



Matthew Joseph "Joe" Gandolfo

March 13, 1936 - February 27, 2015

MATTHEW JOSEPH 'JOE' GANDOLFO, PH.D., 78

LAKELAND - Matthew Joseph Gandolfo, Ph.D., age 78, passed away peacefully on Friday, February 27, 2015, due to advanced stage cancer. Joe, as he was known by, was born in Richmond, Kentucky on March 13, 1936. Joe was first recognized as one of the top life insurance salesman in the country, earning one of the highest honors in the industry by becoming a life and qualifying member of the Million Dollar Round Table in 1963. He later became a nationally known authority on income, estate and gift tax planning matters. He was a popular and frequently sought out motivational speaker at events across the US and author of several books. He has appeared on CNNfn, CBN's '700 Club' and Eternal World Television Network. He has also been a guest on hundreds of syndicated radio and television programs nationwide. Joe had a passion and enduring love for work until the day he died. He was also a life-long aficionado of the sport of tennis who played regularly and often sponsored events, including the Junior Vet tournament at the U.S. Open. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Carol; his two brothers, George and Tommy Gandolfo; and his sister, Carmela Reda. Joe also has three children, Mike Gandolfo, Diane Bekemeyer, and Donna Peterich; and six grandchildren, Ashley and Amy Brasovan, Katie and Cody Bekemeyer, Anna and Joseph Gandolfo.

A Catholic funeral Mass in celebration of Joe's life will be held at The Church of the Resurrection at 11am on Saturday, March 7th. A reception will be

following immediately after the Mass at the church. Joe was a dedicated philanthropist that touched many lives, so in lieu of flowers, please send donations in Joe's name to either The Church of the Resurrection or St. John Neumann's local parishes in Lakeland, Florida. Condolences to the family may be given at: www.gentry-morrison.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAR 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

Church of the Resurrection
3855 S. Florida Ave.
Lakeland, FL 33813

Tribute Wall

JY

“ I ran the booking department for The 700 Club TV and Joe was always one of the favorite economic guests on the program. He was the same "on" camera as well as "off." When I thought of him today I checked to see where he was and found that he had departed for heaven. He was a man who brought much joy to so many with his goodness and kindness.



Jackie Mitchum Yockey - April 26, 2023 at 03:06 PM

JR

“ I met Joe in the early 80's when he was at the peak of his career, as I was in mine, in the life insurance business. He was a dynamo for sure and one of the nicest people I ever met in the business. RIP Joe Gandolfo, you were one in a million ...

John Roe - May 27, 2022 at 01:04 PM

AT

“ I have just got to know about Mr.Gandolfo's passing away.I am a Malaysian Catholic and wanted him to write to my son and daughter in 2010 to encourage them in their lives.He did and it was a really inspirational and wonderful letter ! Eternal rest grant unto Joe O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.
Anthony

Anthony Tan - September 12, 2018 at 03:05 PM

PR

“ He was like a bolt of lightning on the stage and must have been the same with his clients-his clients were transported to new elevated view of their worth as humans and wealth creators. Patrick Aloysius Ryan. Limer5ick- Ireland

Patrick Aloysius Ryan - September 08, 2015 at 08:14 AM

LS

“ Joe was our financial planner consultant, but much more than that. He had a wisdom and commitment about him that was always an inspiration. I felt he was "tuned in" to more than the wisdom of this world, and have no doubt he is celebrating his newly found home prepared for Him by the King of Kings. While we will miss him on this side - it is good to know we are connected to a life that never ends and will meet again some day.

Love to the family -I'm sure Joe is sending comfort & love from above.

Lisa (StJohn) & Mike Houston

LSJ - March 07, 2015 at 07:32 AM

AI

“ I met Joe back in 1973 when I was first in business. He was a Roman Catholic, very spiritual and I was hooked on the business because of him. I met him at a meeting one night, we had dinner, and then I went to Mass with him the next day just like I dreamed it. I even went to his office in Florida and during his busy schedule he took a few hours out of the day to spend time to talk to my wife and me. He was always a hero to me and will be greatly missed. The peace and love of Jesus the Christ be with him now and forever. My deepest sympathy to his whole family. Anthony A Iannone ChFc, CIC, LUTCF, RIA Norwalk CT

Anthony A Iannone - March 05, 2015 at 11:10 PM

DK

“ Joe was so gracious, knowledgeable, and caring whenever I would call for advice. I am grateful to have known him. Rest in peace my friend, and I will see you face to face someday when we stand before the Lord!
Dr. Ken Krieger,
Peoria, AZ

Dr Ken Krieger - March 04, 2015 at 12:18 PM

DP

“ We truly appreciated Joe. His honesty and integrity are his marks in life. He led a blessed life and shared himself and his knowledge with everyone he met. He will be truly happy in heaven with the Lord.

Dan & Cheryl Phillippi - March 04, 2015 at 07:06 AM

LS

“ JOE AWAS ALWAYS THERE IF YOU HAD A QUESTION AND i LOVED HOW i KNEW HE WENT TO MASS EVERY MORNING.....I know he is in heaven and has no more hurts or pain...honesty, forthrightness and compassion are not always what one finds in financial people but these attributes were in Joe...Thank you Joe, you will be missed. Lee Shankle

Lee shankle - March 03, 2015 at 02:01 PM

PF

“ We are truly sorry for the loss of Joe.His honesty and integrity were second to none.He will be surely missed.

Peter Fennelly

Peter Fennelly - March 03, 2015 at 01:53 PM

AC

“ I was saddened to hear of Joe's passing, but so grateful to have known him. Joe was so interested in his client's lives, and such a help to thousands of people. His advice was rock solid, his concern for others was deep and genuine, and his patience for incompetence was thin. Most everyone who knew him knew they had to bring their A game in their dealings with Joe, and he was not only respected for demanding the best in people, he was loved for it.

Andy Crossfield - March 03, 2015 at 01:33 PM

RP

“ You have my deepest sympathy for the loss of such a truly great person that is reflected by each of his family members. Raymond Pinner

Raymond Pinner - March 02, 2015 at 09:41 AM