



# Reverend W. Kent Joy

OCT 24, 1958 - FEB 11, 2023



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## Reverend W. Kent Joy

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### Reverend Joy Obituary

William Kent Joy, 64, passed away unexpectedly February 11, 2023. He was born October 24, 1958 in Sandusky, OH to Lowell and Virginia Joy. He lived in Lakeside, OH and was a 1976 graduate of Danbury High School. The following fall, he met the love of his life, Julie and they were married August 6, 1977. Kent worked at the family Lakeside Marine and served as a volunteer EMT/Firefighter before returning to school to follow his calling to serve the Lord. He graduated from University of Toledo and then served at Park Avenue UMC, Amherst while attending Methodist Theological School in Ohio. He served at Newcomers Chapel UMC, Birmingham UMC, Berlin Heights Lakeview UMC, First United Methodist Church of Mansfield and in 2015 became pastor of First United Methodist Church of Elyria. Kent, as everyone knew him, was a man of God as well as the people. He was eternally giving and always willing to offer a helping hand or loving embrace. He shared God and Jesus in a way few others knew how and lead many to Christ throughout his life. He was the knower of all things and the fixer of any house he visited. As a father, Kent was compassionate and strived to love and protect. He was always there with unwavering love, support, advice or a witty comment to make you smile. He was active in the Elyria Ministerial Association, Elyria Sunrise Rotary, Neighbor Up Elyria, Financial Stability Impact Advisory United Way of Lorain County, Urban League and We Care Elyria. Kent also enjoyed motorcycle trips with his wife, music, cooking, photography, skiing, boating, birding and fishing. As a husband of 45 years, he was the perfect fit for Julie. They were truly a match made in heaven. He is also survived by children, Caitlin (Andy) Agard, and Casey and Caleb Joy; grandchildren, Elliott Joy and Soren and Maisie Agard; mother, Virginia Joy; father, Lowell and step mother, Elaine Joy; and; siblings, Kenny (Sue) Joy, Kathie Joy and Keith (Kathy) Joy; sister in law, Debbie (Mike) Campbell and many nieces,



## Obituary

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nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his mother in law Marjorie Gottschalk. Friends may call Thursday, February 16, 2023 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at First United Methodist Church, 312 Third Street, Elyria and also Friday, February 17, 2023 from 9:30 am until the time of an 11:00 am memorial service at the church with Reverend Dr. William L. McFadden, Reverend Bruce Hitchcock, Reverend Dr. Steve Bailey and Reverend John Butchko officiating. Burial will be in Catawba Island Township Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to First United Methodist Church, 312 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035 or Bike Hope Love, 4065 St, OH-44, Rootstown, OH 44272, (<https://www.bikehopelove.org/>) Photo Album Visitation Thursday, February 16, 2023 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM First United Methodist Church 312 Third St.Elyria, OH 44035 Visitation Friday, February 17, 2023 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM First United Methodist Church 312 Third St.Elyria, OH 44035 Memorial Service Friday, February 17, 2023 11:00 AM First United Methodist Church 312 Third St.Elyria, OH 44035

To send flowers  
to the family or plant a tree  
in memory of Reverend W. Kent Joy, please visit our floral store.

Read More



## Tribute Wall

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CF

**Chip & Terri Freed** posted:

Many prayers your way. Kent is a bright light!

February 16 at 8:00 PM

DD

**Daniel Drew** posted:

My prayers for Julie and all of Kent's family, including his Mom, who I used to talk to at Lakeside, that God may comfort and bring hope in grief and smiles at the memory of Kent's outstanding personality and life. My prayers also for the congregation and friends of Elyria First UMC, as it is a difficult thing to lose your Pastor so suddenly and tragically, may God bring you all healing and HOPE. May the Resurrection Spirit overcome the burden of grief. Rev. Daniel Drew

February 16 at 8:00 PM

DE

**Dad And Elaine** posted:

In Loving Memory of Reverend W. Kent Joy, Celebrating a life well lived whose memories will be cherished forever. A Sympathy Gift of Group of 10 Trees has been Planted In Loving Memory of Reverend W. Kent Joy courtesy of Dad and Elaine.

February 16 at 8:00 PM

KH

**Kimberly Mcdonough (Hill)** posted:

My deepest Condolences to his family & the Church,, Ive attended Christmas Eve services with my Sister Shannon Hill who loved & respected him . I did not know him personally, did enjoy his Services., ðŸ’

February 15 at 8:00 PM

BH

**Bruce & Barbara Hirsch** posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with the entire Joy family.

February 15 at 8:00 PM



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GD

**Grace Daniel** posted:

My sincere condolences to Rev. Kent Joys wife and family. I always enjoyed Kents sermons when visiting Elyria First UMC with my grandmother Helen. Over the years our family was blessed to get to know him more, and I truly have never met a reverend who better represented the teachings of Christ. Ill never forget his words of guidance after my fianc passed away, and I know his kind and thoughtful words have left an unforgettable impression on countless others. I will always be grateful to have known him.

February 15 at 8:00 PM

CB

**Carmen Bowers** posted:

Dearest Joy family, Please know that our hearts and prayers are with you all during this extreme time of need. We have been so very fortunate to have had the opportunity to get to know you during your time serving our dear Lord at Elyria Methodist Church and are just absolutely devastated at hearing of Kents abrupt passing. Thank you so much for your kindness and love over the years to all members of our family and being active participants in so many of our cherished memories! In sympathy and in love, Carmen, Travis, and Nora Bowers (grandchildren+great grandchild of Helen Mengle)

February 14 at 8:00 PM

SD

**Sandy Driskill** posted:

My deepest condolences. It was such an honor to have known him, I will miss his humor and kindness. He will be deeply missed.

February 14 at 8:00 PM

KL

**Kari Lora** posted:

My deepest condolences to the entire Joy family on this passing of Kent. He was always a lovely person to work with and know. Hugs to Julie, Lowell, Elaine and family.

February 14 at 8:00 PM



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DM

**David Macdonald** posted:

Kent was a good friend from seminary, and a wonderful colleague. He truly lived up to the name Joy, and his presence will be greatly missed. Blessings and peace to his family, loved ones, and church family! Peace, David MacDonald

February 13 at 8:00 PM

GH

**Gerald Henson** posted:

My thoughts and prayers are with all of you for the best of everything. God bless.

February 13 at 8:00 PM

JF

**Jill Fesler** posted:

When a new neighbor just fits in perfectly to the neighborhood. Kent and Julie such wonderful people. So glad to have gotten to know you during your time in Mansfield. So sorry for your loss but heavens gain! Prayers of comfort for your family at this time.

February 13 at 8:00 PM

NA

**Nancy** posted:

In Loving Memory of Reverend W. Kent Joy, With deepest sympathies. A Sympathy Gift of Single Tree has been Planted In Loving Memory of Reverend W. Kent Joy courtesy of Nancy.

February 13 at 8:00 PM

RT

**Roger Talbott** posted:

I am sure Kent was much more to Julie and their family than a pastor, but as his predecessor at Elyria First UMC, I appreciated, as few people possibly could, what it was like for him to serve that congregation. He had a grace and skills that enabled the church to engage in ministries that made a difference in the Elyria community. He shepherded the church through the pandemic and was helping them get back on their feet again when he was so abruptly taken from this life into the next. Our hearts go out to Julie, their children, Kent's parents and siblings.

February 13 at 8:00 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring W. by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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