



Harold D. "Joe" Searles

July 3, 1936 - January 19, 2014

Harold D. "Joe" Searles, age 77, of Mt. Etna, died at 3:37 a.m. Sunday, January 19, 2014 at Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home in Fort Wayne.

Family will receive friends from 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. Wednesday (January 22, 2014) and from 3 - 7 p.m. Thursday (January 23, 2014) at Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 West Park Drive, Huntington. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday (January 24, 2014) at Mt. Etna United Methodist Church with one hour of visitation prior to the service. Pastor Sam Padgett will be officiating. Entombment will be held in Gardens of Memory in Huntington County with military rites performed by the VFW Post #2689 of Huntington.

Preferred memorials are to Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home and Mt. Etna United Methodist Church, in care of Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 West Park Drive, Huntington, Indiana.

Joe was born July 3, 1936 in Mt. Etna, the son of Alva L. and Mildred E. (Buzzard) Searles. He graduated from Jefferson Township High School in 1954. He served in the United States Army during the Korean War. He married Peggy E. McCoy on May 19, 1957 at Jefferson Center United Methodist Church. He and his wife owned and operated Joe & Peg's Grocery in Mt. Etna for 40 years. He also worked for the Mt. Etna Lumber Company. He was a devoted and dedicated member of the Mt. Etna United Methodist

Church and the United Methodist Men. He was a member of the Mt. Etna Volunteer Fire Department for over 40 years. He was a State Representative of the Bluetick Breeders and Coonhunters Association and an avid lover of the outdoors. He enjoyed coon hunting and rabbit hunting.

Joe is survived by his wife of 56 years - Peggy Searles of Mt. Etna; his son - Todd Searles of Mt. Etna; one daughter - Terri (Pike) (Karl) Schultise of Fort Wayne; four grandchildren - Marisa Winter of Lubbock, Texas, Brandon Pike of Nashville, Tennessee, and Kaylee Searles and Aaron Boone Searles, both of Mt. Etna; one great grandchild - Colter Winter of Lubbock, Texas; five brothers - Herb (Neysa) Searles of Lebanon, Gene (Pat) Searles, Glen Searles, and Roger Searles, all of Huntington, and Ray (Jane) Searles of Bluffton; three sisters - Mable (Bob) Burnsworth of Huntington, Ruth (Maurice) Shenefield of Rochester, and Louise Anderson of Huntington; and one sister-in-law - Kim Searles of Greenwood. His parents, one daughter - Tamara Searles, one brother - Carl Searles, two sisters - Carlette Searles and Barbara Searles, and one brother-in-law - Andy Anderson, and two sisters-in-law - Wiladean Searles and Mary Lou Searles, preceded him in death.

Cemetery Details

Gardens of Memory

11201 S. Marion Road 35
Marion, IN 46952

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **22**. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary
35 West Park Drive
Huntington, IN 46750
(260) 356-1710
wecare@baileylove.com
<https://www.baileylove.com>

Visitation

JAN **23**. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary
35 West Park Drive
Huntington, IN 46750
(260) 356-1710
wecare@baileylove.com
<https://www.baileylove.com>

Service

JAN **24**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Mt. Etna United Methodist Church
6383 W. 600 S.
Huntington, IN

Tribute Wall

DA

“ Dear Peg and family,
Sorry to hear about Joe passing. We have enjoyed visiting with you both over the years at Joe and Pegs and at the Sawmill. Take care of your selves. We are thinking of you and you are in our prayers.
Debbie and Paul Abbott

Debbie and Paul Abbott - February 09, 2014 at 01:16 PM

JP

“ Todd,

Sorry to hear about your dad. Take Care and God bless

Jeff Phillips

Jeff Phillips - January 30, 2014 at 07:53 AM

LN

“ Lyvonne Nighthenheler lit a candle in memory of Harold D. "Joe" Searles



Lyvonne Nighthenheler - January 27, 2014 at 12:20 PM

TD

“ So many memories of Joe. He always looked out for "us girls" across the street. One of the few good souls on this earth, he will be missed by many. Godspeed my friend, job well done.

