



Joseph (Joe) Daniel Knutte

April 18, 1969 - April 30, 2024

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Joseph (Joe) Knutte, a loving husband, father and so much more to many others. Joe, of Gallatin, TN, passed away on Tuesday, April 30, 2024 at the age of 55.

Joe was born in Oak Lawn, IL and was a graduate of the University of Illinois. He was a Certified Public Accountant and a partner in Knutte & Associates. He presently was employed at Sikich, LLC.

He was a “social butterfly” and met someone he knew everywhere he went. He never knew a stranger. This avid coffee drinker (Energizer Bunny) knew no rest. He worked hard for the betterment of himself and others, especially those he loved. Work hard, play hard was his mentality. He was known for his straightforward and outspoken attitude towards everyone, however, he managed to be quite eloquent and persuasive in matters of business. He was very logical and pragmatic in terms of problems and always looked for a way to solve each and every problem he was faced with.

He had a lot of love to give and share as shown by the four children he chose to adopt and spend his time raising. He was a very generous man and always saw the good in people, and gave many second chances. With his strong faith in Christ, he was able to maintain steadfast relationships and friendships that have lasted him and his family a lifetime. He is so loved and very much

missed by his family, friends, and all the lives that he has touched. Joseph Knutte will always be an inspiration and a leader in this life and in the next.

Joe is survived by his wife of 24 years, Clara Knutte; daughters, Amanda and Vanessa; sons, Thomas and Malachi; parents, Mike and Peggy Knutte; brothers, David (Kara), Michael (Laurie) and Matthew (Courtney); many nieces and nephews.

There will be a Celebration of Life for Joseph Knutte on Wednesday, May 22nd at Salerno's Pizzeria & Sports Bar, 9301 W 63rd Street, Hodgkins, IL from 6 - 9 PM. <https://www.salernopizza.com/hodgkins>

For those that asked, Memorial Donations may be made in Joe's name to Gigi's Playhouse. (Gigi's Playhouse was created to change the way the world views a Down syndrome diagnosis and send a global message of acceptance for all) <https://gigisplayhouse.org/>

All are welcome as Joe loved a good party!

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY **22**. 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Salerno's Pizzeria & Sports Bar
9301 W 63rd St.
Hodgkins, IL 60525

Tribute Wall

SK

“ I was a housemate of Dave Knutte briefly at U of I. I Knew Joey (as we called him) through that great group of friends at the White House (our residence). I only learned of Joey's death today through a mutual friend, Buck, and am very saddened by this news. Joe's obituary accurately describes the friend I briefly had the privilege to know. He was fun and funny, a compliment to any occasion. Prayers and peace to all of his loved ones. Thank you for being a soul that I will never forget.

steven kay - September 24, 2025 at 07:19 PM

LA

“ Joe will be sorely missed by all who knew him. His legacy will live on in his children and extended family. Our sympathy and prayers to the entire Knute family as they mourn the loss of a wonderful man.
Judy and Steve Latman

Latmans - May 22, 2024 at 02:49 PM

RH

“ To The Family of Joe Knutte: Please accept my sincere condolences on the passing of somebody who was well known and well respected by so many in the important field of higher education, including me and many other higher education professionals who were privileged to know Joe and enjoy his friendship, wit and wisdom on panels at so many conferences over some 20 years and more. Joe always brought great energy, enthusiasm and commitment to the needs of private career colleges at the gatherings of those schools and also to the client engagements on which I worked with him. But he also knew how to lighten up things at the right time with his humor. When I got started on the conference circuit, Joe was somebody who helped to make me feel at home and to introduce me to other service professionals. I will always have warm memories of the many good times I was able to spend with Joe at conferences and in working on mutual clients. He was an outstanding CPA professional but even better person, and, while we know he is now in the presence of our Lord and Savior in Heaven, I and the other higher education lawyers in my law firm will greatly miss his presence in our conferences and our work. Ron Holt

Ron Holt - May 20, 2024 at 11:59 PM

DJ

“ Deborah J. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph (Joe) Daniel Knutte.

