



Joseph Edward Wolf

August 15, 1933 - February 9, 2025

Joseph Edward Wolf, 91, of Bonita Springs, Florida, passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, on February 9, 2025. He was a devoted husband, loving father, cherished grandfather, and loyal friend. Joe was a man of integrity and kindness who always put his family and community first.

Born on August 15, 1933, in Hamilton, Ohio, Joe spent his formative years in his hometown, building lifelong friendships and developing the values that would guide him throughout his life. After attending some college, Joe served his country, working in an Army Intelligence unit stationed in Heidelberg, Germany. His time in the Army was an influential period in his life. He earned his degree at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, where he was a proud Zeta Beta Tau fraternity member. There, he met the love of his life, Patricia Wenzel Wolf. Their marriage, spanning 63 years, was a testament to devotion and enduring love. Together, they raised their family in Hamilton, Ohio, creating a home filled with warmth and joy.

Joe began his career at Southwestern Ohio Steel Co., a family-owned steel processing company. He eventually served as its president before his retirement. Under his leadership, the business flourished, employing hundreds across Ohio and Tennessee. His ethical leadership and fair-minded business practices earned him the admiration of colleagues, competitors, and employees.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Joe was a passionate advocate for education and community service. He served as president of the Hamilton City School Board and was actively involved in numerous community organizations, including the Boys & Girls Club of Hamilton. His commitment to service continued in Florida, where he was involved with the Guadalupe Center in Immokalee, helping immigrant families adjust to life in the U.S. He was also a dedicated volunteer with Habitat for Humanity and other nonprofits in Southwest Florida, continually seeking ways to support those in need.

With Joe's love of sports, he found great joy on the golf course and tennis court. A lifelong golfer, he built deep friendships through the game, particularly with his Florida golf group, the Bonita Bandits, with whom he shared many memorable rounds and laughs. Tennis was another of Joe's passions, and in his Hamilton days, he could often be found at New London Hills Club or at the legendary private court on D Street. There, a tight-knit group of friends gathered, rotating in and out of matches, chatting on the bench, and enjoying one another's company as much as the game itself. Joe, always the gentleman, was just as content cheering on his friends from the sidelines as he was competing on the court.

Those who knew Joe will remember him not just for his achievements but for his quiet acts of generosity and kindness. He never sought recognition but always found ways to uplift others, whether through philanthropy, a simple gesture of friendship, or a subtle helping hand.

Joe was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Pat; his parents, Jean and William Wolf; and his sister, Mary Levin. His legacy lives on through his daughters, Martha Wolf (Roger Steele), Nancy Walthall (Jeffrey), and Emily Shifrin (James); and his five grandchildren, Benjamin (Emily), James, and

Andrew Walthall, and Charlie and Henry Shifrin. He is also survived by his beloved sister, Nancy Gladstone; his dear cousin, Joe Hirshhorn (Marilyn); and his brothers-in-law, Peter Levin (Beth) and Charles Wenzel (Mary); as well as many nieces and nephews who adored him—and he them.

Joe Wolf was a man of honor, humor, and boundless generosity. While his absence leaves a void, his spirit remains ever-present in the lives he touched. His family and friends will forever cherish the lessons he imparted, the love he gave, and the example he set for a life well lived.

On a side note, the man had a deep appreciation for a well-written obituary, faithfully reading the New York Times obits every day. Not sure this would make the cut, but we did our best, Dad. Love you.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Harry Chapin Food Bank of Southwest Florida (harrychapinfoodbank.org), Hamilton Boys & Girls (bgchamilton.org) or a charity of one's choice.

As per his request, there will be no service.

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home, Family Owned Since 1978.

Tribute Wall

JM

“ I was so saddened to hear about the passing of your father, our beloved Uncle Joe. My heart goes out to you during this incredibly difficult time. I'll always cherish the memories of our childhoods together – we were so lucky to have Uncle Joe and Aunt Pat in our lives. Sending you all my love and deepest condolences.

James F Millikin - March 10, 2025 at 11:55 AM

DG

“ Dear Martha, Nancy, and Emily,

Joe was a dear and generous man who lived a beautiful life. I'm sure he and Paul are busy caring for any needy angels right now.

You are blessed to have had Joe and Pat as loving parents. They live within you for eternity.

Love,
Diana

Diana Hollingsworth Gessler - February 20, 2025 at 12:40 PM

DG

“ Diana Hollingsworth Gessler sent a virtual gift in memory of Joseph Wolf



Diana Hollingsworth Gessler - February 20, 2025 at 12:30 PM

ES

“ 26 files added to the album Joe Wolf



Emily Shifrin - February 13, 2025 at 09:06 AM

SS

“ Sara S. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph Edward Wolf.

Sara S. - February 12, 2025 at 07:26 PM