Prayers to Peggy, Terri and Todd and families during this difficult time. Draw strength from those who surround you now with love and prayers for the days that follow.

Sincerely,

Toni (Parrish) Derry

Toni Derry - January 27, 2014 at 08:21 AM

JE

“ Dear Peg and family, I was so saddened to hear of Joe's passing and glad I was able to visit with you at Junior Schillings funeral. Joe was always such a character and I enjoyed calling on you both at Joe and Peg's. Sending prayers and kind thoughts your way. Sincerely, Jeff and Ann Etter. PS, Peg feel free to call me anytime if you need to chat.

Jeff Etter - January 24, 2014 at 11:43 AM

BC

“ Todd really sorry to hear about your dad. Condolences to you an your an family will keep you in our thoughts prayers.



brian culley - January 24, 2014 at 06:04 AM

BE

“ Sincere condolences to Peg and family, on the passing of a wonderful and caring man. Fond memories of "Joe & Pegs", and the church family that helped us so much.
Love, Brian & Cindy Eliot

Brian & Cindy Eliot - January 23, 2014 at 08:11 PM

LL

“ Lyle And Solveig Laymon lit a candle in memory of Harold D. "Joe" Searles



Lyle and Solveig Laymon - January 23, 2014 at 03:59 PM

TF

“ Tyson & Jennifer Ford lit a candle in memory of Harold D. "Joe" Searles



Tyson & Jennifer Ford - January 23, 2014 at 10:34 AM

CR

“ Craig & Dayle Ann Rice lit a candle in memory of Harold D. "Joe" Searles



Craig & Dayle Ann Rice - January 23, 2014 at 09:35 AM

KF

“ Sending sincerest sympathy to Peg and family. Joe was just a sweet guy, I know he will be missed greatly.
Stan & Kay
Fetters' Dry Dock Campground

Kay Fetter - January 22, 2014 at 07:14 PM

RD

“ Rhonda Droke lit a candle in memory of
Harold D. "Joe" Searles



Rhonda Droke - January 22, 2014 at 06:58 PM

JR

“ Jane (Wolf) Robbins lit a candle in memory of
Harold D. "Joe" Searles



Jane (Wolf) Robbins - January 22, 2014 at 04:45 PM

JR

Terri & family, so sorry for your loss. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Jane (Wolf) Robbins - January 22, 2014 at 04:47 PM

CR

“ Joe "adopted" Brittany as his own granddaughter from the first time she met him. He said he had the papers signed. He was such a loving and caring man, and we were blessed to have known him. He was an inspiration and always a delight to see. God speed, Joe! Heaven just got another angel!

Greg, Cindi, Brittany and Brandon Rooze

Cindi Rooze - January 22, 2014 at 01:48 PM

TB

“ Terry & Rebecca Burriss lit a candle in memory of Harold D. "Joe" Searles



Terry & Rebecca Burriss - January 22, 2014 at 12:55 PM

TB

Our deepest sympathy on your loss of Joe. We remember Joe & Peg so fondly as we always enjoyed stopping by their store and visiting with them. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

Terry & Rebecca Burriss - January 22, 2014 at 12:58 PM

BS

“ Peg Terri and Todd

All our thoughts and prayers are with you. Joe was always there for the community and he will be missed

Bruce Stef Chase and Haylee Schoeff

Bruce Schoeff - January 22, 2014 at 12:28 PM

L(

“ Remember Joe and Peg so fondly, always loved stopping at their store. They were always kind people. My sincere sympathy to the family.

