



Joe Michael Kana

November 13, 1944 - July 3, 2015

Joseph Michael (Joe Michael) Kana, surrounded by his family, went to his Lord on July 3, 2015. He was born November 13, 1944 to the late Joseph (Jack) and Henrietta Kana in La Grange, Texas. Joe graduated from La Grange High School in La Grange, Texas, attended University of Texas, and graduated from St. Edwards University Austin with a degree in Business Management. From there he went to Officer Training for the US Air Force and was inducted in 1964. He served his country in the Medical Service Corps: hospital Administration reaching the rank of Major, served in Vietnam, and several positions in the States. While stationed in Washington DC, he earned a Master's Degree in Hospital/Medical Business Admin, then back to Wilford Hall, San Antonio, Texas where he met his wife, Nan Blankinship. After their marriage he had to accept another overseas assignment of 2 years at Wiesbaden Germany; completing the last of his 23 Air Force years back in San Antonio in a Tri-Service position with the Army and Navy to design the field hospital units (MASH) which were first used in Desert Storm. Following retirement from the Air Force he took a position again in hospital admin. in Greenville, Commerce hospitals. While there he joined a Lion's Club group which became a driving force in his life. After leaving the Greenville group, he assumed the overall position of maintenance director in the Lancaster School District, where he remained for 6+ years. He was then elected to serve on the LISD school board as President. He finally retired to take full time care of the Val-e-Vue Ranch in

Corsicana, Texas.

Taking care of dogs, pecan trees, cattle, donkeys, and goats was a joy for him, even the fence building and mowing was not really a chore. He would just drive to the pasture with his "little man" Rusty beside him in the truck, Kobe, Briley and Barbie running alongside.

He held many positions in the Lion's Club in Commerce, Lancaster and Corsicana, serving as president at least 5 times. He was also an active member of the VFW, American Legion and Knights of Columbus.

He loved fishing and hunting with his family members. Baseball was his favorite sport from childhood and he briefly played in the La Grange Demons an amateur league, with his 1st cousin, JP Kana.

Joe was preceded in death by his brother, Donnie; sister, Joan Hart. He is survived by his wife, Nan Ellen Blankinship Kana; children, Chris Kana and wife Angela, Brian Kana Johnson and wife Kim, Becky Sims and husband Jeremy; grandchildren, Ashlyn Kana, Danica and Parker Johnson, Savannah and Addison Sims; brother, Richard Kana and wife Susan. He also leaves behind several nieces and nephews; special friends, Jim and Martha McCarter along with other close friends and extended family members.

Visitation with his family will be Tuesday, July 7, 2015 from 6 - 8 pm at Griffin - Roughton Funeral Home. Graveside services with Military Honors will be held 9:30 am Wednesday, July 8, 2015 at the Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery. A memorial service will be held 1:00 pm Wednesday at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Corsicana. Pallbearers will be Brian Kana, Chris Kana, Jim McCarter, JP Kana, Ray Wossum, Adam Kana and Ryan Kana. Honorary pallbearers will be Corsicana Noon Lion's Club members.

In lieu of flowers the family request donations to the Diabetes Association, Lion's Club Children's Camp; Child and Family program at Westminster; Alzheimer's Association or one of your choosing.

Cemetery Details

Dallas / Fort Worth National Cemetery

2000 Mountain Creek Parkway
Dallas, TX 75211
(214) 467-3374
<http://dallasfortworthcemetery.com>

Previous Events

Family Visitation

JUL 7. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home, Corsicana
1530 N. 45th Street
Corsicana, TX 75110
(903) 874-4774
info@griffin-roughton.com

Graveside Funeral Service

JUL 8. 9:30 AM (CT)

Dallas / Fort Worth National Cemetery
2000 Mountain Creek Parkway
Dallas, TX 75211
(214) 467-3374
<http://dallasfortworthcemetery.com>

Memorial Service

JUL 8. 1:00 PM (CT)

Westminster Presbyterian Church
312 N. 13th St.
Corsicana, TX 75110

Tribute Wall



“ *Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Joe Michael Kana*



Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home - July 06, 2015 at 05:44 PM



“ *Joe Michael Kana*

October 08, 2023 at 12:04 PM



“ *Mr. Kana was a joy to be around- his smile and humor were contagious! I enjoyed getting to know him over his last months. What a great man- I am lucky to have known him. -Casey Manning*

Casey - July 13, 2015 at 09:00 PM



“ *Dear Kana Family,*

We are so sorry to hear of your loss. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers.

