



Mr. Joe Martin Palmer

October 24, 1942 - June 7, 2023

Joe Martin Palmer was born in Gainesville, Alabama on October 24, 1942, to the late William and Birder Palmer. He was the youngest of nine children of this union.

Joe was known as a “jack of all trades”. He received certified training as an electronics technician from Henry Ford College. He worked several small jobs before starting at Chevrolet Gear & Axle, which later became American Axle and Manufacturing. His other skilled trades, mostly self-taught, were upholstery, carpentry and metalsmith and his workmanship rivaled any formal training.

Joe accepted Christ at a young age and continued his faith journey after moving to Detroit.

On December 31, 1983, Joe joined in marriage to his wife and best friend, Barbara Ann Irby.

Joe was proud and supportive of his three sons and daughter; and most proud of being called, “Granddad” or “Papa” by his six grandchildren.

Following retirement from American Axle in 1997, Joe kept busy working at Rouge Park Golf Course where he developed a love of golf and became an

avid and skilled golfer. Keeping true to his skills, he was known to make his own golf clubs and was frequently asked by golfers to make a club for them. He shared his love of the game with his sons, going out for rounds of golf and with his grandchildren, teaching them to putt in the backyard.

Joe was diagnosed with Alzheimer in 2015 and later entered the care of Henry Ford Hospice Oakland Team, where he was cared for at home by his wife, Barbara, with the utmost love and care until his death.

Joe departed this life peacefully at home June 7, 2023. He was preceded in death by his parents, three brothers, four sisters.

He leaves to cherish his memories: his wife; four children; a sister; six grandchildren; and a host of in-laws, nieces, and nephews.

Cemetery Details

Irby Memorial Cemetery

567 County Road 123
Orrville, AL 36767

Previous Events

Family Hour

Saturday, Jun. 17. 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home
17600 Plymouth Road
Detroit, MI 48227
(313) 838-9770
info@pyefuneralhome.com

Celebration of Life

Saturday, Jun. 17. 12:30 PM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home
17600 Plymouth Road
Detroit, MI 48227
(313) 838-9770
info@pyefuneralhome.com

Family Hour

Saturday, Jun. **24**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Mt. Ararat Baptist Church
120 N. Division St.
Selma, AL 36703

Homegoing

Saturday, Jun. **24**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Mt. Ararat Baptist Church
120 N. Division St.
Selma, AL 36703

Tribute Wall



“ *My condolences to the family. You will truly be missed my GM friend*
❤️🥹 *Kathryn Griffin* ”

Kathryn Griffin - June 17, 2023 at 12:51 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Joe Martin Palmer.* ”



June 14, 2023 at 01:23 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Joe Martin Palmer.* ”



June 14, 2023 at 12:14 AM



“ *Condolences and Prayers* 🙏❤️ ”

Brian Moore - June 12, 2023 at 06:52 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Joe Martin Palmer.*



June 12, 2023 at 02:42 PM



“ *Sending comfort, healing and strength to the Palmer family, Uncle Joe you will be missed. Auntie Barbara Palmer God has you love, hugs Clementine white Gilmer.*



clementine White Gilmer - June 12, 2023 at 10:38 AM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. Continue to rely on God and know that he hears your prayers, because he cares for you. With caring thoughts.*

Evans family - June 12, 2023 at 07:04 AM



“ *Your Present will be missed here but your spirit will live on forever here on earth, Rest in Heaven Uncle Joe, Love always your Nephew Reko.*



Lorenzo Moore - June 11, 2023 at 02:25 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Joe Martin Palmer.* ”



June 10, 2023 at 07:09 PM