



Paul Richard Koester

January 12, 1926 - June 9, 2022

Paul Richard Koester passed away at the age of 96 on Wednesday, June 8, 2022 at Rosary Care Center.

Paul was born on January 12, 1926 to parents, Walter B. and Agnes M. Koester. A brother, James E., died in an auto accident in 1972.

Paul attended Toledo Public Schools. Following graduation from Libby High School, he continued his education at the University of Toledo, where he received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees.

His 30-year teaching career was about equally divided at Clyde High School and Toledo Libby and Bowsher High Schools. He served six years as chairman of the Social Studies Department at Bowsher prior to his retirement in 1977.

Paul has maintained continuous membership with the Erie Shores Council of the Boy Scouts of America for over 80 years. He was known by many as "Mr. Miakonda," due to his over 40 years of service at Camp Miakonda, which included 16 years as Camp Director. Paul's most cherished scouting recognitions include The Silver Beaver Award (1957), Order of the Arrow Vigil Honor (1969), and 80- year recognition given in June 2017. He served on the Council's Properties Committee and The Executive Board.

A few of his many achievements are new cabins, building renovation and motorized equipment at Camp Miakonda, all financed by Paul. He also funded a greenhouse for the Tiffin Franciscans Sisters. Paul continued his love of education by providing Lourdes University with The Koester Greenhouse, The Koester Student Rec Center Pavilion and the Paul R. Koester Endowed Scholarships in Biology and Education for students preparing to work with young people. Swan Creek Retirement Village has also benefitted with major help with a chapel project.

Paul is survived by his niece, Dottie J. (Koester) Haas, two great nieces, Tesha and Lynette, two great great nieces and two great great nephews as well as several cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents, Walter and Agnes, and brother, James.

In lieu of flowers, please consider gifts in memory of Paul to Lourdes University's Paul R. Koester Endowed Scholarships, 6832 Convent Blvd., Sylvania, Ohio 43560.

Visitation will be on Tuesday, June 14 from 5:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M. at Coyle Funeral Home, 1770 S. Reynolds, Toledo. Visitation will also take place at St. John XXIII on Wednesday, June 15 at 9:00 A.M. prior to a Mass celebrating Paul's life beginning at 10:00 A.M. at St. John XXIII Church, 24250 N. Dixie Hwy., Perrysburg. Burial will be at Calvary cemetery following Mass.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

2224 Dorr St.
Toledo, OH 43607

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN **14**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Coyle Funeral Home
1770 S. Reynolds Road
Toledo, OH 43614

Visitation

JUN **15**. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St John XXIII Church
24250 Dixie Hwy.
Perrysburg, OH 43551

Funeral Ceremony

JUN **15**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St John XXIII Church
24250 Dixie Hwy.
Perrysburg, OH 43551

Graveside Service

JUN 15. 12:00 PM - 12:15 PM (ET)

Calvary Cemetery
2224 Dorr St.
Toledo, OH 43607

Tribute Wall

SO

“ Dear Koester Family,

Paul gave us money to refurbish our Lourdes Greenhouse! We were so happy for his generosity! He was so kind and we couldn't thank him enough for this and much more.

During his entire life he did what God called him to do. Now may he rest in peace and enjoy his new life in a new phase--- eternity!

Sister Rosine Sobczak OSF

Associate Professor Emerita

Lourdes University.

Sr. Rosine Sobczak OSF - June 14, 2022 at 11:50 PM

DO

“ Rest in Peace Mr. Koester and thank you so much for igniting in me the love of history I maintain to this day. I still clearly remember my first day in your class, When the time came to go on to the next class you looked up and said Dan O'Connor you need to stay behind we need to talk. I thought what the heck did I do and slowly approached your desk. You looked up from your papers and said so you live at 542 Brighton? - Yes I do - Your Mom is Betty? - Yes she is. How do you like living in my house? You went on to explain you too had grown up there and your Mom and Dad had sold it to my Mom and Dad in '52. You also explained my Mom had you had become good friends when you both were in the National Honor Society at Libbey. Something in that momentary conversation we had in addition to the way you presented history and civics to the class made this average student who never really cared much about the past into a colossal history buff. If and when you run into my Mom up there at a Heavenly Libbey reunion tell her that her history loving son is doing just fine :) Thank You again Sir. - Sincerely Dan O'Connor Bowsher Class of '77

Dan O'Connor - June 14, 2022 at 06:54 PM

DF

“ Kathryn "Kitty" Donahue and family send our sympathies and prayers at this time. Paul called Kitty once a week when he was healthy and she always enjoyed their conversations. Unfortunately, they both have been unable to engage in this ritual as of late and I know Kitty has missed it.



Donahue family - June 13, 2022 at 09:15 PM

CH

“ I was sorry to hear of Paul's passing. Paul was a true gentleman and interesting to talk with. His Christmas letters were so informative. He and my mother, Evelyn Higley McKee, were cousins and I remember visiting with Paul and his mother, Aunt Ag, on several occasions. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Cheryl McKee Hall

Cheryl Hall - June 13, 2022 at 08:31 PM