



Joseph James Emert

April 25, 1947 - May 18, 2026

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On May 18, 2026, in the quiet early hours of a beautiful spring morning, Joseph "Joe" Emert passed away peacefully, surrounded by his devoted family. Born to James and Gertrude Emert, Joe was the eldest of four children and assumed responsibility early in life, often caring for his younger siblings after school while his parents worked. He spent his childhood in Washington, D.C., and later reflected on those formative years as among the happiest of his life. Riding his bike to the movies and spending his summers in New Castle, Pennsylvania, with his favorite uncle, with whom he would golf and make golf clubs, were Joe's most cherished memories.

Joe was drafted in 1966 during the Vietnam War and served honorably in the United States Army until 1968. His service reflected the dedication, integrity, and commitment to others that would continue to define him throughout his life. In recognition of his honorable service and steadfast character, he was awarded the Army Commendation Medal and the Good Conduct Medal.

Upon his return to the United States, Joe met and later married the love of his life, Barbara Emert, on August 8, 1970. Together they built a loving family and were blessed with two children, Lindy and Christopher, and three

grandchildren, Emily, Alayna, and Ethan. To provide for his family, Joe worked six days a week for 37 years at Safeway, demonstrating his strong work ethic and unwavering commitment to those he loved.

A lifelong member of Davidsonville United Methodist Church, Joe was deeply involved in his church community. He participated in numerous mission trips, volunteered at many Strawberry Festivals, and fundraised for the Davidsonville United Methodist Men's group. He enjoyed spending time golfing with both the men of the church and the Bowie Seniors, and he valued the fellowship and deep friendships he built there. Each year, he especially looked forward to the annual Myrtle Beach golf trip, Mount Zion's Church tournament, and the DUMC "Carpenter's Cup" tournament, which he proudly won several times alongside his son Chris and his brother-in-law and best friend, Maynard Wratchford.

Joe also enjoyed traveling, particularly cruising, and treasured the opportunity to share those experiences with his family. He also enjoyed movies, theater, and a variety of concerts, always on the lookout for his family's favorite shows or singers.

He is survived by his wife Barbara and his children, Lindy (Robert) Marks and Christopher (Kari) Emert; his grandchildren, Emily (Joseph), Anna (Samuel), and Ethan; his sister, Cynthia Wratchford; his brother, Tom (Marian) Emert; and his half-sister, Judy (Martin). He is also survived by many nieces and nephews whom he loved dearly. He was preceded in death by his parents, James and Gertrude Emert, his younger brother Gary (Renee) Emert, and his brother-in-law Maynard (Cynthia) Wratchford.

A Celebration of Life will be held on June 13, 2026, at 1 pm at Davidsonville United Methodist Church, 819 W Central Ave, Davidsonville, Maryland, to honor his life, faith, and lasting

impact on family, friends, and all who knew him.

Joe will be remembered for a life lived with deep kindness and humility, for the quiet ways he cared for others, and for the enduring love and support he gave so freely to family and friends.