Launda EWell (Shuttleworth) - January 22, 2014 at 09:33 AM

VM

“ Our sympathy on the loss of Joe.
Val and Sadie McIntire

Val McIntire - January 22, 2014 at 06:06 AM

JH

“ Peg, Terri, and Todd....you know we think of you as extended family. The kindness shown through the years to the generations of our family will never be forgotten. Joe was the heart of the community, and will certainly be missed. We thank God for his life and kind heart. Love to all of you,
Sincerely, Jenny (Dillon) Hernandez and family



Jennifer Hernandez - January 21, 2014 at 09:05 PM

LB

“ Lisa Bolding lit a candle in memory of Harold D. "Joe" Searles



Lisa Bolding - January 21, 2014 at 08:27 PM

LB

Peg and family sorry for your loss you are in our thoughts and prayers. Will never forget him. Lisa, Cody (Bolding), Earl

Lisa Bolding - January 21, 2014 at 08:29 PM

LB

“ *Peg and family sorry for your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Will never forget him. Lisa, Cody (Bolding) Earl*

Lisa Bolding - January 21, 2014 at 08:24 PM

CG

“ *Dear Peggy,
I want to express my condolences for your loss. I enjoyed meeting Joe and yourself, and your allowing me to serve you. May God bring comfort and peace to you at this difficult time.
With kindest regards,
Clete Goens
Sweetwater*

Cletus Goens - January 21, 2014 at 04:45 PM

MF

“ *Millie Hedrick & Family lit a candle in memory of Harold D. "Joe" Searles*



Millie Hedrick & Family - January 21, 2014 at 08:31 AM

DA

“ *The memories of the best papaw and friend that Kaylee & Boone could ever ask for will stay with them, and myself, forever. He was the best person I have ever met and I could not be more grateful for God giving the kids such a wonderful influence through him. Such an enormous lose for all of us who knew and loved him. And such a gift to heaven. My deepest condolences to all.*

Danielle Austin - January 21, 2014 at 08:20 AM

KT

“ Kevin & Marilyn Teusch lit a candle in memory of Harold D. "Joe" Searles



Kevin & Marilyn Teusch - January 21, 2014 at 08:18 AM

RB

“ Ruth Anne Black lit a candle in memory of Harold D. "Joe" Searles



Ruth Anne Black - January 21, 2014 at 05:31 AM

GS

“ In our thoughts and prayers James & Alberta Bolding

Glenna (Bolding) Slone - January 21, 2014 at 01:44 AM

GS

“ Glenna (Bolding) Slone lit a candle in memory of Harold D. "Joe" Searles



Glenna (Bolding) Slone - January 21, 2014 at 01:43 AM

TJ

“ Joe was nothing less than family to us while I pastored Mt Etna UMC. I cannot begin to express the impact he and Peg had on our family. He was and is a saint of a man.

Tony Johnson - January 20, 2014 at 09:21 PM

MS

“ Mike And Christine Schnitz lit a candle in memory of Harold D. "Joe" Searles



Mike and Christine Schnitz - January 20, 2014 at 09:05 PM

PC

“ Phil & Sherry Cotton lit a candle in memory of Harold D. "Joe" Searles



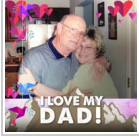
Phil & Sherry Cotton - January 20, 2014 at 09:03 PM

CM

“ Cindy Lahr McKinzie lit a candle in memory of Harold D. "Joe" Searles



Cindy Lahr McKinzie - January 20, 2014 at 07:40 PM



“ *Kim Working lit a candle in memory of Harold D. "Joe" Searles*



Kim Working - January 20, 2014 at 07:25 PM

Teri
Eller

“ *Peg & family. The very deepest of sympathy to you and your family. Lots of fond memories of Joe and growing up hanging around the store and ball diamond. He was a great guy and will be missed deeply by many. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family. Love, Kevin, Teri (Brown) Megan & Madison Eller*



Teri Eller - January 20, 2014 at 06:32 PM

 Kevin
Weaver

“ To the friends and Family of Harold “Joe” Searles,

I understand, Joe relocated to his eternal place in Heaven Sunday.

In addition to a great family and an immense legacy of personal service to others, which I'm confident he's basking in the rewards of even as we celebrate his life; Joe also left a virtual slice of Heaven on earth behind for me.

It's a place in my mind forever known simply as -- Joe and Peg's.

Here's a short poetic glimpse into the window of this sacred place.

