



## Rev. Joseph A. Minnis

July 31, 1935 - May 10, 2017

Rev. Joseph A. Minnis, 81, of Boulder Junction passed away at Avanti Health and Rehabilitation Center in Minocqua on May 10, 2017.

Born in New York City, college in Denver, graduated from Nashotah House Theological Seminary here in Wisconsin. After graduating from seminary, Joe moved his new family to Broomfield, Colorado. There he was instrumental in starting an Episcopal church in the basement of his home. Later the Holy Comforter Episcopal Church was constructed. Now it has a congregation of over 5,000 members. In 1967, he moved his family to Wetmore, Colorado to start a camp and conference center. After 5 years and the camp gaining enrollment, Father Joe moved his family to the Midwest after purchasing a 1300 acre farm in Winona, Minnesota. He continued his ministry as the priest for the Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Rushford, MN. His sermons were heartfelt and memorable.

In his later years, he purchased a 1839 log home in northern Michigan and with the help of Sue and two others, moved it - log by log- onto their Boulder Junction property. He lived, fished, golfed, played pool, and laughed with his many friends over the years. He will be missed.

Survived by his wife of over 60 years, Sue, and his 4 children, Joe (Wendy), Amy, Beth (Pete) and Paul (Mary Kay) and 10 grandchildren and one great grandchild, Hazel.

Visitation will be on Wednesday, May 17, 2017 from 9:30-10:30 AM with the service beginning at 11:00 AM at St. Matthias Episcopal Church in Minocqua,

WI. A luncheon fellowship will follow the service at the church. Burial will be on Thursday, May 18, 2017 at 1:00 PM at the Nashotah House Cemetery. Memorials in Joe's name are suggested to St. Matthias Church in Minocqua.

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

MAY 17. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Matthias Episcopal Church  
403 E. Chicago Avenue  
Minocqua, WI 54548

## Visitation

MAY 17. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Matthias Episcopal Church  
403 E. Chicago Avenue  
Minocqua, WI 54548

# Tribute Wall

SS

“ My mother and I were just sharing fond memories of the wonderful Minnis family and Mom asked me to search for Father Joe on the internet and we found his obituary. These wonderful people were the “spark” that got Holy Comforter, Broomfield CO going. Father Joe will always hold a special place in his heart as will Sue. They are loved!!

*Fran & Shelly Rowe*

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**Shelly Rowe Sharpe** - August 30, 2018 at 05:07 PM



“ I've just now run across this almost by accident. I have many fond memories from 50 years ago of Father Joe & the founding of Trinity Ranch. May light Perpetual shine upon him.

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**Claudia Anderson** - December 21, 2017 at 10:53 PM

EC

“ Greetings and condolences from Winona, MN. I have many wonderful memories sharing my high school and early college years with Paul and the rest of the family. Fun times helping bail hay and chase cows out on the farm, with Joe patiently explaining how to do things as I was pretty clueless about farm life. As I recall, he also needed to provide a little firm redirection to keep me and Paul on task! Then picnics and waterskiing on the river as a reward for chores well done. I especially enjoyed having your family living right next door to us in Winona for a time. Even as a teenager, I appreciated Joe as a very warm, genuine, and gracious person. Blessings and peace to all of your family.

*Eric Christensen*

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**Eric Christensen** - May 20, 2017 at 10:17 PM

NS

“ Hello from Rushford, our sympathy to the Minnis family. Father Joe was our leader in faith for many years, baptized my three daughters, and was missed terribly by the congregation when he and Sue decided to move away from SE Minnesota. Sue, know that Fr. Joe, you and your family was and always will be in our hearts, coming up often in conversations as we reminisce about days gone by. My girls all remember when we came to Shawano (?) for a picnic at your home. Mom continues to do well , will be 92 in October. Tough and opinionated as always! Peace to you all, you continue to be in our prayers. Nancy ( Burke ) Snyder

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**Nancy Snyder** - May 20, 2017 at 07:09 PM

GN

“ Condolences from Atlanta, GA (Gary) and Winona, MN (Russ) on the loss of Joe. Wishing you all the best during this difficult time.

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**Gary and Russ Neitzke** - May 17, 2017 at 08:51 AM

BD

“ Joe was generous in action and sparing with words. We were colleagues once, and partners in the Monday pool league later. He was ALWAYS gracious and never critical or impatient, except sometimes with himself.

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**Barbara Douglas-Johnson** - May 17, 2017 at 08:01 AM

LF

“ Our sympathy to all the Minnis family. Memories of Homer abound. Duane & Linda Franzwa, Katie (Walter), Kim (Ryan) Autumn & Toby, Dustin (Kaylene) Tori & Colten.



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**LINDA FRANZWA** - May 17, 2017 at 06:48 AM

EM

“ I am so saddened to hear of the death of your husband and dad, Joe! He was so kind and gentle with a good sense of humor. It was a joy to have him and your family become a part of Homer Ridge and a sad day to find out your family was moving on. I am so glad I had the pleasure of knowing him. May his incredible life be a reminder to us all that one person can make a difference. Please know I am thinking of you fondly.

*Elayne (Yeadke) Marg*

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**Elayne (Yeadke) Marg** - May 16, 2017 at 09:37 AM

DH

“ Dear Sue, Joe, Beth, Amy, Paul and families, So very sad to hear of Joe's passing. Many great memories of Joe and Sue at the farm and at the cabin in Boulder. Miss the visits we used to make in Sept. and going out to dinner at Headwaters, out on the Lake for a cocktail and some fishing. Love you all and know that we are thinking of you at this difficult time.

*Diane (Mert) and Bruce Hoseck*



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**Diane Hoseck** - May 16, 2017 at 07:35 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Rev. Joseph A. Minnis.



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May 15, 2017 at 01:19 PM

JC

“ Jim, Chad and Craig purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Rev. Joseph A. Minnis.



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Jim, Chad and Craig - May 14, 2017 at 07:59 PM

PG

“ 6 files added to the album Minnis



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puzzler granny - May 13, 2017 at 09:54 AM