



Joseph Fernandez

December 9, 2018

Joseph Fernandez, 90, of Fairhaven, passed away peacefully Sunday, December 9, 2018, at St. Luke's Hospital in New Bedford after a period of declining health. He was the loving husband of 66 years to the late Dorothy (O'Gara) Fernandez.

Born in Fairhaven, son of the late Domingo and Francesca (Rojas) Fernandez, he was a lifelong resident of the town and communicant of St. Joseph's Church.

Joe was a graduate of Fairhaven High School and a Korean War veteran of the Army. He had worked at Atlas Tack for 25 years until its closing and then at the Mass Maritime Academy until his retirement.

Joe was a kind and loving Husband, Father, and Grandfather and truly beloved by his whole family. He was a man of honor and integrity personified by his tremendous work ethic. This work ethic carried over to his running career which he started around age 43. Joe was nationally ranked, often #1 in the country, at every age level throughout his running career. He was a member of the New Bedford Track Club and was inducted into the US National Masters Track and Field Hall of Fame. He ran the New Bedford Half Marathon from 1980-2008, the Fairhaven Father's Race for over 40 years in a row, and Bermuda half-marathon and 10K, run on subsequent days, for 16 years in a row. Joe ran until he was 86 years old and during that 40+ year span he and his wife, Dorothy, enjoyed traveling to numerous road races, in the area and across the country.

He is survived by two sons, Joseph M. Fernandez and his wife Janis of Fairhaven and James J. Fernandez of Norton; a daughter, Janet M. Young and her husband David of Fairhaven; four grandchildren, Brian J. and Julianna Fernandez and Kristen and Michael J. Young; two great grandchildren, Joey M. and Mickey J. Fernandez; a sister, Pilar Marshall of New Bedford and several nieces and nephews. Mr. Fernandez was the brother of the late Michael, Antonio, Alfred and Aurelia Fernandez and Rose Denuno.

Calling hours are Wednesday, from 4-7pm, in the Fairhaven Funeral Home, 117 Main St.,

Fairhaven.

His funeral will be Thursday, December 13, 2018, at 9:00am, from the funeral home followed by a Mass of Christian Burial, at 10:00am, in St. Joseph's Church, Fairhaven. Interment will be in Riverside Cemetery, Fairhaven.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to a charity of your choice.

Cemetery

Riverside Cemetery

274 Main Street

Fairhaven, MA, 02719

Events

DEC **Calling Hours** 04:00PM - 07:00PM

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Fairhaven Funeral Home

117 Main Street, Fairhaven, MA, US, 02719

DEC **Funeral Service** 09:00AM

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Fairhaven Funeral Home

117 Main Street, Fairhaven, MA, US, 02719

DEC **Funeral Mass** 10:00AM

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St. Joseph Church

100 Spring St., Fairhaven, MA, US, 02719

Comments



“ God speed Joe. May you resume your ferocious interval training in heaven.

Peter Schmidt - December 12, 2018 at 08:05 AM



“ I'm sure he has Peter. Thank you Janet Young

Janet M Young - December 23, 2018 at 05:35 AM



“ Joe and Dorothy were nice neighbors who used to chat with us about our gardens and the challenges we both faced in growing vegetables. It's always sad to lose a loved one, but it is comforting to know that the both of them will be together once again, resting in peace. Our condolences to the Fernandez family.

John and Lynn Rainville - December 11, 2018 at 11:23 AM



“ Thank you for your kind words Lynn. My Parents enjoyed your neighborly friendship also. Your Vegetables were a hit also. We are comforted knowing they are together. Janet and Joe

Janet M Young - December 23, 2018 at 05:32 AM



“ Terence H. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Joseph Fernandez.



Terence H. - December 10, 2018 at 09:16 PM



“ Too my uncle Joe - great memories of us gathering together all holidays & all the fun times with cousins & you Uncle Joe - love & will miss you dearly - another angle got his wings & say hi to my dad & all our families in heaven

Frannie Freitas - December 10, 2018 at 07:13 PM