



## Joe Phillip Montgomery

March 2, 1932 - December 9, 2013

Joe Phillip Montgomery, 81, of Nashville, MI, passed away December 9, 2013 with his family by his side. Joe was born in McKenzie, TN on March 2, 1932, the son of Marvin and Mable (Weisman) Montgomery. As a boy, Joe was always interested in farming. Joe served his country in the U.S. Navy during the Korean Conflict. On July 18, 1953, Joe married the love of his life, Flora Mae Coats. They settled in Charlotte and raised 4 wonderful sons. Joe worked with his dad at Monty's Gas Station in the mid-1950s. He went into the construction business after that, working for Scott's Roofing, followed by several Lansing firms. From 1971 to 1978 Joe was supervisor for Mike Davis Builders where he was proud that they had built 110 homes in a single year. In 1978, Joe started his own construction company - Joe Montgomery Builder - in Charlotte. He retired in 1987 and his sons took over the business. Joe was good-hearted. He was friendly and could talk to anyone. He loved to fish, especially on the Withlacoochee River in Florida. He was proud of his family and enjoyed getting together for holidays and picnics, especially at the lake. He adored his grandchildren and enjoyed watching them fish. Joe is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Flora; his sons Robert (Shari) Montgomery of Hastings, MI, Steven (Marcie) Montgomery of Charlotte, Michael Montgomery of Marshall, and David (Vickie) Montgomery of Charlotte; 6 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren; his sister Dorothy Swarhout and brother Gene (Phyllis) Montgomery. He is predeceased by his parents and his siblings Helen Fast, Marvin Montgomery, Doyle Montgomery, and Barbara Grenawalt. Visitation

will be held on Friday, December 13, 2013, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte, with a memorial service immediately following at 11:30 with Pastor Deanne Moore officiating. If desired, memorial contributions are suggested to Pennock Hospice, Hastings.

The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte. Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.prayfuneral.com](http://www.prayfuneral.com)

<http://www.prayfuneral.com>.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Joe Phillip Montgomery*



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**Pray Funeral Home, Inc.** - December 09, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ *Dear Flora, Thinking of You during this time, it is hard to believe that it has been a year since Joe's passing. Elen and I are truly blessed to have you for a neighbor at Thornapple Lake. The knock on the door and seeing you there is always a welcome site during the summer months. We often think back to the many chats on the deck and in the driveway with Joe and you. God Bless, Love, Dick & Elen*

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**Dick & Elen** - December 02, 2014 at 09:38 AM

DB

“ *Thinking of you at this time. Wishing you comfort when needed and most of all hoping you can cherish every memory, while making more memories.*

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**Deanna Barnum** - December 02, 2014 at 05:42 AM

JN

“ Joe built us a beautiful home in rural Charlotte 27 years ago. We still live here, and love the home that he and his company built for us; filled it with love and happiness, thanks to Joe's good work. He and his sons were very professional; but also very friendly and kind. Our deepest condolences and prayers to the Montgomery family on your loss. Sincerely, Jim and Rozanna Nalett

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**James and Rozanna Nalett** - December 16, 2013 at 12:06 PM

MC

“ My deepest condolences go out to the entire Montgomery family.

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**Marcia Casey-Cole** - December 15, 2013 at 07:31 PM

JW

“ we are so sorry wont see his smiling face at the lake. He was always in a happy mood and will miss seeing you both at Buddy's. always john and barbara

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**john and barbara wallace** - December 14, 2013 at 08:18 AM

MM

“ I was Joe's mothers nurse...and Joe&Flo...have been my next door Lake neighbors for MANY years....he did the best deep fried fish around.....always had his big smile....I will miss him so much...

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**Mary Mullins** - December 13, 2013 at 10:00 PM

CJ

“ Joe was always a friendly face that was a joy to see anywhere. I have lived in Charlotte my whole life and have known the "Montgomery Brothers" and there parents my entire adult life. Joe was a very loving person and always had something nice to say. He will be missed!!

