss you more than words can say and I love you very much! Love, Meercat xoxox*

~

Megan McErlane Gaupp,

Plymouth, Minnesota

Megan McErlane Gaupp - February 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

D(

“ Dear McErlane Family, our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. I remember Joe when we were growing up down the block and he was always so kind and friendly. May you find comfort in Joe's memory and support in eachother. Blessings to you and your families.

~

Denise Curran (Johnson),

San Antonio, Texas

Denise Curran (Johnson) - February 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ Dearest Erin, Fluff, Nola and to all of the McErlanes, Across the miles, we send to you our deepest condolences and only wished that we could have been there to be with all of you. Joe was always full of laughter, life and celebration. We know that he will live on within our hearts as we hold the memories of his time together. We miss you all. Take care.

~

Cherie Gartner,

Bangkok

Cherie Gartner - February 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ Please accept our condolences on the loss of Joseph. Courage Center has lost a good friend. Our thoughts are with you during this difficult time.

~

Courage Center,

Minnesota

Contact Me

Courage Center - February 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

FO

“ *Fluff and All the McErlanes I am so sorry for your loss. Joe was a great husband, Father, Grandfather, Brother, Uncle and a shining example to us all. I, personally have been so blessed to have had Joe as a friend. I love you all and will keep you in my thoughts and prayers. God Bless*

~

Fran O'Hanlon,

Easton, Pennsylvania

Fran O'Hanlon - February 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ *Fluff and all the McErlanes, We all send our sympathy to your family for the loss of such a great husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend. Our memories of Joe are from Philly and Beach Haven, NJ. May he rest in peace and may your memories of him keep him near you.*

~

Greg and Pat Bruce and family,

Lansdale, Pennsylvania

Greg and Pat Bruce and family - February 12, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *To Fluff and family, we are grateful for our time with you in Minnesota. You were our extended family when we were far from home. We remember Joe's big grin as if he knew a secret or was going to say something humorous. The sound of his laughter was a celebration of a joyous life! May the warmth of memories blanket you and yours with comfort. Beth & Jerry Parker (Tulsa, OK)*

February 12, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ *McErlane family, My sincere sympathies go out to you on Joe's passing. Joe was such a warm and caring person who made you feel special just being in the room with him. Our family at NBR was a testament to his leadership ability and giving ways. I will keep him and you all my prayers. May God bless.*

~

Tracy Miller,

Lakeville, Minnesota

Tracy Miller - February 11, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ Aunt Fluff and Family: We were so sad to hear about Uncle Joe's struggle and passing. For some moments in life there are just no words. But while we are mourning his loss, others are rejoicing to meet him in the next life. I look forward to seeing him again there. May God bless you all and bring you comfort and peace - you'll be in my prayers.

~

Colleen Reardon,

Rockledge, Pennsylvania

Colleen Reardon - February 11, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ Dear Fluff and family, We are so glad we had the chance to get to know Joe at Elfreth's Alley. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you. Paul and Maureen (Reardon) Pedersen

~

Maureen Pedersen,

Atco, New Jersey

Contact Me

Maureen Pedersen - February 11, 2011 at 12:00 AM

EW

“ To Aunt Fluff + McErlane, Bale, Gaupp, Webb & Pellegrino Families, I am so happy to have had the opportunity to get to know Uncle Joe. He and all of you made me feel welcome and a part of this loving family. Uncle Joe was a wonderful man with exceptional warmth and gentleness, and a great sense of humor. I will treasure and cherish the beautiful memories we had last Thanksgiving. My heart and thoughts go out to all of you in this difficult time. I love you all.

~

Elhan Webb,

Zurich

Contact Me

Elhan Webb - February 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LG

“ *Big Joe had such a charismatic way about making everyone he met feel close to him. What he brought to the world will be missed by so many who share in your sorrow. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with you.*

~

Lisa and Dave Gaupp,

Greenville, Wisconsin

Contact Me

Lisa and Dave Gaupp - February 09, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ I am so happy to have met "Joe" and all his family...we have celebrated weddings and the beach and "alley days" together..Joe and Fluff were among the first relatives I met as I began to become part of the reardon clan..I will treasure knowing him and for having all those memories...I am blessed...May God Bless the Soul of Joseph McErlane

