



Joseph Andrew Dieffenbacher

March 18, 1958 - August 7, 2018

Coleman Funeral Home of Olive Branch

Joseph Andrew Dieffenbacher, 60, of Olive Branch, MS, passed away on August 7, 2018 after a courageous 2-year battle with Merkel Cell Carcinoma.

Born on March 18th to John and Jeanette Dieffenbacher of Whippany NJ, Joe started his career with International Paper at age 16, as a Draftsman in the Whippany, NJ headquarters.

Joe earned an AS Degree in Mechanical Engineering from both County College of Morris, NJ and Memphis State University. Over time, Joe held positions of increasing responsibility including Plant Engineer, Regional Engineer, Chief Engineer and ultimately Manager, Engineering & Capital Purchasing – North America Container, with engineering oversight of over 170 locations in the U.S., Mexico and Chile.

Joe could accomplish anything he set his mind to and was truly a self-made man. He was instrumental in the design & development of several technological advances in the corrugated industry and contributed in the development of multiple patents held by IP. Joe served as a member of the Corrugated Packaging Council in TAPPI, the Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry. Along the way, he mentored many colleagues in their

career paths, and became the principal technical resource for what eventually became the world's largest supplier of corrugated packaging.

Joe passed just prior to his 44th anniversary with IP. His career took him around the world. His dedication to his job was unsurpassed, and he was truly respected by everyone throughout the industry. His sharp-wit and generous spirit were admirable.

Joe's passions included golf, NASCAR, reading, and vacations with family. He loved the NY Giants and Yankees.

Joe is survived by his wife of 24 years, Jennifer (nee Hill), their son Aaron, 18; brothers George and Jack of Whippany as well as 2 brothers-in-law, 3 sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, and countless friends. He will be dearly missed by family, friends and those who knew him. His wide-eyed, jolly smile will be remembered by all.

A Celebration of Life service will be held on September 17th. Memorial donations in Joe's honor may be made to Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center or any charity of your choosing.

Online condolences may be left on the Tribute Wall at www.colemanfuneralhome.com.

Tribute Wall

BK

“ 1 file added to the album *2016 Team Building Fishing Trip*



Bill Kraft - August 22, 2018 at 02:01 PM

SN

“ *It is with a heavy heart that I convey my condolences to Joe’s family and dear ones.*

My memories of Joe go back over 20 years - he left a lasting impression on me.

Professionally, he was sharp as a whip in his understanding of equipment, manufacturing, people and processes. A guy who was articulate and wise. He gave us great direction on the development of our products and kept us honest – for which I will be eternally grateful.

On the personal level is where he was at his best. He was larger than life and made everyone feel very comfortable around him. He possessed a great sense of humor and I used to look forward to social events where we had some real fun times! Many fond memories – including one that I will never forget at Shula’s – he also has his own plaque there to commemorate the evening!

The world is a poorer place without him and we feel your personal loss and the loss of a great individual!

*Santosh Nayak
Qualitek*

Santosh Nayak - August 21, 2018 at 04:51 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joseph Andrew Dieffenbacher.*



August 20, 2018 at 11:14 AM

UL

“ Dear Jennifer and Aaron, I've had the privilege of knowing and working with Joe for 20 years. He travelled many times to Chile and Mexico to help and support us, and was always patient and generous in sharing his unique knowledge and experience. Professionally he is irreplaceable. As a friend, he leaves equally unforgettable memories. Countless trips and dinners together in which we always laughed and ate a lot are memories which will stay with me forever. I am grateful for Joe's friendship and will miss him a lot. My sincere condolences for your loss.

Uwe Luttecke, IP Chile, Mexico.

uwe luttecke - August 16, 2018 at 04:15 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Joseph Andrew Dieffenbacher.*



August 15, 2018 at 02:54 PM

TV

“ *Todd And Raquel Vaughan lit a candle in memory of Joseph Andrew Dieffenbacher*



Todd and Raquel Vaughan - August 15, 2018 at 12:33 PM

SS

“ Twenty years ago when I first came over to the Container Division I remember people talking about Joe Dieffenbacher with a certain awe. He was legendary even back then. Everyone respected and liked Joe, whether OEM, contractor or IP. Joe always had a contagious disarming enthusiasm that made work fun. One of my desires in coming to work for the Engineering group was to work more closely with Joe and hopefully glean some of his amazing knowledge and wisdom. I’m deeply saddened that I’ll never get the chance to know him better. My heartfelt condolences to his family whose loss is incomparable to my own. Joe has left an indelible mark on our hearts and minds. I’ve left a small donation to the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in his honor.

God Bless,

Scott Smith

Scott Smth - August 14, 2018 at 10:54 AM

BB

“ I have had the pleasure of working with Joe for 20 years. He was always a great guy to be around. Fondly remember the 60oz steaks that he consumed at our dinners and the late night hours talking over beer when onsite with him.