Deborah J. - May 06, 2024 at 01:56 PM

JS

“ Joe was my landlord. I always saw him around the building participating in the Hands on maintenance of it. This is how I got to know him and I got to appreciate his positive personality. Occasionally we would just sit down and talk in my office which I enjoyed. My deepest sympathy to the Knutte family. Sincerely,
Jonathan S Sceggel

Jonathan S Sceggel - May 04, 2024 at 10:30 AM



“ Joe was a kind, unique, special soul that touched everyone he met. My condolences to his family and many friends. Travel well, dear friend.

Ken Bertolucci - May 02, 2024 at 07:11 PM

JB

“ Joe was loved by so many people. He would bend over backwards to help people with problem with their schools and financial aid questions. Everyone that has hired him would say he is a guy that goes above and beyond to help people out. He has helped so many people!!! We consider him family in our SPEC Franchise company! He was so down to earth and smart! He was so humble and so kind. My heart goes out to his family. I am honored to be able to call him one of my good friends! He was just simply one of the BEST!!!

Jodi Brown - May 02, 2024 at 06:01 PM

CR

“ I met Joe my first year in the financial aid office and he became a wonderful friend and mentor for me in my journey as a financial aid administrator and director. Joe will be missed by so many at our school in Colorado Springs. Our prayers are with his family and his many, many business colleagues.- Catherine Philip-Rogers and the TSPA team. We will forever miss your smile and laughter.

Catherine N Philip Rogers - May 02, 2024 at 05:02 PM

RP

“ Ramelle, Shelly and Phil Powell purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Joseph (Joe) Daniel Knutte.



Ramelle, Shelly and Phil Powell - May 02, 2024 at 04:51 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Joseph (Joe) Daniel Knutte.



May 02, 2024 at 04:38 PM

YS

“ Yolanda Duran, and all our staff planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph (Joe) Daniel Knutte.

Yolanda Duran, and all our staff - May 02, 2024 at 04:06 PM

YS

“ Yolanda Duran, and all our staff purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Joseph (Joe) Daniel Knutte.



Yolanda Duran, and all our staff - May 02, 2024 at 04:06 PM

TR

“ TSPA Little Rock -- have worked with JK for many years, especially when we first started out as a new and young school. He was very supportive and helpful to us. Part of our success is owed to him -- helping us navigate the complex waters of our schools compliance and audits. Joe took to the time to explain to us what we needed to know and how to talk shop with CPAs and compliance.

We are forever grateful for your hard work and assistance. Our sincerest condolences to the family.

TSPA Little Rock - May 02, 2024 at 03:42 PM

MW

“ I will forever miss Joe's giggles and his positive outlook and energy. When I first decided to buy a running school and I was nervous about it, Joe was there to cheer me through it. He always would say "you've got this!" and in most recent years, he would say "I knew it. I told you!" You are a very special man and we all have a great loss.

Min Wermuth - May 02, 2024 at 03:31 PM

KM

“ Kyle, Jeff, and Megan planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph (Joe) Daniel Knutte.

Kyle, Jeff, and Megan - May 02, 2024 at 03:16 PM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Joseph (Joe) Daniel Knutte.



May 02, 2024 at 03:16 PM

SS

“ This is so heart breaking. Joe was such a terrific, positive guy. Always had a smile on his face and everyone he met was better off for having known him. Deepest condolences to his family. He will be missed.

Shane Sparks - May 02, 2024 at 03:11 PM



“ He was so funny and a bright light in everyone's conversation. Thank you for all your knowledge and humor throughout the years. Sincerely, Z Hair Academy

Ashley Hair-Academy - May 02, 2024 at 03:02 PM

TS

“ *The AACS Board of Directors and staff purchased the Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet for the family of Joseph (Joe) Daniel Knutte.*



The AACS Board of Directors and staff - May 02, 2024 at 03:00 PM

DE

“ *Dan and Tracy Hanson, Esplanade purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Joseph (Joe) Daniel Knutte.*



Dan and Tracy Hanson, Esplanade - May 02, 2024 at 01:43 PM

SF

“ *SST Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Joseph (Joe) Daniel Knutte.*



SST Family - May 02, 2024 at 12:31 PM

PC

“ *PMAE & Chris Claybaugh purchased the Rose Remembrance for the family of Joseph (Joe) Daniel Knutte.*



PMAE & Chris Claybaugh - May 02, 2024 at 12:11 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joseph (Joe) Daniel Knutte.*



May 02, 2024 at 11:33 AM