



Joseph Jonathan von Zabern

October 23, 1964 - June 24, 2023

Joseph (Joe) John von Zabern

Born: October 23, 1964, in Brea California

Died: June 24, 2023, at 58 years of age in Greenville, South Carolina

Joe was the fourth of five boys born to Evelyn and Fred von Zabern. He had a happy childhood with his brothers as built-in playmates, prone to mischief and childhood feats of engineering. Joe's parents allowed their boys to create and experiment with their many passions as they were growing up. A landmark in von Zabern family lore is the story of the Lawnmower Go Kart. Working together, the boys took apart a lawnmower and built a go kart to race around the neighborhood. It was a great learning experience involving wood, screws, nails, wheels, glue, various looted household items and the lawnmower's motor. The real learning curve began when they realized they needed to have the lawnmower back together in working operation before their dad got home! Joe learned to fix almost anything by trial and error. Known as "Mr. Fix-it," his repair skills were generously shared with family, friends, and neighbors alike. Joe was an "everyman," known for his standard attire of T-shirts and Cargo Shorts. He had a welcoming, laidback spirit and loved to talk with people. Joe never met a stranger he couldn't call a friend. In speaking with family and friends, you cannot escape talk of Joe's kind, giving and loving nature. Joe was always there for you if you needed a hand or a fishing partner. Joe loved fishing, especially for trout but any fishing hole brought pleasure. Joe's favorite food was crab legs, and he was a connoisseur of

moonshine cherries.

In 1993, at 29 years of age, Joe was married. Though the marriage did not last, it provided Joe with the joy of his life in 1999, when his daughter Emily was born. Joe and Emily shared a passion for living things as their lives were filled with cats, dogs, snakes, and various other animals native to the area. Joe once told Emily: "If you can catch it, you can keep it." Hence, the lively menagerie that was ever-present in their home.

In 2019 Joe met his fiancé, Lesia Evans. Lesia lovingly describes their time together as a life full of "fun little adventures," enjoying scavenger hunts through pawn shops and antique stores, fishing, walking on the beach, and taking nature walks along the North Saluda Reservoir to check out the native plants and animals. Joe and Lesia had an appreciation for nature and found peace and tranquility in the beautiful surroundings. In this relationship, Joe had the privilege of being welcomed into Lesia's family, building a strong bond with her two sons, Justin and Isaac.

Joe leaves behind his daughter Emily von Zabern, his fiancé Lesia Evans, his brothers Fred, Rob and Jim von Zabern and a large extended family of friends and co-workers who knew and loved him.

Joe is pre-deceased by his parents, Fredrick Wilhelm and Evelyn Clare von Zabern, his younger brother William (Bill) Lawrence von Zabern, and Leisa's son, Isaac Evans.

Services for Joe will be held on Saturday July 8, 2023 at:

Living Waters Funeral Home & Crematory

529 Spartanburg HWY S.

Lyman, SC 29365

1:00 pm Reception

2:00 pm Service

Interment immediately following at:

North Fork Baptist Church
162 Callahan Mountain Rd
Travelers Rest, SC 29690

There will be a luncheon provided by the church community in the hall immediately following the graveside ceremony.

Previous Events

Receiving Friends

JUL 8. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Living Waters Funeral Home and Crematory
529 Spartanburg Hwy. S.
P.O. Box 758
Lyman, SC 29365
(864) 439-7141
info@livingwatersfh.com

Celebration of Life

JUL 8. 2:00 PM (ET)

Living Waters Funeral Home and Crematory
529 Spartanburg Hwy. S.
P.O. Box 758
Lyman, SC 29365
(864) 439-7141
info@livingwatersfh.com

Interment

JUL 8. 3:00 PM (ET)

North Fork Baptist Church
162 Callihan Mt. Road
Travelers Rest, SC

Tribute Wall

SZ

“ I will remember when we were all able to gather together at Grandma's house for a holiday or reunion, and all 5 brothers would get on a roll with telling old stories from their childhood. Us kids would get a front row seat to some great tales. Joe, we will miss you. Love, your nephew.

Shaun von Zabern - July 07, 2023 at 03:51 PM

L&

“ Leon &. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph Jonathan von Zabern.

Leon &. - July 06, 2023 at 06:59 PM

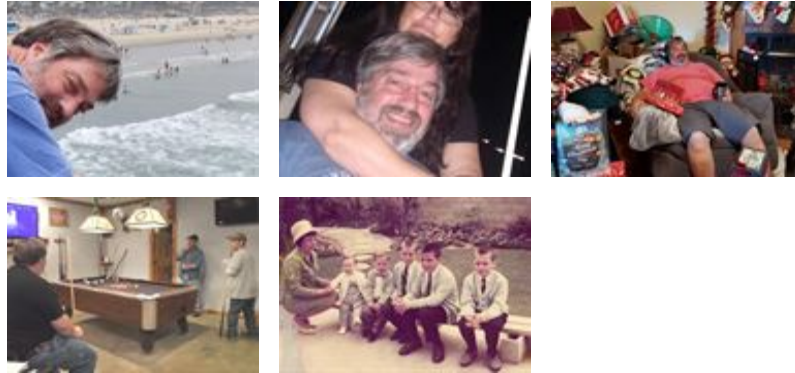
MC

“ Margaret C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph Jonathan von Zabern.

Margaret C. - July 06, 2023 at 10:13 AM



“ 50 files added to the album LifeTributes



Living Waters Funeral Home & Crematory - July 05, 2023 at 12:25 PM

TC

“ Trish (Sheehy) Cardino lit a candle in memory of Joseph Jonathan von Zabern



Trish (Sheehy) Cardino - July 04, 2023 at 01:29 PM

TC

“ My sweet sweet friend. You and I have such an extensive history. You were my first love. I remember so many memories bit I guess the ones that stick out the most are our Big Bear Trips and when you got suspended from school because I was scratching your back or when we went fishing and used a can of corn, we started a water fight and my wrist was cut, your dad took out my stitches. You're in great company now. So until we meet again fly high my friend. Love you always and forever.

Trish (Sheehy) Cardino - July 04, 2023 at 01:27 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joseph Jonathan von Zabern.

July 04, 2023 at 01:11 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Joseph Jonathan von Zabern.



July 04, 2023 at 01:11 PM



“ Joe and I have been friends since junior high and I'm so sad to hear about this. You will be so missed my friend! Give your Mom and Dad big hugs from me and tell my Dad hi! I'll miss you so much my friend!

Winnie Tresaugue - June 29, 2023 at 11:21 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joseph Jonathan von Zabern.

June 29, 2023 at 04:59 PM

MZ

“ Joe was my brother-in-law (I'm married to his oldest brother Fred). My favorite memories were the earlier days when all 5 boys, and their Mom and Dad would get together; Christmas time or birthdays. The stories would begin, some exaggerated I'm sure, but funny all the same. Our twin sons Shaun and Mike grew up hearing these stories, and replicated a few! All of them together was such fun for all. I'll miss Joe's big smile, and love of life. Godspeed to Joe, and my heart goes out to Lesia and Emily. Love, Marie von Zabern

Marie von Zabern - June 29, 2023 at 04:53 PM

JM

I'm so sad to hear this. Sending love and hugs to his fiancé, daughter and the rest of the family.

Joy Reynolds Miller - June 30, 2023 at 01:23 AM