~

shirley reardon,

douglassville, Pennsylvania

shirley reardon - February 09, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ *BIG JOE..Your name does not only equate to your size BUT to your heart..Your openess and generosity were beyond bounds..the joy that you brought will ALWAYS be remembered..The times both at elfreth's alley and LBI were very special and at times hilarious!! We will miss you and keep you always in our prayers*

~

Bill Reardon,

douglassville, Pennsylvania

Bill Reardon - February 09, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ *Big Joe, We will all miss you. My heart goes out to you all.*

~

Mark Reynolds,

Fort Mill, South Carolina

Mark Reynolds - February 09, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Dear Fluff and Family, Even though we are not able to be with you in person for Joe's service, know that you will be in our thoughts and prayers. We know you fought the good fight to help Joe find healing- he has found it. Trust in the Lord to see you through this sad time and remember the good times you had as a family. Continue to learn from his example and know some day you will be together again. Remembering Joe's Smile,

~

Mike and Janet Harbry,

Blue Eye, Missouri

Mike and Janet Harbry - February 09, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Thank you for all of your generosity towards our school, your family is in our hearts & prayers....Peace. Elena, Michael, Madelline, Marlana

February 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GP

“ *Fluff and family* We were saddened to hear of Joe's passing. We have such a long history of good times together that we will never forget. Joe was a very unique and special guy. We are all a little better for having known him.

~

George & Shirley Peterson,

Punta Gorda, Florida

Contact Me

George & Shirley Peterson - February 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GH

“ *Fluff & family* Our love, thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Joe was a big part of our lives for many years and we will truly miss him.

~

Gary & Trudy Hart,

Fort Mill, South Carolina

Gary & Trudy Hart - February 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ *When we lose someone we love, it seems that time stands still.
Peace, prayers and blessings from the Peterson family.*

~

Laurie Peterson,

Richfield, Minnesota

Contact Me

Laurie Peterson - February 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ *Dear McErlane's, it was an honor to get to know such a caring and generous man and it continues to be my privilege to be friends with such a great group of people. Hope to see you all again soon.*

~

Rob Bergeron,

Providence, Rhode Island

Contact Me

Rob Bergeron - February 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Dearest Fluff and family, We are so sorry to hear of your loss. We will treasure the many wonderful times at NBR and keep you all in our prayers. May your many beautiful memories be your comfort and joy. Love, Bill and Linda Peterson

February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear McErlane family, We are so sorry for Joe's loss. We will remember Joe for his kindness and generosity towards my family. He made such a wonderful difference! He will certainly live in the memories of those whose lives he impacted. Our deepest sympathies.

~

Amalia, Roberto, Caroline, Joyce and Hans Pflaumer,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Amalia, Roberto, Caroline, Joyce and Hans Pflaumer - February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you in your time of grief. May your memories bring you comfort.* ”

~

Jeff and Gayl Wylde,

Crystal Lake, Illinois

Jeff and Gayl Wylde - February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Big Joe- Thanks for letting me take the Mustang out for a drive, and thanks for my good friend baby Joe.*

~

Casey Johnson

February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ *Fluff and your entire family, I am so sorry to hear about Joe. It was a privilege to know him and call him a friend. I will cherish all the memories that we all enjoyed together.*

~

Dennis Callahan,

Bend, Oregon

Dennis Callahan - February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ To the McErlane Family- We are so sorry to hear of your loss, he will be dearly missed. You are all in our prayers- The Radkes

~

Lisa Penn-Radke,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Contact Me

Lisa Penn-Radke - February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ To McErlane family - We are so saddened by the loss of such a dear friend. We're thankful for the wonderful memories our families have shared and will take strength from them as we adjust to a world without Joe. He will be greatly missed. We love you all very much.

~

Steve & Nancy Loosbrock,

Golden Valley, Minnesota

Steve & Nancy Loosbrock - February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ Dear Friends, We send you all our love and prayers. Know you are all in our hearts. Joe you will be greatly missed by family, and friends. You really are one of the good guys. Our family was very Blessed to have you in our lives. We will miss your wonderful smile, encouraging words and your loving friendship. We have many wonderful memories and fun times to cherish. We love and miss you. Much love to all, take care of yourselves and know Joe is watching over you always. God's Blessings, Marilyn /Ralph Rabasco

