



Mr. Joseph LaValle Nevels Jr.

August 3, 1933 - December 7, 2016

Joe was born on August 3, 1933 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin to Joseph and Rose Nevels. He was one of 11 children. Joe attended St. Benedict the Moor elementary school and graduated from North Division High School. After serving two years in the United States Army infantry, Joe came home to Milwaukee, and married Janis Louise Nelson on December 31, 1955. Joe started his own landscape business in the spring of 1956 with his wife as the bookkeeper. Joe Nevels owned and operated Joe Nevels Landscape, Co. Inc. and conducted business in the Milwaukee North Shore suburbs for over 50 years. His dream of starting his own business started at age 9 when he started working with his dad. He told his dad "One day you will see men with uniforms and trucks with our name on them." His father gave him ambition and exposure to wealthy people in the North Shore communities. His mother gave him an interest in flowers, plants and art. Joe's love was creative landscape design and with that prided himself with creating unique and distinctive landscape projects for many generations. His company's work includes Miller Brewing Headquarters, Schlitz Park Office Complex, the Performing Arts Center, the Plaza East office building and many other private and public parks in the Downtown Milwaukee area. His work and success was achieved by word of mouth. He prided himself on employing as many minority and disadvantaged workers

as possible. In addition, he also worked to spread awareness of the problems faced by minority owned businesses.

He was affiliated with the following: Board Chairman and one of the founders of the African-American Chamber of Commerce, one of the founders of the Minority Contractors Association, Member of the Metropolitan Builders Association for 25 years and member of Wisconsin Landscape Contractors Association.

In his leisure, Joe enjoyed golf and travel which has taken him to such places as, North Africa, Jamaica, the Dominican Republic, and 35 Caribbean Islands.

Joe Nevels went home to be with the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ on December 7, 2016 in South Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He was preceded in death by: his brothers and sisters, Eugene, Juanita, Nellie, Ophelia, Donald and Cornelius.

He leaves to cherish in memory: wife, Janis Louise Nevels of Milwaukee, WI; daughter, Carla Tate (Wayne) of Milwaukee, WI; sons, Jeffrey Nevels of Memphis, TN and Jay Nevels of Milwaukee, WI; nine grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; brother, Tyrone Nevels Sr. (Mary) of Mequon, WI; sisters, Delores Jordan of Milwaukee, WI and La Wanda Johnson of Los Angeles, CA; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other extended relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

Northwest Cremation Services

6630 W. Hampton Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53218

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 15. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Northwest Funeral Chapel
6630 W. Hampton Ave
Milwaukee, WI

Service

DEC 15. 1:00 PM (CT)

Northwest Funeral Chapel
6630 W. Hampton Ave
Milwaukee, WI

Tribute Wall

MD

“ *Jan and Family...Our deepest sympathies from the Norman Dreweck Family (Neighbors from 105st)*

Margie Dreweck - December 15, 2016 at 10:17 AM

BJ

“ *Jan and family, We built our home in Mequon over 30 years ago and we will never forget Joe sitting at our kitchen table with our 4-year old's crayons and a piece of paper and designing the most beautiful landscape plan for our totally empty lot. The finished product was gorgeous! He was a true artist! Our deepest sympathies-*

Barbara and Chuck Jackson

Barbara Jackson - December 14, 2016 at 10:09 AM

FJ

“ *From Philip and Joanna purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Joseph LaValle Nevels Jr..*



From Philip and Joanna - December 12, 2016 at 08:31 PM

DF

“ *Dear Jan and family,
I am very saddened by the news of Joe's passing. As I was starting my career in the Green industry, Joe was always very generous with good advise and a wonderful professional inspiration. His was a significant contribution to the Green industry in Wisconsin. Our deepest sympathies.
David J. Frank and the staff at
David J Frank Landscape*

David J. Frank - December 12, 2016 at 08:05 PM

JK

“ To Jan and the family of Joe Nevels,
I worked for Joe at his Landscape Company
as his Landscape Architect for over 30 years.
My father died the year I started at the
Company, and I always considered Joe as my
'father figure'. He worked his way up from a 'one man show' to a
very large and successful company. We did projects all over the City
and Suburbs including several Miller Brewery buildings, the original
Potawatomi Bingo, Midwest Express Center, hundreds of
Apartments and Condominiums , Hospitals, Churches, Miller Park,
and Residentials.



He was a very creative landscape designer and I learned quite a bit
from him through the years. He was also a very compassionate and
good man. But mostly I remember how he interacted with clients
and his charisma and sense of humor. One time we were showing a
new client some of the work we did at a Condo project. As we were
walking through the backs of the homes, a notoriously rude and
unfriendly resident came out his back door and pointed to a bush
and yelled to Joe, "Why is this bush turning yellow?!" Joe replied,
"Well Jim, you have to stop peeing on it!"

Unfortunately, I was going through some personal issues and lost
contact with Joe over the past few years, I was too involved with
myself, and did not get to tell him how much he meant to me.
However, I hope he knew. Godspeed Joe.

Jon Koerner

Jon Koerner - December 12, 2016 at 01:38 PM

KR

Karl Rieves March 20 2019 To Jan & famliy joe was dad to me I got
very ill . I just found out . Thank you for my green thumb

Karl Rieves - March 20, 2019 at 08:02 PM

PS

“ To: Aunt Jan, Jeffery, Jay, Grandchildren and Family, we are so sorry for the loss of Uncle Joe we will miss him dearly and have fond memories of our time spent with you and him. He was a wonderful Uncle. We will keep you in our prayers and thoughts during this difficult time may GOD give you comfort , strength and peace always.



Love,

From Philip and Joanna Sims
Dallas, Texas

Philip Sims - December 10, 2016 at 10:23 PM



“ A New Sunrise Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Joseph LaValle Nevels Jr..



December 09, 2016 at 09:29 PM