



Joe Fred Drastata

August 15, 1924 - February 4, 2016

Joe Fred Drastata, 91, of Palacios, passed away on Feb. 4 in El Campo.

Joe was born on Aug. 15, 1924 in Taiton to Frank and Frances Vacek Drastata. He grew up in Taiton on the family farm until he left to join the military during World War II.

Joe served in Communications for the 65th Troop Carrier Squadron of the Army Air Corps in the Pacific. He was proud that his Troop Carrier Squadron participated in the liberation of over 2,000 civilian men, women, and children being held by the Japanese in the Los Banos prisoner of war camp south of Manilla in the Philippines.

In 1947 Joe married Marcella (Margie) Kotlar of Hilje, Texas and they settled in Palacios raising their 3 children. Joe worked for Alcoa for 34 years. Some of his favorite retirement activities were raising cattle, growing watermelons, and traveling to annual reunions of the 65th Troop Carrier Squadron. He was known for his wonderful sense of humor and the sparkle in his eyes.

He is survived by his wife Marcella (Margie) Drastata; son, Douglas Drastata of League City; daughter, Janet Drastata Bliss and husband Bill of Bastrop; son-in-law, Steven Morrison and wife Patt of Clear Lake; brother, William (Bill) Drastata and wife Pam of Clear Lake; sisters-in-law, Anita Drastata of Taiton,

Annie Drastata of El Campo, and Bessie Juranek of Ganado; grandchildren, Wayne Drastata and wife Debbie, Tammy Morrison Bolander and husband John, Michele Morrison, Ryan Bliss and wife Sarah, Kevin Bliss and wife Becky, Darin Bliss and great-grandchildren Mason Drastata, Tyler Davidson, Drew Davidson, T.C. Bliss, Rivers Bliss, Maggie Bliss, Hayden Bliss, Noah Bliss, and Madeline Bliss. He also leaves many beloved nieces and nephews.

Joe is preceded in death by his parents; daughter, Diana Drastata Morrison; siblings, Betty McPherson, Martha Kotlar, Georgie Duyka, Frank W. Drastata and Jim Drastata.

Visitation will begin at 2 pm Monday, Feb. 8 at Triska Funeral Home with a Rosary being recited at 7 pm. Funeral mass begins at 10 am on Tuesday, Feb. 9 at St. John Catholic Church in Taiton with burial to follow.

Pallbearers are Wayne Drastata, Ryan Bliss, Kevin Bliss, Darin Bliss, T.C. Bliss and John Bolander.

Memorial donations may be made to Everyday Heroes VAN Fund, P.O. Box 348, El Campo, TX 77437.

Cemetery Details

St. John Catholic Cemetery

1843 CR 469
El Campo, TX 77437

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 8. 2:00 PM (CT)

Triska Funeral Home
612 Merchant Street
El Campo, TX 77437-3440
(979) 543-3681
triskafh@sbcglobal.net

Rosary

FEB 8. 7:00 PM (CT)

Triska Funeral Home
612 Merchant Street
El Campo, TX 77437-3440
(979) 543-3681
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Tribute Wall



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joe Fred Drastata.* ”



February 08, 2016 at 10:08 AM



“ *The children and grandchildren of Martha Kotlar. purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Joe Fred Drastata.* ”



The children and grandchildren of Martha Kotlar. - February 05, 2016 at 01:56 PM



“ *Georgie Duyka Family purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Joe Fred Drastata.* ”



Georgie Duyka Family - February 04, 2016 at 09:08 PM