*Sincerely,
Ken & Susan Sims*

Susan Sims - July 09, 2015 at 04:41 PM

RN

“*Nan, we are so sorry to hear of Joe's passing. May the wonderful memories of the life you shared together be a comfort to you. Ron & Wanda Norris*

Ronald Norris - July 07, 2015 at 11:04 AM

LG

“*Joe was a great Senior class president for LHS. I am so sorry for your loss. "The pain of a loss reflects how deeply our hearts have loved." I pray God will give you peace and strength as you go through this time of grieving. With Deep Sympathy, Linda Bains Gaither-classmate during all 4 years at LaGrange High School*

Linda D. Gaither - July 07, 2015 at 09:35 AM

FA

“*Throughout Mr. Joe Kana's tenure as the School Board President for Lancaster ISD, it was a pleasure to serve as the Board Secretary. When critical decisions had to be made in the best interest of our students, staff and the district his leadership was impeccable. He will be dearly missed but, never forgotten. With deepest sympathy to the Kana family, Ms. Frances Allen*

Frances Allen - July 07, 2015 at 02:03 AM



“*Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joe Michael Kana.*



July 06, 2015 at 08:56 PM

CH

“ Joe Michael and I are distant cousins, but we also attended school together since first grade at Sacred Heart Catholic School in La Grange. Being one of only two boys in a small class of nine, he was mercilessly chased by seven little girls. We went to each other's birthday parties and participated in so many activities together throughout our twelve years in school, including serving as class officers as seniors at La Grange High School. I will always have fond memories of Joe.



He faithfully attended most of our class reunions, so the last time I saw him was at our 50th, which was in 2012. I remember sharing my genealogy research on his maternal great-grandmother's Vacek family, and his parting words were that he would share that information with his children.

Joe accomplished so much in his life. Although he departed much too soon, he lived life to the fullest and was able to enjoy his retirement years on his ranch doing what he loved best.

He will be always be remembered as a fun-loving kid and a responsible adult with a love for his family, his community, his country and his God.

May the memories of all the wonderful times spent with Joe sustain his family through this time of grief.

With sympathy,
Carolyn Sumbera Heinsohn

Carolyn Heinsohn - July 06, 2015 at 06:51 PM



“ 31 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home - July 06, 2015 at 05:24 PM



“ My sympathy to Joe Michael's wife and family. Attended Sacred Heart Catholic School (our class was all of 9 people so we had some fun times) and La Grange High School together. You all are in my thoughts and prayers. Evelyn Faldyn Machicek, Class of '62.

Evelyn Machicek - July 06, 2015 at 04:53 PM



“ Our condolences to the family. May God be with you and help through this ordeal!

*Mr. & Mrs. Charles M. Votaw
2350 Airport Rd.
La Grange, TX 78945*

Dolores - July 06, 2015 at 01:54 PM

MH

“ Joe Michael, as we called him then, and I graduated from Sacred Heart School together. We also graduated from La Grange High School together. And we attended the same church together. We were in the same church youth group (CYO) together. I feel that I know him well. We were friends. I will remember him with fond memories. He was an intelligent and upstanding person with high moral character.

Mary Ann Stolle Harrison - July 06, 2015 at 10:36 AM

MH

“ Mary Ann Stolle Harrison lit a candle in memory of Joe Michael Kana



Mary Ann Stolle Harrison - July 06, 2015 at 10:26 AM

MT

“ Marsha Taylor lit a candle in memory of Joe Michael Kana



Marsha Taylor - July 05, 2015 at 08:07 PM

AY

“ Joe Michael was a fun cousin. We had great memories of all the cousins getting together on Sunday at Grandma and Grandpa Kana's farm in Holman. Grandpa and Grandma invited and insisted that all of their children, spouses and grandchildren come for Sunday dinner- around 50 in all. Joe was so delightful to have amongst the group of cousins - We made our own football rules- Grand pa said we could.

*Joe Michael will be missed but am so glad he has played a part in my life
My sympathy to all the family.*

Annette Cernosek Young

Annette Young - July 05, 2015 at 02:58 PM

RW

“ Nan and family of Joe,
We have been so blessed to be in the family with Joe. He has been such a loving husband and soul mate to you, Nan, and we love him for that. We've seen the children grow into loving and caring adults and parents. I know Joe took great pride in you'll. There will be many loving memories to treasure in the coming days. Know and feel Gods loving arms around you as you continue on in the life that Joe wants you to enjoy.

Joe loved his family, friends and animals, was so active in the community.

*Be Blessed,
Ray and Carole*

Ray and Carole Wossum - July 05, 2015 at 06:48 AM