~

Marilyn Rabasco,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Contact Me

Marilyn Rabasco - February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ *Im not even sure where to begin. Ive known Joe for 30+ years. As a young kid the Willette boys were either over at the McErlane house or the Mcerlane girls and baby joe were over at the Willette house. I still am in shock and am very sad. Its a chapter of my life I will never forget. Joe always wanted the kids to have a great time and he always stuck up for us! There are so many memories, one that sticks out is the trip to florida, I believe in 1981. He took us to the Hoopdie doo review and was singing and laughing. He also got us through the gates with out waiting in a very long line. Big Joe you truly were a gift! Love to all the McErlanes.. Love Paul Willette and family...*

~

Paul Willette,

Eden prairie, Minnesota

Paul Willette - February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ Joe was an amazing man who connected with everyone he met. He was kind, gentle, funny and extremely generous. We are saddened by this loss of this great man. Our thoughts and prayers are you and your family.

~

Paul and Dee Grausam,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Paul and Dee Grausam - February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ *McErlane Family, There is so much that can be said about Big Joe. He was one of the most kind and caring men I have ever known. I will not soon forget what he did for my family when we were in times of need. He will be missed dearly.*

~

Rob Rabasco,

Pillager, Minnesota

Rob Rabasco - February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Joe the elder was always an interesting business presence, and we enjoyed fencing over our beliefs, presumptions and assumptions. Complex and interesting man. Dr. Bruce Parker*

February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ Dear McErlane’s, I want to express my deepest sympathies to the entire family. Joe was a great man, and we will all miss him very much! Your entire family has been in my thoughts and prayers. Sincerely, Alex Brust

~

Alex Brust,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Alex Brust - February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ Joe was a stalwart friend and generous contributor to a family of new immigrants from Argentina who arrived at a time of turmoil in their native country. He and I never met, but we were partners in helping this family thrive -- which they are! Blessed be his memory.

~

Lori Sturdevant,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Lori Sturdevant - February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ *Fluff, We are close friends of Joe’s sister, Jane, and, even though we didn’t know Joe, we came to know and love this wonderful man and his family through Jane’s stories. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family during this difficult time and hope that over time your hearts will lighten thinking of all the fond memories and joys that Joe has brought to your family. Fondly,*

~

Mariellyn & Dennis Ferreri,

Collegeville, Pennsylvania

Mariellyn & Dennis Ferreri - February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ Joe was one of the most generous, kind, and wonderful person in the world and we feel so lucky to have been able to laugh, party with and love him. He will be dearly missed by many. Love to the McErlane, Gaupp, and Bale families in this rough time. We love you all.

~

The Rodine Family,

Golden Valley, Minnesota

The Rodine Family - February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Fluff & the McErlane family, Pat, Jason & Marilee Webb and Jane & Don Pellegrino, The Reckner family has lost a true friend and I have lost a great email buddy who always brightened my day. My thoughts and prayers are extended to all of you at this time of mourning. Love from Charlie Reckner

February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

NB

“ Dear MacErlanes and extended family, Although I never knew 'Big Joe', as Erin always called him, I was lucky to hear many warm and often funny stories she would tell of him. My sincere sympathy, thoughts and many, many prayers to all of you as you keep him alive in your hearts through stories, memories and love. xoxo

~

Natalie Bergeron,

Boston, Massachusetts

Natalie Bergeron - February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ Joe, so many say you were a mentor. I was one of the lucky ones to say how much I learned from you. As Ernie Clevenger said, he was a giant in our industry. Prayers for Joe and the family.

~

Jeff Perkins,

Greenville, South Carolina

Contact Me

Jeff Perkins - February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ *Megan and Family, I am so sorry for the overwhelming loss your family is experiencing right now. What an amazing person that impacted so many lives. May all your wonderful memories help you through this difficult time. Hugs and Kisses!!*

~

Andrea Mohr,

Farmington, Minnesota

Andrea Mohr - February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TC

“ *Megan & Family, May the memories help you through this difficult time. I pray that God comforts you & guides you through this. Your Dad was an amazing man & he touched a lot of lives.*

~

Tawn & Jeff Comp,

Prior Lake, Minnesota

Tawn & Jeff Comp - February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ We're Thinking of You..Fluff, Joan,Joe,Becky and Nola, Megan and Scott, Erin, Eric, Kamea and Braden. "The love, the joy, the kindness of a life well-lived...all of these things endure." Even as we mourn with you, we are celebrating Joe's (Dad, Papa) great life...one that made such a wonderful difference to so many.With Heartfelt Sympathy,

~

Judi and Gary Bale,

Byron, Minnesota

Judi and Gary Bale - February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ Dear Fluff and McErlane family. I enjoyed knowing Joe during my nearly 8 years at National Benefit Resources. I learned a great deal from Joe that I continue to use. He was truly an inspiration and a wonderful man. Barbara and I send our deepest sympathies.

