



## Joe Anderson Colony

December 31, 1936 - August 3, 2024

Joe Colony, 87, beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, passed away surrounded by family on August 3, 2024, at Doey's House Hospice Center in Hagerstown, MD, from complications due to Parkinson's Disease.

Joe was born to Carroll and Violet Anderson Colony in Iowa on December 31, 1936. He is predeceased by his siblings Carolyn Gatchett (Robert "Bob" Gatchett), Charles "Chuck" Colony (Marjorie Colony; formerly married to Dot Colony), Lee Colony (Bonita "Bonnie" Colony), and Arthur Colony.

Joe is survived by his adored wife of 62 years, Margaret "Peggy" Colony, and his children, David Colony (formerly married to Rhonda Buchan Boyer), Michael Colony (formerly married to Sherry Eileen Armstrong Colony), and Patrick Colony (Karen Colony); his cherished grandchildren Erik Colony (Carla Colony), Trevor Colony, Laina Colony, Megan Colony and Joseph Colony; and treasured great-grandchildren Olivia Colony and Sophia Colony.

Joe spent most of his young life in Oregon and put himself through school at Reed College, earning a degree in Chemistry. He served in the United States Army after graduation. While working at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Washington, DC, he had the good fortune to meet the love of his life through a successful blind date. While not exactly love at first sight (Joe did

not like Peggy's outfit, and Peggy thought he was too quiet), it wasn't long before the pair was smitten, and a deep, unending love began to bloom that never stopped growing during their 62+ years together.

Joe worked as a chemist at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center for most of his career, notably on the Hubble Space Telescope, which first launched in 1990. With a passion for nature and travel, Joe took his young family on many adventures around the United States, coast to coast, Maryland to Alaska, and everywhere in between. As the kids got older, Joe and Peggy expanded their travels to include trips on Windjammer Barefoot Cruises while spending summers as seasonal campers at Cherrystone Family Campground on the Eastern Shore of Virginia and winters in the Florida Keys.

Joe's early years were marked by adversity. He faced great tragedy at a young age, yet he never allowed it to compromise his morals or deter him from his goals. He understood the value of hard work, perseverance, and education. He created a home with Peggy that was a magnet for people of all ages—a loving home filled with fun and an open-door policy for family and friends who became family.

Joe was a man of few words (Peggy was right about that part on their first date), but his thoughts were always profound. He was kind, razor-smart, funny, with a dry wit, and capable. There wasn't a problem he couldn't solve. He was a good man, a great husband, a loving father, a wonderful Grandpa and great-grandfather, and the world is a better place for him having been in it.

Visitation will be held at Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home, 106 Shamrock Road, Chester, MD, on Monday, August 12, 2024, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., with a Memorial Service immediately following.

Donations can be made to the Rock Steady Boxing Program for Parkinson's Disease - <https://www.rocksteadyboxing.org/donate/> Please add "Choose QAYMCA - This donation is for RSB Centreville, MD in memory of Joe Colony" to your donation information.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Gathering

AUG 12. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Fellows, Helfenbein, & Newnam Funeral Home, P.A.  
106 Shamrock Road  
Chester, MD 21619

## Memorial Celebration

AUG 12. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Fellows, Helfenbein, & Newnam Funeral Home, P.A.  
106 Shamrock Road  
Chester, MD 21619

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Joe Anderson Colony*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - August 08, 2024 at 09:58 AM



“ *Joe was one of my favorite boxers in RSB. He loved to come to my station and workout with me. (joke) He was a great man and I so enjoyed working with him in class. May you find strength in the fact that he fought a good fight, he finished his race, he never gave up or backed down, he fought until the very end. Charlene H*

Charlene Dupree - August 12, 2024 at 10:30 PM

BF

“ *Barnes Family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Joe Anderson Colony.*



Barnes Family - August 11, 2024 at 03:47 PM

JA

“ John, Terry and Sherry Armstrong planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joe Anderson Colony.

John, Terry and Sherry Armstrong - August 08, 2024 at 03:03 PM

RF

“ Rhonda, Erik, Trevor and families purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Joe Anderson Colony.



Rhonda, Erik, Trevor and families - August 08, 2024 at 08:58 AM

RF

“ Rhonda, Erik, Trevor and families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joe Anderson Colony.

Rhonda, Erik, Trevor and families - August 08, 2024 at 08:58 AM

SB

“ Stephanie B. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joe Anderson Colony.

Stephanie B. - August 07, 2024 at 05:49 PM

SZ

“ I will always remember the good times I had with Joe and Peggy at Cherrystone. Joe was always a delight, quiet and easy going, but with a quick wit and great sense of humor. I'm sure he will be remembered fondly by many. My deepest condolences to Peggy and the family

Sandi Zlotkowski - August 07, 2024 at 02:43 PM

JF

“ Jim, Nicky (Divver), Josh & Kyle Frantz purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Joe Anderson Colony.



Jim, Nicky (Divver), Josh & Kyle Frantz - August 07, 2024 at 12:34 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joe Anderson Colony.



August 07, 2024 at 10:25 AM

TF

“ The Serco ATG Family purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Joe Anderson Colony.

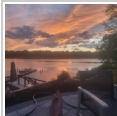


The Serco ATG Family - August 07, 2024 at 08:53 AM

AB

“ There are not enough words to adequately honor Joe Colony, my beloved, Uncle Joe. He was brilliant with a sly sense of humor. Solid. Grounded. A man of immense character and integrity. Wise. Loving. Generous. He was there for every important milestone and the day to day of my life. Pack meetings and family camping trips with the Boy Scouts. Basketball games at Cole Field House. Green Ridge. So many songs. So much laughter. Holidays. Family events. He called me, My Anne. When he loved you, you were his family. My admiration for him is unending. In the final chapters of his life, I had the blessing to be able to give back some of what he gave me as we spent hours discussing the transitions he was experiencing. His primary focus was always Auntie P and the family, never himself. The accomplishments and success in his life were a day's good work. Just what you do. Family was his greatest love. As his illness progressed, he showed us all how to be strong, push through, and keep our priorities straight while enduring great challenges. Joe Colony. Honey. Dad. Uncle Joe. Forever, the leader of the pack. Rest peacefully, Uncle Joe, until I “TenneSeeSee” you again. Your Anne, always.

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**Anne Brannock** - August 06, 2024 at 01:14 PM



Thank you Anne. This is a beautiful tribute. Love you. Pat

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**Patrick Colony** - August 06, 2024 at 03:25 PM

CB

There's no way I can forget him and the fun we had in Scout Troop 1282 🙏🙏

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**Charles Bowen** - August 07, 2024 at 12:32 PM