When a question would arise as to how something should be mounted or wired in a plant Joe would always have a quick opinion or answer. As I have traveled to corrugating plants throughout North and South America (not just IP), when his name would come up everyone knew Joe D and had a story to share.

He will be sadly missed and is gone way too soon.

Brent Bowman
Qualitek

Brent Bowman - August 14, 2018 at 08:02 AM

JE

“ Aaron and Jennifer,

My heart is heavy for the both of you. I will always remember Joe as a strong, funny, and generous man who loved his family, his work, and good times. Jennifer, this obituary is beautifully written and so encompassing of the great (albeit short) life that Joe lived. Aaron, losing my dad was the hardest thing I have ever had to go through, and I couldn't imagine going through what I am going through now at the tender and very young age of 18. I hate that you are having to face a loss of the magnitude, and I hate that there are no words I can say to help lessen your pain. All I can offer you is a listening ear and a shoulder to cry on. I am always here for you both.

Love,

Jenny, Josh, and Avery

Jenny - August 13, 2018 at 05:02 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Joseph Andrew Dieffenbacher.



August 13, 2018 at 02:56 PM

JP

“ *Dear Joe's family
I had the pleasure of meeting Joe for work reasons, in Chile
together we enjoyed very good times, and this big bears will always
be in my memories
until always Joe we will never forget you
Parga family of Chile*

juan Parga - August 13, 2018 at 01:53 PM

HF

“ *His Profero Systems Family purchased the Delightful Dieffenbachia for the family of Joseph Andrew Dieffenbacher.*



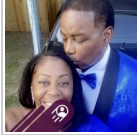
His Profero Systems Family - August 13, 2018 at 01:02 PM

MA

“ *3 files added to the tribute wall*



Margaret - August 13, 2018 at 11:41 AM



“ My condolences to you and your family. Joe was a gentle teddy bear. I know he got sick and tired of me asking you to bring cake balls and your infamous pumpkin rolls to our annual thanksgiving luncheons. He would see me coming and before I could say anything he would say, “I’ll ask Jen.” Joe was a kind and gentle spirit to me. He was knowledgeable about everything. You know he had to be more than a celebrity to have touched sooo many people. Joe is and will always will be an Icon. He was truly lived and will be greatly missed.

Pseudora Ruffin

Pseudora Ruffin - August 13, 2018 at 10:41 AM



“ Jen and Aaron, all our love and prayers are with you.

I have known Joe for over 27 years, and through those years we have enjoyed a relationship like brothers. Our families shared good times together and we've always enjoyed the memories those times provided.

Joe will be greatly missed, as a friend and trusted work associate.

Ken, Jeannie, Brian & Katelyn Park

Ken Park - August 13, 2018 at 10:33 AM

CG

“ Hi Jen and Aaron

Our family is so very saddened. We are so very sorry for your loss.

Joe was such a very special friend.

We will never forget all we learned from Joe. He was very instrumental in our careers and he was a very kind and patient teacher.

Obviously Joe was very fun to be around and the stories of time spent with him will never be forgotten.

I am sure one day we will all be reunited in heaven!

God Bless you all

Chris Gibson



Chris Gibson - August 13, 2018 at 09:57 AM

GG

“ *Jen, Aaron and family, our thoughts and prayers are with you.*

Joe was dedicated and hard working in everything he did. He was great friend, a pleasure to be with, and everyone always had a good time hanging around with him. He will be dearly missed by all that knew him.

Greg and Pattie Galica

Greg and Pattie Galica - August 13, 2018 at 09:18 AM

TS

“ *I have had this picture in every office I've occupied for almost 30 yrs. It reminds me that projects can be challenging, but at the same time should be enjoyable. Joe was a dedicated and talented engineer who always made sure there was time for some fun. The world and especially our industry has lost a most knowledgeable, hard working and generous man. Our heart felt condolences to his family and colleagues. His spirit will be sorely missed.*

-Tom Seidowski-



Tom Seidowski - August 13, 2018 at 06:27 AM

TF

“ *The loss of Joe has left an indelible mark upon thousands of people all around the world. We appreciate the time he spent with us and the patience he showed us over and over as we strived to attain the level of knowledge he seemed to have so effortlessly attained. We loved Joe for his sense of humor and his kindness. We are grateful that we were able to share many great and meaningful experiences that taught us not only what we needed to do but how to have fun while we were at it. For his family we can only express our thanks for sharing the time we had with him as it will never be forgotten.*

Cliff Olson

The Olson Family - August 12, 2018 at 11:01 PM

JS

“ *Our heart felt condolences to Jennifer and Aaron as well as the many friends Joe kept close. We conversed and met frequently throughout the 25 years we worked together until he attended my retirement dinner last year. I considered Joe a true friend and will miss him and his quick-wit dearly.*

Sincerely:

James and Noreen Sienkiewicz

James J Sienkiewicz - August 12, 2018 at 05:46 PM