~

Barbara and Joe Henry,

Jacksonville, Florida

Contact Me

Barbara and Joe Henry - February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ *Uncle Joe is one of the greatest human beings to ever have walked this beautiful earth. He gave so much and asked for so little in return. His example of love, charity, and kindness will live on in all of our hearts. We are all better people for having my Uncle in our lives. I love you Uncle Joe, I know you are smiling and standing with us all.*

~

Dallas Webb,

Zurich

Dallas Webb - February 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ *May the road rise to meet you, May the wind be at your back, May the sun shine warm upon your face. May the rain fall softly on your fields, And until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hand. Loved by all of us and will always have a special place in our hearts.*

~

Christine Corgliano,

Hammonton, New Jersey

Christine Corgliano - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ *Big Joe was one of the most generous, kind-hearted, joyous, and funny men I knew. He taught his children and grandchildren the same traits that made him so loveable. My life has been touched by him and the past 30 years of memories will always be there. I hope you can find peace in knowing how many lives he had an impact on. Love you you all.*

~

Beth Sable,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Beth Sable - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ Dear Fluff and everyone in the McErlane family. It is difficult to imagine a world without Joe in it. His life touched so many other lives in addition to his family, however, that he will certainly live on in the memories of everyone who knew and loved him.

~

Lynda Friedman,

Gulfport, Florida

Lynda Friedman - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Fluff, we are thinking of you and everyone in your family. We talked today about our memories of the many good times we shared with you, Joe and your family. We wish we could be with you in person to share our sorrow in Joe's passing many, many years too soon. This virtual hug will have to do, but it is given with our love. Jim and Marilyn Walters, Gulfport, Florida

February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PF

“ Joe was my mentor, friend, boss and debating opponent. What success I have had would never have been possible without his support, guidance, and, most of all, belief in me. The worse the situation, the better he was. The more I needed him, the better a friend he was. I miss Joe and will cherish his memory.

~

Paul Friedman,

Gulfport, Florida

Contact Me

Paul Friedman - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AR

“ *Gentle and kind man. Will be greatly missed!*

~

Angie Remjeske,

Minneapolis

Angie Remjeske - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ *McErlane Family: Whenever I needed a smile, I knew I could call or e-mail Joe and he would say something that made me laugh and/or smile.... especially the stories about and love for his kids, grandkids or his dear Fluff. You couldn't help but smile when you were around or talking to Joe. I feel truly blessed to have had him as a friend and will never forget him. Hugs...*

~

Judi Lund,

Savage, Minnesota

Contact Me

Judi Lund - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ *The McErlane Family, We are so sorry that you had to lose an amazing husband and father in your lives. John and I have been so blessed to have such fond memories of Big Joe. He was the most genuine and kind-hearted man. It is really hard to say goodbye to a person who has been a big influence in our lives. We know how hard this is for all of you and we wish we could take away all the pain. Just remember you have a true angel always watching over you. We love all of you so much and are here to help you in anyway. Love, Jill, John, Caitlin, Annie, and Maddie Mulcahy*

~

Jill Mulcahy,

saint Paul

Jill Mulcahy - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ Joe, Jr., Megan, Erin and Family, Your Dad was one of the best people I've ever had the pleasure of knowing. We at PJ will miss him! He was fun, serious, smart, a true gentleman and a man who loved his family above all else. Even in the last year when he wasn't well, his attitude was remarkable. We are all better for having known him and will miss him very much. Cherish your memories! My prayers and thoughts are with you all, Marybeth Basten

~

Marybeth Basten,

Eden Prairie, Minnesota

Marybeth Basten - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

FS

“ *Fluff and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Joe was a good man who left too soon.*

~

Frank Stackowitz,

mpls, Minnesota

Frank Stackowitz - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Fluff and all of Joe's wonderful family, Our thoughts and prayers are with you. We miss him already--even though we are so far away. Joe's love, laughter, and positive outlook will live on in our hearts, along with all the happy memories of friendship and fun we have shared through the years. Love from Chuck Neerland & Maureen Kelly Neerland*

February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *To the entire McErlane family, I am so sorry for the loss of Joe Sr. I have countless fond memories of him, and I couldn't have asked for a better family to have grown up next door to. You guys helped shape my life in a very meaningful way, and he played a big part in that. Thank you for the great memories. Ross*

~

Ross Halsne

February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *To the McErlane Family, We are so sorry to hear this news. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. John and Michele Westlund Punta Gorda FL*

February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AL

“ To the McErlane Family We are deeply saddened by the loss of such an amazing man. Joe truly had a heart of gold, an energy that would draw you in and a smile that would warm your heart. May God bring you comfort and strength during this time and may the memories of the laughter and love you shared bring you peace now and always.