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**Cindy and Randy Jewell** - December 13, 2013 at 11:08 AM

TP

“ So many years ago, you and your family were nearly a part of mine. I have so many joyful memories of you, your home, and your family; playing in your barn, taking trips with you. Florrie and boys...I truly wish I could be there to support you today. My heart is very sad, as Joe's passing is the end of an era. I loved you all then, and feel love for you now. I hope that over your holidays you are gladdened to have had him with you and know that I will think of you often. With love and sadness, Tracey Partridge

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**Tracey Partridge** - December 13, 2013 at 10:44 AM

DM

“ Joe's trademark saying, *A good man can do anything*. To all who loved Joe the following is nothing new - perhaps his grandchildren/great grandchildren whom he adored, will read this in coming years and realize where some of their finer qualities may have come from. Joe was a great man and my friend. He was cut from old cloth, the good stuff... the kind you wish all people were from. His handshake was strong and when he looked you in the eyes you knew this was the type of man whose word had value. As his closest neighbor my blessing was soaking in his warm smiles and his old school wisdom more often than not. I always looked forward to our paths crossing, hearing his hearty hello and chatting about life's whimsy. Frequently Joe would con me into helping fix this or that, but we both understood not much coaxing was required, because he knew I loved hanging out with him and tinkering on projects. When a weed whip or mower outsmarted us for the moment - his can do attitude never failed and he would say, *A good man can do anything*. That truism left his mouth often and what a fine way for a truly great man to be remembered. It was hard for me to tell how I saw Joe, sometimes as a buddy, sometimes a second father, or even with the wisdom/love of a grandpa. He was just one of those guys who knew what hat to wear and when and was filled with the qualities that made him good at being each one. Joe and Flo are some of the finest friends and neighbors anyone could ever ask for. Joe will be thought of often - deeply missed and never replaced. Thank you Joe and don't catch all the fish up there, save some for the rest of us! Dave Mullins and family ~

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**Dave Mullins** - December 12, 2013 at 11:34 PM

DF

“ *Summers at Thornapple Lake will not be the same without Joe. I will miss the conversations we had on his deck. He was always there to offer assistance, especially when the water was rising and we had to get our boat off our lift and trailered. He was one of those special people that come into your life and touch you in a way that his memory will not fade. Elen and I will miss Joe greatly.*

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**Dick & Elen Fox** - December 12, 2013 at 10:47 AM

DF

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**Dave Mullins and the extended Mullins family** - December 11, 2013 at 05:03 PM

CS

“ *Joe will be missed by all who knew him our thoughts and prayers are with His Family*

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**Carole &Earl Stevens** - December 11, 2013 at 08:38 AM

DB

“ sending condolences to your family and prayers at this difficult time.  
*The Merren family*

Deanna Barnum - December 10, 2013 at 10:41 PM

GB

“ We would like to extend our deepest sympathies to Flo and the family with the loss of Joe. We have many great memories of Joe bringing in the biggest fish pretty well every time. He was quite the master fisherman. Our prayers go to Flo and family.

Gary and Liz Bekkevold - December 10, 2013 at 09:01 PM

SF

“ Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath entered into the hearts of man the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him. I Cor 2:9 May God's Love fill you with Peace



Sandra K Raley (mother of Marcie Montgomery and friend of family) - December 10, 2013 at 04:38 PM

CR

“ So very sorry, know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. We loved Joe, and no one has beaten his record here on Lake Rousseau at Buddys and one the nicest men we have ever met. So glad we had the privilege of being Joe and Flo's neighbors for a lot of years. Clyde said he always told Joe he didn't do bad fishing for a northern boy. God bless.

Clyde and Linda Richardson - December 10, 2013 at 03:28 PM

RK

“ *just lost a dear friend will miss you in fl*

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**ROY & BERTHA KNOX** - December 10, 2013 at 02:53 PM

BR

“ *Montgomery Family - Our thoughts are with you - what a WONDERFUL man - always with a smile and caring word. Memories Last A Lifetime. Love & Hugs, Gary & Brinda*

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**Brinda** - December 10, 2013 at 02:40 PM