



## Roy D. Kroezen

May 16, 1967 - December 9, 2024

Roy D. Kroezen, 57, of Centralia, passed away peacefully Monday, December 9, 2024 at Salem Township Hospital.

Roy was born May 16, 1967 in Enschede, Netherlands, the son of Dick Kroezen and Janne (Korterink) Kroezen. He married Cynthia Spencer in the Netherlands and she survives him in Centralia.

In addition to his wife Cynthia, he is survived by his father: Dick Kroezen of the Netherlands; sister: Berdine Kroezen of the Netherlands; three step-children: Nick Sugitani of St. Louis, Mayumi Sugitani of St. Louis, and Jun Sugitani of Victoria British Columbia; two nephews: Paschal Binnenkamp and Julian Binnenkamp of the Netherlands; one granddaughter: Lucy Kindt of St. Louis.

Roy was preceded in death by his mother: Janne Kroezen.

Roy was a member of St. Mary Catholic Church in Centralia for several years. He was known for being the organist at St. Mary Church and playing the Carillon for the Centralia Foundation. He was a full time musician, and was a world renowned guest carillon musician.

A Mass of Christian Burial will take place at 10:00 am on Tuesday, December

17, 2024 at St. Mary Catholic Church in Centralia. A visitation for family and friends will be held at St. Mary Church on Tuesday, December 17, 2024 from 9:00 am to 10:00 am. In memory of Roy, memorial donations may be made to Cynthia Spencer and will be accepted by the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home at 235 North Sycamore Street in Centralia, IL 62801 (618) 532-3523, who is honored to be of service to the Kroezen family. Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting [www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com](http://www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com) or the Funeral Home's Facebook page.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 17. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM.

St. Mary's Catholic Church, Centralia

## Funeral Mass

DEC 17. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM.

St. Mary's Catholic Church, Centralia

# Tribute Wall

WC

“ Erica and I were overjoyed to visit Roy and Cynthia and their cat in the picturesque re-purposed church in Centralia. It was a wonderland of toys for a visiting musician! Then the next day we traveled together to Sun City, IL (!) to view the total eclipse. Unforgettable - all of it!

Wylie Crawford - December 19, 2024 at 10:06 AM

RG

“ Roy was a very good musician, friend and husband to my high school friend, Cynthia. Imagine my surprise when Roy and Cynthia got together while I myself live in The Netherlands! I wish his wife, family in The Netherlands and America much strength to bear this great loss.



Rhonda Braneky (de Gier) - December 17, 2024 at 01:04 PM

GZ

“ On behalf of the Zwolle municipal council, we express our condolences to the family. Roy Kroezen was our city carillonneur for many years. We are very grateful to him for what he has meant to Zwolle. We wish you a lot of strength with this great loss. Kind regards Peter Snijders - Mayor of Zwolle

Gemeente Zwolle - December 16, 2024 at 04:24 AM

EG

“ Elizabeth G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Roy D. Kroezen.

Elizabeth G. - December 15, 2024 at 04:43 PM

RR

“ *A gifted musician and tender, gentle man. Privileged to meet and hear him play the carillon!* ”

**Rise Renth** - December 14, 2024 at 06:34 AM

CD

“ *Connie Jo Havens Donahoo lit a candle in memory of Roy D. Kroezen* ”



**Connie Jo Havens Donahoo** - December 12, 2024 at 03:30 PM

DB

“ *Dr. Jay Borum lit a candle in memory of Roy D. Kroezen* ”



**Dr. Jay Borum** - December 12, 2024 at 01:54 AM

NF

“ *Condolences to the family...rest easy gentle man...you were so appreciated...may you play the organ of heaven...* ”

**Nocerino family** - December 11, 2024 at 06:34 PM

RB

“ *I am praying for Cynthia and the whole family. Roy was very kind, thoughtful and a tremendous musician and teacher. Roy made a huge impact on my son and we will always be grateful to him.* ”

**RaDonna Buerk** - December 11, 2024 at 01:32 PM

SK

“ *Susan Kleinedler lit a candle in memory of Roy D. Kroezen*



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**Susan Kleinedler** - December 11, 2024 at 11:24 AM

SK

“ *Roy was such a wonderful organist at our church..*

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**Susan Kleinedler** - December 11, 2024 at 11:23 AM

KH

“ *Roy was such a wonderful friend and neighbor! My husband and I really enjoyed his stories and loved hearing about his travels. He was such a kind and thoughtful person with so much love and excitement for life. His musical talent was so special and this town was so blessed to have had him share it throughout the years! He will be missed dearly.*

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**Kerri Hawley** - December 11, 2024 at 10:27 AM

KD

“ I have two favorite memories of Roy! One was when he was our new organist during COVID... everyone had to come the front of the church, get your temperature taken and sanitize your hands! He would always say " I washed before I left home"...he got a "pass." I figured he's the only one touching the church organ! (LoL) my other favorite memory was when Deacan Ben was still at St. Mary's and Roy's family was here. After mass Roy and Deacon Ben climbed the Carrilon stairs and played a duet with the bells and trumpet! St. Mary's had arranged a broadcast from inside the Carrilon! The excitement of his mother and father's face was a beautiful thing to see! His folks were fascinated to see the broadcast! We thank you for coming into our lives! Farewell for now maestro! Our thoughts and prayers are with Cynthia and his family. Kim and Todd Davis

Kim Davis - December 10, 2024 at 09:23 PM

WB

In 2015 Roy Kroezen was our host in Zwolle, the Netherlands, for a major carillon contest. My entire family enjoyed his warm hospitality and professional handling of a large international group. RIP, dear friend.

Willis Bodine - December 15, 2024 at 03:11 PM

LC

Roy leant his musical gifts to our community and his enthusiastic engagement with our musical family & citizens. His presence will be missed.

Leila Crain - December 16, 2024 at 11:01 AM

LH

I never actually met him but I heard him playing the musical bell tower in Centralia.. It meant a lot to me that someone would take on that task and put Centralia on the map for his performances. I knew he had some health issues the past few years but didn't know that we had lost him till today. He will be sadly missed and hard to replace.  
Larry Hollenberg

Larry Hollenberg - December 29, 2024 at 04:37 PM