*At Joe's and Peg's, it's still the old-way;
you can get unlimited coffee for under a buck,
Good-old boys and bankers stand side-by-side,
discussing whatever's on their mind that day.*

*At Joe and Peg's, it's still the good-old-days;
you get a hand-sliced sandwiches at noon,
and eat with people you can still be sure,
can be depended on to do exactly what they say.*

*At Joe and Peg's, nobody's ever left out;
the strangers passing thru,
are the same as the old folks down the road,
They all get cared about.*

*At Joe and Peg's, everyone fits in;
you can show up in a business suit,
wear flip-flops, Carhartt's or camouflage,
and you'll still get a welcomed grin.*

*At Joe and Peg's, someone always has your back;
I know because if it's up to Joe,
he'd give you the shirt off of his own,*

to make sure nobody's in lack.

*Joe and Peg's is a slice of heaven on earth to me;
I'm going there now with my own mom and dad,
watching "Joe" be the Love of God to others,
that I've since wanted to be!*

*To his close friends and family, I want you to know how much I loved
and valued Joe Searles.*

*I've always said, if only a fraction of the people Joe served over the
years show up at a funeral to honor him, it would be the biggest
funeral Huntington County will ever see!*

In joy and gratitude for a life well lived,

*Kevin Weaver
Dallas, Texas*

Kevin Weaver - January 20, 2014 at 05:54 PM

LH

“*My remembrance of Joe is that he was always so positive and
happy go lucky! His kind spirit touched many people and I am sure
he will khave many eternal rewards for that. My prayers go out to
the family who will miss this kind, generous and wonderful husband
and father.*

Sincerely, Linda Hiple

Linda Hiple - January 20, 2014 at 03:57 PM

SS

“ Dear Peg and family,
Keith and I want to send you our Love and prayers. We were so sorry to hear of Joe's passing, but know He is in the arms of Jesus now! We hate we can't be with you, but our hearts are there. God's blessings!
Keith and Sue Shideler

Sue and Keith Shideler - January 20, 2014 at 03:43 PM

GS

“ Peg, I am so sorry to hear about Joe, He was always good to us kids when we would come in the store, James Bolding is my dad, You and your family are in our prayers.

Glenna (Bolding) Slone - January 20, 2014 at 01:04 PM

JK

“ To Peg and your family: We have so many memories of the times Joe gave of himself to help people in our community, including us, he was one of a kind, and will be greatly missed. You have our sympathy during this difficult time. You are in our thoughts and prayers, Jon and Janice Kellam

Jon & Janice Kellam - January 20, 2014 at 11:29 AM

DW

“ *Dear Searles Family,
Our thoughts and prayers are with you in this
very difficult time. Joe was a wonderful man
and had a heart of gold. He will be missed by
many.*

God bless you all and our deepest Sympathy.

The Wynkoop family

*(Melissa, Dave, Janice, Jeremy, Jarod
Rachel, Katie Dylan, Ethan)*



David Wynkoop - January 20, 2014 at 10:49 AM



“ To the Searles Family.



I just had to let you know how deeply saddened I am to hear of your Dads passing. He was a very special person as we had been very close friends for so many years,

I truly believe that he was a gift from God that came into so many peoples lives at exactly the right time,. He was the most generous person I know giving of his time and talents without expecting anything in return.

The Bible says that "Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted." I pray that God will bless all of you and give you the strength to carry on without him.

I will say a special prayer each day in his memory in thanks for having had the opportunity to know him and your family, and count all of you among my closest friends. I will pray also for you and your family that you have the strength to carry on.

God Bless You and thank you for sharing your Dad (Joe) with me. I feel truly blessed.

In Faith & Sympathy,

Dorothy Ley

Dorothy Ley - January 20, 2014 at 10:29 AM

DS

To the Searles family, we are so sorry to hear of Joe's passing, he was a very special and giving person and will be greatly missed in our community. Our prayers of support are with each of you.

*Friends & Neighbors,
Dave & Karen Sue Shane*

Dave & Karen Shane - January 20, 2014 at 07:12 PM