



JOSEPH "JOE" RICHARD BLAHNIK

January 17, 1943 - May 18, 2025

Joseph "Joe" Blahnik, age 82, of Brownsville, MN, passed away peacefully in the presence of family at his home on May 18, 2025.

Joe was born January 17, 1943, in Austin MN. He was the 3rd of 13 children born to Louis and Mary (Snyder) Blahnik. He graduated from Rose Creek High School in 1961. In his mid-20s Joe served for 2 years in the U.S. Army, where he was primarily stationed in Germany. Joe married Cathy Greeley on October 10, 1970 and had 7 children together. They had a few different addresses before they hung their hat at a farm near Brownsville, MN in 1981, where Joe resided until his death.

Joe ran a small dairy cow and dairy goat farm and enjoyed the farm life very much. He also worked for ABS, DHIA, then back to ABS until his retirement in 2018. He and his family raised almost every farm animal imaginable at some point in his life. He raised and butchered farm animals, and also grew, harvested and preserved vegetables from his large garden. He still had a garden and was raising goats and rabbits on his farm outside of Brownsville up until the last few days of his life.

Joe was a great provider for his family. He worked long hours with DHIA while maintaining his own farm - to ensure that his family's needs were met. He sacrificed sleep during those years, to provide for his large family. He kept the

family freezers full with the vegetables from his garden and processed animals from his farm.

Joe was a very sociable man. He had a distinct voice that could be heard from anywhere in the room. He had a great sense of humor and always enjoyed telling a good joke. For those of us who were part of his life for a long time, we heard many of the good jokes (and some not so good jokes) several times.

Joe enjoyed his fishing trips. Over the last 25 years, he took several memorable fishing trips in Canada with his sons. And in the last few years, he has enjoyed several more local fishing adventures with some of his brothers. Joe enjoyed deer hunting but did not have a lot of time to devote to it. He frequently had a freezer full of venison, but it mostly came from friends and neighbors. Joe was a big fan of all Minnesota sports at all levels, and particularly enjoyed the Twins, Timberwolves and Vikings.

Faith was important to Joe. He was a devout Catholic and attended weekly mass for his entire life. For the last approximate 44 years, he was a member of St. Patrick's Church in Brownsville. His presence will be very much missed by his fellow parishioners.

Joe was a family man. He had close relationships with his siblings, many whom he communicated with daily. He enjoyed many annual and traditional outings with his siblings. He also enjoyed spending holidays and several annual get-togethers with his children and grandchildren. Joe was a loving, caring and giving man. He will be missed by many.

Joe is survived by his children, Sarah (Chris) Sevick, Luke Blahnik, Frank Blahnik, Adam (Terrie) Blahnik, Jake (Christine) Blahnik, Emily Blahnik, and Annie Ellis; grandchildren, Eli, Jack, Ayden, Maggie, Noah, Lilia, Luveah, Caia, and Mikayla, step grandsons Sam King and Jakob Komperud; brothers,

James Blahnik, Donald (Brenda) Blahnik, Fred (Carla) Blahnik; sisters, Mary (Ken) Haggerty, Darlene (Joe) Kraus, Dorothy (Jerry) Denison, Caroline Greeley, Betty (Jerry) Pestka, and Cathy (Jack) Bly.

He was preceded in death by his parents; twin sisters, Bonnie and Barb; and brother, Francis.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11:00 AM, Friday, May 23rd, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Brownsville. There will be a rosary at 9:30 AM and visitation will follow before the service in Breza Hall at the church. There will be a luncheon in Breza Hall following the service and burial will occur at 2:30 PM at St. Ignatius Cemetery, Spring Valley, MN.

Condolences may be sent to Joe Blahnik Family, McCormick Funeral Home, 205 E. Main St., Caledonia, MN 55921. Online condolences may be given at mccormickfuneralhome.net .

Cemetery Details

St. Ignatious Cemetery

13665 County Rd 12
Spring Valley, MN 55975

Previous Events

Rosary

MAY 23. 9:30 AM (CT)

Breza Hall, St. Patrick Church
604 Adam Street
Brownsville, MN 55919

Visitation

MAY 23. 9:45 AM (CT)

Breza Hall, St. Patrick Church
604 Adam Street
Brownsville, MN 55919

Mass of Christian Burial

MAY 23. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Patrick's Catholic Church
604 Adams Street
Brownville, MN 55919

Burial

MAY **23**. 2:30 PM (CT)

St. Ignatious Cemetery
13665 County Rd 12
Spring Valley, MN 55975

Tribute Wall



“ Joe Snyder Family purchased the *Fairest of All* for the family of JOSEPH "JOE" RICHARD BLAHNIK.



Joe Snyder Family - May 22, 2025 at 10:32 AM



“ Joe Snyder Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of JOSEPH "JOE" RICHARD BLAHNIK.

Joe Snyder Family - May 22, 2025 at 10:32 AM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of JOSEPH "JOE" RICHARD BLAHNIK.



May 21, 2025 at 08:56 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of JOSEPH "JOE" RICHARD BLAHNIK.

May 21, 2025 at 08:56 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of JOSEPH "JOE" RICHARD BLAHLNIK.



May 21, 2025 at 04:42 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of JOSEPH "JOE" RICHARD BLAHLNIK.



May 21, 2025 at 01:00 PM



“ Rose V. purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of JOSEPH "JOE" RICHARD BLAHLNIK.



Rose V. - May 20, 2025 at 10:29 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of JOSEPH "JOE" RICHARD BLAHLNIK.



May 20, 2025 at 09:24 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of JOSEPH "JOE" RICHARD BLAHNIK.

May 20, 2025 at 09:24 PM



“ From The Doering Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of JOSEPH "JOE" RICHARD BLAHNIK.



From The Doering Family - May 20, 2025 at 07:34 PM



“ Prior Lake Rotary purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of JOSEPH "JOE" RICHARD BLAHNIK.



Prior Lake Rotary - May 20, 2025 at 04:37 PM



“ Joe's Siblings and Their Families purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of JOSEPH "JOE" RICHARD BLAHNIK.



Joe's Siblings and Their Families - May 20, 2025 at 01:50 PM

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“ *Denisen Family purchased the Simply Elegant Sp
athiphyllum for the family of JOSEPH "JOE"
RICHARD BLAHNIK.*



Denisen Family - May 20, 2025 at 01:44 PM