



## Joseph R. Meitz

June 5, 1923 - January 8, 2014

On January 8th 2014, Joseph Meitz returned home to the Lord at the age of 90.

Joe was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on June 5th, 1923, to Charles and Katherine Meitz. While in high school, he met the love of his life, Audrey, and the two were married in 1946, remaining inseparable for over 67 years. At the age of 19 he enlisted in the U.S Army Air Corps, serving for three years with the 379th bomb group, 527th squadron stationed in Kimbolton, England. As a radio operator and gunner on the Carol-Dawn, a B-17 flying fortress, he flew 32 missions and was awarded the distinguished flying cross for his service. After leaving the military, he spent 35 years with General Motors, transferring from Milwaukee to Santa Barbara in 1972 with Delco Electronics, from which he retired as chief draftsman in 1983. In retirement, Joe was highly active in community organizations such as the Elks Lodge, Knights of Columbus, and St. Raphael's Parish. He took pride in delivering Christmas dinners to families in need, building toys for children, and volunteering for the Special Olympics, which he ran for six years.

In addition to his work in the community, Joe enjoyed traveling, spending time with family, and watching his beloved Green Bay Packers play football. Joe is survived by his wife Audrey; his eight children: Robert, Phillip, James, Mary Jo, William, Barbara, Jeanne and David; his 16 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild.



# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JAN 13. 10:00 AM (PT)

St. Raphael Catholic Church  
5444 Hollister Ave.  
Santa Barbara, CA 93111  
<http://www.straphaelsb.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Always on my mind....*



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**Val Main** - June 06 at 04:00 AM

DM

“ *Thinking of you on this day, Dad. You are simply the greatest! Miss talking to you.*

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**David Meitz** - January 08, 2015 at 10:01 AM

DM

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



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**David Meitz** - January 31, 2014 at 07:46 AM

KM

“ *To my Great Uncle Joe's family... so many happy times of the trips to California. Memories galore. From the huge lemons off the lemon tree, walks to the playground and the many smiles he provides. JoAnn Kolbs Daughter, Kris Mertens*

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**Kris Mertens** - January 20, 2014 at 04:28 PM

FF

“ Joe M.,  
*A gentleman's gentle-man! Going to be missed. May he keep us in mind from his rest in the arms of the Good Lord.*  
*Fran and Frank*

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**Frank& Fran** - January 13, 2014 at 11:02 AM

BS

“ *Our deepest sympathy to you and your family.*  
*God walk with upu all.*  
*Bea and Glenn Scheel*

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**Bea and Glenn Scheel** - January 11, 2014 at 03:46 PM

JN

“ *Uncle Joe, you were truly a wonderful caring man, whom we all looked up to. You were the one to teach us how to play sheephead at family gatherings. We will never forget the many beautiful times our families had spending our holidays together and in later years coming to visit you and Aunt Audrey in California and all the special places you shared with us. We will miss you but know you are in a better place. May you find eternal peace and happiness in your heavenly home. Love, JoAnn*

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**JoAnn Kolb, Niece** - January 10, 2014 at 12:55 PM