



Wilbur "Willie" Joost

November 30, 1935 - October 18, 2025

Wilbur "Willie" Joost, age 89, of Napoleon, Ohio, passed away peacefully on Saturday, October 18, 2025, at the Defiance CHP Inpatient Hospice Center. He was born on the family farm in Okolona on November 30, 1935, to the late Alvin and Emilie (Behnfeldt) Joost.

Willie was a graduate of Jewell High School and enlisted in the United States Army. On January 17, 1958, he married Irene (Rohrs) Joost at the St. Paul's Lutheran Church Parsonage.

A lifelong farmer, Willie also worked at Gerald Grain Center for more than 40 years. He was a devoted member of St. John Lutheran Church, Freedom Township, where he faithfully served as a Deacon and Trustee.

He is survived by his loving wife, Irene; children, Randy (Rachel) Joost, Renee (Tim) Hodson, and Donna Joost; son-in-law, Tim Eberle; grandchildren, Melanie, Kacie, and LeAnn; great-grandchildren, Brynlee and Oaklynn; and a sister, Connie (Art) Roehrig.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Sandy Eberle, and his sister, Marian (Ken) Smith.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 22, 2025, at St. John Lutheran Church, Freedom Township. Interment will follow in the church cemetery.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home, Napoleon, and on Wednesday from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the church.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. John Lutheran Church, Freedom Township, or to a charity of the donor's choice.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **21.** 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Rodenberger Funeral Home - Napoleon
1010 Westmoreland Avenue
Napoleon, OH 43545

Visitation

OCT **22.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. John Lutheran Church, Freedom Township
16035 County Road U
Napoleon, OH 43545

Funeral Service

OCT **22.** 11:00 AM (ET)

St. John Lutheran Church, Freedom Township
16035 County Road U
Napoleon, OH 43545

Tribute Wall

MU

“ From the fields, forests, plains of Africa and war-torn Europe, to the frozen tundra of Korea, to the jungles of Southeast Asia, from the deserts of Kuwait and Iraq to the mountains of Afghanistan, brave patriots have protected our nation’s ideals, rescued millions from tyranny, and helped spread freedom around the globe. America’s veterans answered the call when asked to protect our nation from some of the most brutal oppression the world has ever known. Military service demands a special kind of sacrifice. The places where you are sent to live and serve bring risk every day. From the time you put on that uniform for the first time, the interests of the nation move to the forefront and define your life. Those duties are shared by family members who make many sacrifices of their own, sometimes bearing the burden of losing a loved one. Service brings rewards as well. There is pride in developing one’s own character, serving a cause far greater than self-interest. Every person who wears America’s uniform is part of a long, unbroken line of achievement and honor. No single military power in history has done greater good, shown greater courage, liberated more people or upheld higher standards of decency and valor than the Armed Forces of the United States of America. That is a legacy to be proud of and those who contributed to it must never be taken for granted. To honor our veterans, we must keep the promises we have made to them. We must care for those who have been injured in the service of our country. We must honor and remember those who have died. And we must remember those whose fate is still undetermined. We fly the Prisoner of War flag on Veterans Day for a reason, to show that this nation will not relent until we have accounted for every one of our missing Americans. Thank you for your service. Thank you for all that you have sacrificed for this great nation. Thank you for being the backbone of America.

Major General Mark W. Lee, United States Army

MG Dr. Mark Lee, USA - October 21, 2025 at 10:32 AM

LP

“ Lumber Processing purchased the Forever Our Angel Bouquet for the family of Wilbur "Willie" Joost.



Lumber Processing - October 20, 2025 at 10:02 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Wilbur "Willie" Joost.



October 20, 2025 at 09:56 AM

BF

“ Brian Norden Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wilbur "Willie" Joost.

Brian Norden Family - October 20, 2025 at 09:56 AM

SS

“ Susan S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wilbur "Willie" Joost.

Susan S. - October 20, 2025 at 09:54 AM

SS

“ Susan S. purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Wilbur "Willie" Joost.



Susan S. - October 20, 2025 at 09:54 AM

CP

“ Components Parts planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wilbur "Willie" Joost.

Components Parts - October 20, 2025 at 08:54 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Wilbur "Willie" Joost.



October 20, 2025 at 08:54 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Wilbur "Willie" Joost.



October 19, 2025 at 05:27 PM

JK

“ *Mr. Ralph Nagel talked about how he and Uncle Wilbur lost a transmission in Grandma Joost's buick. Thanks for having us over at Thanksgiving.*

Joe kohnen - October 19, 2025 at 03:16 PM