



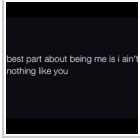
## Joseph "Joe" Ruepke

January 31, 1951 - September 28, 2016

Joseph "Joe" Ruepke, 65 of Centralia, passed away Wednesday, September 28, 2016 at his home. He was born January 31, 1951 in Chariton, Iowa, son of Harold Ruepke and Barb (Feehan) Ruepke. He married Hope Toland on January 31, 1976 and she survives in Centralia. In addition to his wife of 40 years, he is also survived by a son, Jeremy Ruepke and Lori Logan of Centralia; a daughter, Alysha Ruepke and fiancé Bob Sharkey of Swansea; three grandchildren: Nick Ruepke and fiancé of Danielle Brown of Centralia, Tamiah Sharkey and Dorian Sharkey, Jr., both of Swansea; five great-grandchildren: Farryn, Jaxon, Piper, Evalyn, and Brooklyn; five brothers and two sisters: Steve Ruepke of Iowa, Jim Ruepke and Kim of Iowa, Larry Ruepke of Iowa, Linda Houseman of Arizona, Tony Ruepke of Iowa, Ron Ruepke and Dee of Iowa, Sandy Wetzel and Dave of Arizona; several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Johnny Ruepke. Joe worked as heavy machine operator for BNSF Railroad for 42 years. He served in the U.S. Marines during Vietnam. He was a member of the Centralia V.F.W. Post 2055. Joe enjoyed fishing, hunting, gardening, and the outdoors. He also enjoyed boating with his family and playing cards. His greatest enjoyment was spending time with his family and friends. Funeral Services for Joseph Ruepke will be held Sunday, October 2, 2016 at 2:30 PM at the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home in Centralia with Pastor Neal Johnson officiating. Visitation will be held Sunday, October 2, 2016 from 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM at the funeral home. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Memorial

Park in Centralia. Military Honors will be accorded at the gravesite by the American Legion Post 446 and V.F.W. Post 2055. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Relay for Life and will be accepted at the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home in Centralia, which is assisting the Ruepke Family with arrangements. Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting [www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com](http://www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Coming up on 9 yrs and my heart is still broken. I know you are whole now that you and mom are together. I hope you two dance, laugh and love together just like always. I miss you Dad. You were and forever will be my hero. I love you, always and forever your one and only baby girl.*

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**Alysha Ruepke** - September 22, 2025 at 02:11 AM

BL

“ *So sorry to hear of Joe's passing. I worked with him in Centralia from 2008-2012. He was a hard worker and I enjoyed working with him and knowing him. Bob Larson, BNSF Railway Co., Parker, CO*

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**Bob Larson** - October 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM

GB

“ *Joe was my cousin closest in age. I regret not knowing him as we both got older. My thoughts are with his family: I am sorry for your loss. Greg Brown*

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**gregory brown** - October 03, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ *So sorry to hear about Joe's passing , I worked with Joe Off & On over 40 yrs on the BNSF. He was always a fun guy to be around and a hard worker he will be missed by many ..*

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**Mike Western** - September 30, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ *My thoughts and prayers go out to the entire Ruepke family. Joe was the big brother I did not have growing up and I was friends with the entire family. Sorry for your loss*

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**Mike Gurney** - September 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ *Joe was a good friend prayers to the family, he will be missed.*

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**Bob Baughman** - September 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ *So very sorry for your loss you all are in our thoughts & prayers. God Bless.*

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**Janet Huffman** - September 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ *So sorry! I remember Joe best for saving the evening after a prom and before the movie at the local theater. A person, I cannot remember who, can to the theater to cause trouble. Joe told him in no uncertain terms that he better get on his way, etc! It did not take him long to figure out he better be on his way! We all went to the movie and enjoyed the show! Thanks, Joe! You were our hero! Rest in Peace!*

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**Mary Stierwalt** - September 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM