



Joseph Franklin Walker Jr.

October 28, 1937 - May 23, 2026

Joe Walker Jr., 88, of Bartlesville, stepped over the threshold of heaven to be home with the Lord on Saturday, May, 23, 2026. He loved and he was loved.

Joe was born on October 28, 1937 in Wichita, KS to Joe Sr. and June Walker. He graduated from College High School in 1956. Joe was married to Judy Vanley on July 31, 1965 in Bartlesville. They were married 56 years until Judy went before him to decorate their mansion in glory on January 13, 2022.

Joe attended Oklahoma Military Academy in Claremore, enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1958 and served aboard the USS Yorktown, retired from Phillips Petroleum Company after 28 years, served as Deputy Sheriff for Washington County and assisted in recovery effort for Oklahoma City bombing in 1995, operated as Purchasing Manager for construction of Farmland Coke Plant in Coffeyville, KS and Dayton Power & Light plant in Columbus, OH, then he and Judy moved to Oahu, HI with Joey to establish Ali'i Wireless, and Joe managed security for Paradise Cove Luau.

Joe is survived by one son, Joey Walker of San Diego, CA; one daughter, Jolana Ballard and her husband Bryan of Elk City, KS; three grandchildren, Patrick Ballard, Micah Ballard, and Landon Ballard; and three great grandchildren, Adalynn Ballard, Maisy Ballard, and Wrenley Judith Ballard; and two sisters, Fidelis Choate and Jeanne Ann and her husband Allen Hill.

Joe was preceded in death by his wife and one brother, Mark Walker, and three brothers-in-law.

'And then one day I'll cross that river,
I'll fight life's final war . . .
as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know my Jesus lives.'

Tribute Wall

AE

“ *If Uncle Joe was giving you a hard time, you knew he liked you. That was his trademark—a dry, razor-sharp sense of humor that kept everyone on their toes. He always had a joke ready, and he absolutely loved picking on the kids, bringing a constant spark of mischief to every family gathering. But beneath all the teasing, everyone knew the truth: giving you a hard time was just Joe’s way of showing he cared.*

I would enjoy when uncle Joe would tell stories about my dad, Charlie who had passed when I was little. He spoke about him with affection and said how much of a great guy he was. He once made a video of pictures and slides that he had gathered from family times and fishing trips. This remains a cherished keepsake for me. Uncle Joe always liked garage sales and as I got older I enjoyed going with him when I was visiting. He was always on the hunt for something cool. If he knew you liked something , he would keep an eye out.

*In Loving Memory of Uncle Joe,
A man of few wasted words, endless jokes, and a generous heart
hidden behind a sarcastic grin.
Angie Brown Edwards*

Angie Edwards - June 01 at 06:32 PM

GW

Angie....I was one of those people you mentioned that Joe would give a hard time and then give that ornery sarcastic grin. You always wanted to hear what he had to say, because at some point you knew there would be a joke and again that grin.

Also, about his garage sale trips....I received a call to come over to their house. He was proud at what he found for me and I had no idea he was even looking for anything. He had a big smile on his face as he was walking down the driveway with rubber floor mats for my vehicle with Betty Boop on them. I still have them in my vehicle today.

We have so many WONDERFUL memories with Joe and Judy!!! They were both so much fun to be around and they will be greatly missed!!! Looking forward to the day when we get to see them both again!!!

Joey, Jolana, and family, we are so sorry for your loss!!! We love you and your family so much and will keep you all in our prayers!!!

Gina and Paul White

Gina White - June 03 at 01:23 PM

RG

“ *I went to work with Phillips Petroleum in Bartlesville in May 1981 and Joe was in my section of the Procurement Department. We became good friends at the time and was always the one who had a good joke to relieve the stress at work. Over the years my career took me to other locations in the company and I unfortunately lost track of Joe. I was saddened to hear of his passing and pray for peace for his family.*

Joe, we all were better for knowing you!

RICHARD GARDNER - May 28 at 01:14 PM

MP

Joe was a good friend and we had many fun times with he and Judy. He loved to find a bargain and once found a diamond ring (fake!) that was way too big for judy so gave me to me. It was way too big for me also, but was a great keepsake from him. He was always finding something "important and was so much fun. We graduated together in 1956 and I will miss him!!

Mavis Patton - June 02 at 10:15 PM

DS

Joe was a very great guy always had you laughing. I also worked with him at Phillips in the Purchasing Department. Sending prayers to his family.

Donna L Scott - June 10 at 09:36 PM