



## Russell E. Kaskowski

May 5, 2025

Russell Kaskowski was peacefully reunited with his beloved wife of 56 years, Joann Kaskowski on May 5, 2025 at the age of 90 years old.

Loving father of Rusty (Barb), Kathleen (Paul) Mandella, Steven (the late Karen), Sharon, Kristine (Bill) Eder and Janice. Cherished grandpa of Kurtis, Stevie Ray (Rainy), Stephanie, Paul (Amanda), Nicholas, Rachel, Morgan, Vincent, Cheyann (Jake), and Austin (Talley). Dearest great-grandpa to Mia (angel in heaven), Maya, Eli and Nora. Beloved brother of Richard Kass, brother-in-law to Alan Zehm, Larry Vandezande, Joe (Vicki) Terhardt, and John Terhardt. Wonderful friend to family friends Shirley Ramazini, Donna Mazola, Josie Sajdak and Mary Gibbons. Special cousin to Christine Walczak. Further survived by nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Russ was born on September 13th, 1934 to Edward and Mary Kaskowski in Milwaukee, WI, one of 8 children. He graduated from South Division High School where he met the love of his life Joann. Russ worked at Cutler Hammer and then for Milwaukee Public Schools first as a grounds keeper and finished his career as lead custodial engineer at Boys Tech and then Pleasant View, where he retired at age 72. Russ needed something to do in retirement, so he became a toner delivery driver for Toner Sales for a few years.

Russ was known for his witty and wonderful sense of humor and liked to make

everyone laugh and smile. He would sometimes put on silly glasses, or hats or comb his hair funny to get a laugh all while remaining straight faced. Sometimes it was hard to tell if he was joking or being serious, especially if you didn't know him. One of his favorite phrases was, "If you can make at least one person smile each day, you have done your job".

Russ loved singing especially along to Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and the Rat Pack. Although he liked other music, his love was big band and crooners.

Russ was very humble and did not need or want material things. Instead, he believed wealth was achieved by having meaningful relationships, and cherished his family especially his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Russ grew up during the era where you didn't throw things away, you fixed them. He was a self-taught auto mechanic, plumber, electrician, TV repair and appliance repair man. After work and on weekends you could find him tinkering in the basement fixing things.

Russ lived a full life which included traveling to many places with Joann and family, including Hawaii, Mexico, St. Thomas, Aruba, St Martin, Florida, California and Colorado. Russ also enjoyed going to the yearly EAA Fly-In in Osh Kosh WI with his sons and grandchildren.

In his later life, Russ traveled to Texas with his oldest son Rusty to see his grandson Austin race go-karts and to see Nascar races. Russ also enjoyed his daily car rides down to South Shore Park, Grant Park - and every other park in the area, with occasional stops at a beer garden to enjoy an ice cold Leinkugel's. These daily excursions were with his care-taker daughter, Janice and his beloved canine companions Baxter (over the rainbow bridge) and now, Caspian, both Bernese Mountain dogs. Those three also took a road trip in 2022 to Texas to visit his daughter Kris and family at Christmas and also to

Florida this past July to visit his granddaughter Cheyann and her fiancé Jake.

On a warm day, you could often find Russ sitting outside listening and whistling along with the birds, and watching the butterflies/wildlife, while enjoying a cigar.

There's so much we could mention about Russ's beautifully long life, but we would need another 90 years to do so.

If you see a four-pronged cane standing by itself, think of Russ and know he is near.

The family invites those who loved Russ, to consider a donation to an animal rescue or shelter of your choice.

Visitation Saturday, May 17 from 12:00 – 3:00 PM at ROZGA FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES – ROZGA-WALLOCH CHAPEL followed by a Funeral Service at 3:00 PM. Private cremation to follow.

Rozga Funeral & Cremation Services  
Rozga-Walloch Chapel  
4309 South 20th Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53221

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

MAY 17. 3:00 PM (CT)

Rozga Funeral & Cremation Services - Rozga-Walloch Chapel

4309 South 20th Street

Milwaukee, WI 53221

(414) 281-7145

<https://www.rozgafuneral.com/>

# Tribute Wall

JD

“ Always enjoyed it when I would have a chance to visit with Russ when he was an MPS engineer. He would have a joke for you and be ever so kind in every situation. A class act indeed!



Joseph E Devereaux - June 30, 2025 at 09:39 PM

HW

“ I had the pleasure of working with Russ at MPS .Always a kind word and a joy to be around  
God bless him . Herman Wolf

Herman Wolf - June 18, 2025 at 03:52 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Russell E. Kaskowski.



May 16, 2025 at 10:55 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Russell E. Kaskowski.

May 16, 2025 at 10:55 AM

KC

“ Ken Weisses Children purchased the Love's Journey for the family of Russell E. Kaskowski.



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**Ken Weisses Children** - May 16, 2025 at 08:46 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Russell E. Kaskowski.



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May 15, 2025 at 10:39 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Russell E. Kaskowski.

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May 15, 2025 at 10:39 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Russell E. Kaskowski.



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May 15, 2025 at 06:25 PM

KF

“ *Kass Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Russell E. Kaskowski.*



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**Kass Family** - May 15, 2025 at 12:10 PM

KF

“ *Kass Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Russell E. Kaskowski.*

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**Kass Family** - May 15, 2025 at 12:10 PM

SH

“ *Uncle Russ -  
I will always remember him smiling, singing and joking around. Just thinking of him, brings a big smile to my face. What a blessing to know him and be in the same family. I imagine as your Mom welcomed him to heaven, so did his sisters and brothers and parents and in laws. They welcomed him warmly and the singing, laughter and shenanigans began. So grateful for the wonderful family memories and sending my deepest condolences and sympathy to your hearts. May God bring peace to you all and send angels to comfort your hearts.*

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**SUSAN HETTENHAUS** - May 13, 2025 at 09:26 PM

JK

*Thank you Sue. He loved you guys. So glad you were able to come and surprise him for his 90th.  
Janice*

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**Janice Kaskowski** - May 20, 2025 at 05:00 PM

KK

“ My Uncle Russ, great picture, that smile. My mother would be on the phone for hours and laughing and laughing so I knew she was talking to her brother. She would always tell me that he loved to reminisce and had a great memory of their growing up years. She loved him so much. I remember my uncle as a kind man with a great sense of humor. My condolences to the Kaskowski family.  
Karen Kamoske

Karen Kamoske - May 09, 2025 at 02:37 PM

JK

Thank you Karen. He loved your family and talked about you guys often and of course your mom. What a special bond they had. Much love to you & Rhonda. Janice

Janice Kaskowski - May 13, 2025 at 12:39 PM

BE

“ Barb E. purchased the Garden Bench - "Gone yet not forgotten..." for the family of Russell E. Kaskowski.



Barb E. - May 08, 2025 at 08:42 AM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Russell E. Kaskowski.



May 08, 2025 at 08:38 AM

KK

“ Such a beautiful life he lead with those that he loved the most. I did not have the pleasure of knowing Russ personally, but I feel like I loved him through his daughters social media. Such a blessed family to have wonderful memories of a man who lived life to the fullest. He will be greatly missed by so many. RIP with your beautiful wife Russ.

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**Kandi Kinkaid** - May 08, 2025 at 07:50 AM

JK

Thank you Kandi.💕💕

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**Janice Kaskowski** - May 13, 2025 at 12:40 PM

AL

Couldn't have had a better neighbor. Whenever I talked with him he was always positive even if things weren't going well.

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**AI** - May 16, 2025 at 09:42 PM