





June 7, 1935 ~ August 30, 2022

Obituary

Joseph (Doby) Francis Edwards, age 87, died in his home in Benson, AZ on August 30, 2022. Born June 7, 1935 in Indianapolis, 1N to Gladys Burgin and Joseph Edwards.

His grammar school days were spent at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School in Irvington on the eastside of Indianapolis.

High School at Warren Central in eastern Marion County was followed by a stint with the U.S.Naval Reserve at the end of the Korean War.

Entered Ball State Teachers College at Muncie, IN in the fall of 1954, where he met and married Roberta Louise Morin in 1956, and graduated in 1958 with a Bachelor in Science and Education.

He did his Masters work at Notre Dame University in South Bend, IN.

Taught science at Buena Vista and Bowie High Schools until his retirement on The Whizbang Ranch in Benson, AZ, where he and his wife kept a flock of commercial sheep for his grandchildren's 4-H projects.

Became a Freemason in 1995, receiving the title of Worshipful Master in 1999 and Illustrious Grand Master in 2007.

Joe is survived by his sister Anna and niece Julie, five children; Victoria Anne Edwards-Barger, Elizabeth Jo Edwards, J. Matthew Edwards, Antoinette Lee Wielkie and Margaret Ellen Edwards Graver. Twelve grandchildren; Jessica Acosta, Kyle Edwards, Chelsea Cherry, Orew Pace, Bryce Edwards, Molly Graver, Cole Wielkie, Alex Edwards, Samantha Graver, Wyatt Wielkie, Jacqueline Joy and Belle Crawford. Seventeen great grandchildren; Adam, Oylan, Oiego and Liam Saenz. Kaden and Kylie Edwards. Mckenzie, Charlotte and Lilly Cherry. Brock Pace. Benjamin and Brett Lyle, Blake Royce. Oliver and Cooper Edwards. Carter Joy and Jupiter Wielkie. Two great great grandchildren; Elijah Malachi and Izaiah Israel Saenz.

Preceded in death by his wife of 66 years, Roberta Louise Morin Edwards (Bobby Lou), his sister layne Edwards and his great great granddaughter Rosalina Isabella Saenz.



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M::I: Joseph Francis Edwards Grand Master of Cryptic Masons 2007 Masonic History

Blue Lodge

San Pedro Lodge No. 55 Initiated - Entered Apprentice 10/24/1995

Passed - Fellowcraft 01/02/1996

Raised - Master Mason 03/19/1996

Worshipful Master - 12/01/1999 - 11/30/2000

Secretary 2001 - 2003

DDGM 2001 - 2003

Grand Orator - Arizona Grand Lodge 2002-2003 York Rite

Sierra Vista York Rite Coronado Chapter 20

Exalted 10/28/1996 Excellent High Priest 2001

Adoniram Council 14 Greeted 10/28/1996 Illustrious Master 2006, 2009

Burning Taper Commandery 15

Tucson Red Cross of Constantine

Knighted 10/29/1996 Eminent Commander 2002, 2004

Most Illustrious Grand Master 2007 - 2008 Arizona Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Arizona

Helios York Rite - Bonita Council 9 - Willcox

Installed 2001, Puissant Sovereign 2006

White Rose York Rite College, Knighted in 1998, Governor 2004

Knight of York Grand Cross of Vlonour - KYGCV - 2007

Scottish Rite

Tucson Scottish Rite 32° - 4/25/1997

Knight Commander of the Court of Honour - KCCH - 2005



Most Illustrious Grand Master 2007 - 2008



Grand Orator Arizona Grand Lodge 2002-2003