~

Alex & Tanya Loosbrock,

Plymouth, Minnesota

Alex & Tanya Loosbrock - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ Joe, what a wonderful Legacy you've left and we're sure that your outstanding example, generosity, and warmth will continue to make a difference for generations. You made the World a better place and the smiles and memories you provided us are a wonderful gift that we'll always cherish. Peace Be With You, Brian & Sandy Fitzpatrick

~

Brian & Sandy Fitzpatrick,

Ladera Ranch, California

Contact Me

Brian & Sandy Fitzpatrick - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Your family means so much to us. you are in our thoughts and prayers. Joe was an amazing man and we are lucky to have had him in our lives. so many happy memories.we love you. peace, tony and alexandra*

~

tony & alexandra loosbrock,

minneapolis, Minnesota

tony & alexandra loosbrock - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Joe*

February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Megan, Fluff, and family, We will forever hold the warm smiles, big blue eyes, and fun laughs your father brought to so many. Praying for you all. With Love,*

~

Kathryn Norha and Family

February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ *Joanie and family, Bouchaib and I are keeping you in our thoughts and prayers during this time. Let us know if you need anything.*

~

Melissa Adams,

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Melissa Adams - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Dear McErlane Family.....I so wish I could take your pain away at this difficult time....please know that I am thinking about you...please take care of yourselves....allow yourself to feel and grieve...it is so important..call upon others when in need....there are so many people that love and care about you and want to help....hugs to all of you....Missy Adamek Sether

~

Missy Sether,

Farmington, Minnesota

Missy Sether - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ There is really no way to put into words how much Joe touched our lives. After 30 plus years of friendship the only feeling is LOVE..The love of life, Friends and Family that Joe shared with everyone that had the honor of spending time with him was genuine and from the heart. We will miss him very much...Our love is with His entire family...Love Ralph and Holly Rabasco

~

Ralph/Holly Rabasco,

Orlando, Florida

Contact Me

Ralph/Holly Rabasco - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *I love you. XOXO*

~

Erin McErlane Bale

February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *To the beautiful McErlane family. You are in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Leanne Bowron Villano*

February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ ~

Laurie Peterson,

Mpls

Contact Me

Laurie Peterson - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ We will miss you dearly, Joe. But we have your smile, your kindness and all the good times in our hearts forever.

~

Lisa & Enrique Paredes,

St Paul, Minnesota

Lisa & Enrique Paredes - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ We miss Joe so much but his laughter, smile, and memories stay with us. I am a better person just by knowing him. Big Joe has touched many many lives and through each person he has touched he will live on. We love you all very dearly.

~

Meaghan and Lizi Dahl,

Richfield, Minnesota

Meaghan and Lizi Dahl - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ As a friend of Erin and Joe Jr. I'm aware of the footprint Big Joe left on his community through his business success, but more importantly I'm aware of the heart-print he's left on his family. The wonderful memories he has left them will live in their hearts forever. I am so grateful to have the gift of his children and grandchildren in my life. My thoughts and prayers are with the the McErlanes during this difficult time.

~

Molly Halsne,

Mpls, Minnesota

Molly Halsne - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ We miss Joe so much already, but there are so many memories we carry with us that make us smile. We are better for having him - and you all - in our lives. We love you and are keeping you in our prayers!

~

Ron & Jenn Maskal,

Lakeville, Minnesota

Ron & Jenn Maskal - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Dear McErlane Family, I was so sorry to hear about Joe. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this very sad time.

~

Meredith Halsne,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Meredith Halsne - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ *McErlane Family...My thoughts & prayers are with you. I hope you can find some comfort in how many lives Joe touched.*

~

Maren Wilson-Hart,

Rosemount, Minnesota

Contact Me

Maren Wilson-Hart - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM