



## Joseph Patrick McGuire

July 1, 1960 - January 24, 2024

Joseph Patrick McGuire, 63, of Asheville, sadly left us on January 24, 2024.

He is survived by his loving wife of 38 years, Ellen McGuire, children - Sarah-Katherine (Kyle) Goddard, and Caleb (Sydney) McGuire; Grandchildren - Hudson and Holly Goddard; Sisters, Carla Branch and Missy Spencer; twelve nieces and nephews; and an incredible group of friends.

A proud Western North Carolina native, Joseph Patrick McGuire was born on July 1, 1960 in Brevard, NC to Joseph Walter McGuire (deceased) and Martha McGuire Hawkins (deceased) where he grew up with his parents and three siblings Carla Branch, Mary Martha "Missy" Spencer, and John McGuire (deceased). His family moved to Mocksville, NC for a brief time and before moving back to the mountains and settling at 555 Lakeshore Drive in North Asheville where Joe and his family would create countless friendships and lifelong memories.

One of those friendships turned into a lifelong relationship with his loving wife of 38 years, Ellen Browne McGuire. Joe and Ellen met during high school after being introduced by mutual friends. Ellen has memories of being nervous for their first date because of her huge crush, how cool he was in his camaro, and how comfortable she immediately felt. Joe was soon her date to many college parties, concerts, and hiking trips making the road trip from Western

Carolina to Appalachian State to see her every weekend he could. After Joe and Ellen graduated college, they got married at St. Lawrence Basilica in Asheville, NC on June 7, 1986.

After getting married, Joe worked for the Boy Scouts of America for a few years before beginning his career with Wachovia Bank where he served over 25 years, in 6 cities, in roles ranging from repossessing cars to executive leadership with auto dealer finances. His mentor, Bob, would say “Joe is a person you don’t have to worry about. He is going to do the right thing whether you are in the room or not and he is going to teach others to do the same thing and lead by example” and Bob would also say “that is why I moved him around all over the damn country!”

One of the first moves brought them to Salisbury, NC where Joe and Ellen welcomed their first child, Sarah-Katherine, on September 13, 1991. Joe would want you to know, and has probably told you before, it was a full moon, at midnight, on Friday the 13th. A few years, and moves, later, his son, Carl Caleb McGuire was born on March 31, 1994 in Concord, NC which completed the family. During the many moves in life, Joe continued to be an amazing husband and father supporting his family every step of the way. The word that comes to mind is endurance, no matter what the hardship was with work, finance, mental health, or general life - Joe persevered and kept his family at the forefront of every decision.

Joe provided for his family in every sense of the word. He knew what a dollar was worth and worked hard since age 13 during his first job at Rolling Pin Bakery. In his career, he was known for being a phenomenal manager where he moved through the ranks at Wachovia during his 25+ years winning countless awards in the auto-dealer finance industry for his sales, financial excellence, and leadership. Joe and Ellen relocated back to Asheville in 2009 where he finished out his career with Hometrust Bank. During his time at

Hometrust, he served as the Auto Finance Director and then moved into the role of Director of Community Outreach. Joe often said this was the most rewarding role of his career because he got to directly impact communities across North Carolina that need it most by building relationships and creating strategic plans to help underserved communities find ways to access cars and housing.

They say you spend one third of your life at work. Joe worked hard and put in those hours but what was most important to him at work was the people - specifically his people. If you were on Joe's team you knew you would be taken care of. If he was your boss, he was your biggest advocate and a mentor who was invested in developing your career. If he was a peer, he was always there to listen, share advice, and celebrate your success. No matter your role, big or small, he was going to know your name and say hello and ask you how you are doing every time he saw you.

Joe had many passions in life:

Hanging out with his friends on a weekly basis - relationships that are 50+ years old from Lakeshore Drive, the playground of Ira B Jones, Hillside Middle School, Asheville High School, Western Carolina University. In more recent years, he met many new friends at shows around town that quickly became family. Anyone friends with Joe can attest you can count on him, and he would always show up for you. This quality is something he brings into every facet of his life and a reason why these friendships are so strong and stood the test of time.

He loved "Free Dead Fridays" at the One Stop, going to shows at the Salvage Station, meeting new friends and listening to live music. He was ALWAYS listening to music and had a knowledge across all genres and generations that would make him an extremely competitive jeopardy contestant.

Speaking of jeopardy, he did love that show and loved reading even more

which made him knowledgeable on just about any topic. He was known affectionately as “Ranger Joe” who could tell you about any plant, insect, animal, or historical event.

Ranger Joe had a love of gardening - his yard was always one of the best on the block and he enjoyed getting able to spend his retirement days centered around his backyard. For the vegetables he didn't grow himself, he would always shop local. You could find him at the Farmer's Market multiple times a week.

Joe loved to travel with Ellen and his family. In the last few years, Joe and Ellen prioritized travel and explored Montana, Guatemala, Northern California, Oregon, and more! He loved to see new places, take a million pictures, buy lots of souvenirs for his kids, grandkids, and best friends back home. His favorite place to travel was to our family mountain home just an hour and a half away in Jackson County. It is truly the most lovely place on earth and he was so proud to design this house alongside his mother and siblings and have a place for our family to gather for generations.

Joe had the biggest heart for animals and our family was never without one for more than a few weeks. Family dogs are royalty in his eyes and they are spoiled accordingly. He could never turn down playing fetch or tug-a-war with a dog and would happily play frisbee in the backyard with his grand-dog for hours. His love was not reserved just for dogs, we usually always had a cat (or a few), along with some turtles in the 90s. Joe could never turn down an animal in need.

Last but not least, he loved to be with the love of his wife, Ellen. He was a romantic at heart, always planning special dates, giving her flowers, and making sure she knew she was loved and appreciated.

Joe was happiest when with his family and loved them more than anything. He was SO PROUD of his children, Sarah-Katherine and Caleb, and would talk anyone's ear off about their accomplishments. He was SO PROUD that they married incredible humans - Kyle and Sydney who he loved dearly. He

was overjoyed by the birth of his grandchildren - Hudson and Holly Goddard and the light they bring to the world.

Joe will be terribly missed and his sudden passing sent a shockwave through his family and community. We will strive to honor his memory in love, music, and selfless giving to those around us.

Joe is survived by his wife Ellen, his children Sarah-Katherine (Kyle) Goddard and Carl Caleb (Sydney) McGuire and his grandchildren, Hudson and Holly Goddard. In addition to his siblings listed above, he is also survived by Ellen's siblings: Trip Browne, Maier (Scott) Runyon, Tim (Christine) Browne, Laura (Durel) Livaudais. In addition to Joe's parents and brother he is preceded by: Fleming and Marilyn Browne, Frank Browne, and Stephanie Browne.

A celebration of life will be held in his honor on Wednesday, January 31 at the Capital Club of Asheville. The family will receive guests starting at 4:30pm with services beginning at 5:30pm. The celebration will continue until 8:30pm. In lieu of flowers, the family would like donations made to Brother Wolf Animal Rescue.

# Previous Events

## Receive Friends

JAN 31. 4:30 PM (ET)

Capital Club of Asheville  
82 Patton Avenue  
Asheville, NC 28801

## Celebration of Life Service

JAN 31. 5:30 PM (ET)

Capital Club of Asheville  
82 Patton Avenue  
Asheville, NC 28801

# Tribute Wall

BB

“ There are no memories of Joey that don't include a big smile and robust laugh. While there aren't sufficient words to express our grief, we send heartfelt wishes for strength and peace to the McGuire and Browne families.

~Brad & Shelly Blackburn

Brad & Shelly Blackburn - January 31, 2024 at 09:40 AM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Joseph Patrick McGuire.



January 31, 2024 at 08:32 AM

JM

“ Jimmy and Laurie McLeroy planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph Patrick McGuire.

Jimmy and Laurie McLeroy - January 31, 2024 at 08:32 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joseph Patrick McGuire.



January 30, 2024 at 07:32 PM

BS

“ Ellen, I was heartbroken to hear about Joe’s passing. I got to know Joe professionally (as a bank recruiter) when you lived in Winston and Joe was in transition from Wachovia. We quickly became friends and stayed in touch through all your years in Asheville.

Joe was friend, confidant, advisor and always made the time to help when needed. He also loved his family dearly and was always ready with an update on Caleb and Sarah.

My favorite memory is when he took me up to the mountain house to spend an evening cooking steaks and drinking a beer (or two). That was the night I met Jumba the wolf dog. As I stood on the side porch looking the view Joe said, “Hey Brian, there’s a wolf staring at you.” I turned around to see Jumba and it scared the HELL out me! Joe could not stop laughing...and eventually gathered myself and laughed, too! For years after that we talked about it and he would occasionally send me Jumba pics and updates.

Joe was a great human being and I am blessed to have called him a friend. I’ll miss our conversations and his wise counsel. My thoughts and prayers are with you, Caleb, Sarah and the whole family.

Warm Regards,  
Brian Soper

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**Brian Soper** - January 30, 2024 at 07:05 PM

KD

“ Katina D. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph Patrick McGuire.

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**Katina D.** - January 30, 2024 at 04:52 PM

TM

“ *Tim and Debbie Marburger & MAG purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Joseph Patrick McGuire.*



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**Tim and Debbie Marburger & MAG** - January 30, 2024 at 01:06 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Joseph Patrick McGuire.*



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January 30, 2024 at 11:25 AM

LS

“ *Larry and Sally planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph Patrick McGuire.*

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**Larry and Sally** - January 30, 2024 at 11:25 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joseph Patrick McGuire.*



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January 30, 2024 at 01:35 AM

-J

“ -Aaron Johnson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph Patrick McGuire.

-Aaron Johnson - January 30, 2024 at 01:35 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Joseph Patrick McGuire.



January 29, 2024 at 10:14 PM

KS

“ Joe's sudden and unexpected passing left me, and no doubt the neighborhood, heartbroken. I was overwhelmed with disbelief and sadness. He was such an amazing human being who didn't know a stranger, the kind of guy who filled up a room with his positivity and curiosity.

*My most heartfelt condolences to Ellen, Caleb, Sarah, and the entire McGuire family.*

Kim Schwartz - January 29, 2024 at 05:11 PM

SJ

“ Scott & Barbara Johnson purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Joseph Patrick McGuire.



Scott & Barbara Johnson - January 29, 2024 at 03:46 PM

SF

“ So sorry to hear this news. Joey had me in stitches laughing only two weeks ago! Thinking of the McGuire and Browne families

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**Scott Fowler** - January 29, 2024 at 12:16 PM

MP

“ Joe was the most genuine person I've known!  
We worked together and he would stop by my desk and we'd talk about our shared hobby of growing and gardening.  
He shared seeds with me that grew into beautiful flowers.

He was always so proud of his family! Loved to share funny and heartwarming stories about Ellen, Sarah, Caleb and Hudson. I felt like I knew the family from all the stories. My thoughts go out to you, the loss for you that I can only imagine.

He gave great advice in times of need and was comforting when I needed someone to talk to.

Joe, you will be missed and remembered!

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**Mia Paahlman** - January 29, 2024 at 10:35 AM

JN

“ Although Joe was older than we all went to the same schools and I remember how nice he was to everyone. The impact he had on so many will be long lasting. Our prayers are with you all. 🙏🙏🙏

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**Joel "Joey" Neilson** - January 29, 2024 at 08:37 AM

DS

“ Sending peace and strength to the McGuire and Browne families.  
David Sprague

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**David Sprague** - January 29, 2024 at 12:40 AM

FB

“ From Danny and MaryAlice S Bell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph Patrick McGuire.

From Danny and MaryAlice S Bell - January 28, 2024 at 02:07 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Joseph Patrick McGuire.



January 28, 2024 at 02:07 PM

CC

“ Carla, my sister, Carol, just told me about your brother's death. I'm so sorry. I'll be thinking about and praying for you and your family. Catherine (Pennell) Carney

Catherine Carney - January 27, 2024 at 07:24 PM

KH

“ Ellen, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your entire family. Joe was such a kind and caring man. I always enjoyed our talks in the office that typically started out with music but always ended up about Ellen, Caleb, Sarah and his grandchildren. He was so proud of all of you. I will fondly remember the wonderful times seeing music together. He always made it a point to introduce me to his friends of many years and those he just met. You were never a stranger with Joe around. I feel fortunate to have met Joe.

Keith Houghton - January 26, 2024 at 04:52 PM

YG

“ Your long ago neighbors, the Greenes planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph Patrick McGuire.

Your long ago neighbors, the Greenes - January 26, 2024 at 10:55 AM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Joseph Patrick McGuire.



January 26, 2024 at 10:55 AM

DR

“ I had the pleasure of working with Joe many years ago at Wachovia. We shared so many good times and supported each other in bad times. What I like best about Joe is that he was genuine. There was nothing pretentious or phony about him. His had passion for family, work, stories, music and most of all, friends. He was loyal. He was funny. He had a knack for retelling some of the best jokes of Emmett “Bubba” Howle. Joe was a teacher, too. He taught us all how to navigate through difficult times both in work and in life. His success in banking came from building long-term relationships. Customers, coworkers and friends were just drawn to him. Joe was a leader, a mentor, a client ambassador and a true friend.

David Ross - January 26, 2024 at 10:13 AM

BE

“ Ellen, Sarah and Caleb, my thoughts and Prayers are with you during your time of great loss. Joe was always a friend that I depended on for advice and guidance. We had a good conversation Saturday about some Eric Clapton music he sent me. However, as soon as he got that out of the way, he began, as he always did, talking about the three of you and his grandchildren. He was in a wonderful "place" and quite thrilled with the love and joy you brought to his life. He was someone I depended on in a very unique way. We had a long business career and I had the pleasure to experience his talents first hand. No matter where I was transferred he was an early choice to move with me. As a manager I never had to look over my shoulder to know he was there supporting me and giving me wise counsel. I miss him daily and have wonderful thoughts about our experiences and the fun we had that make me smile. God Bless Him For Being In My Life. I can't imagine what it would have been without him.

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**Bob Earnhardt** - January 26, 2024 at 06:15 AM

TM

“ I went to school with Joey from 3rd grade thru 12th. Great friends. Every time I saw him, he was so funny and so damn sweet. 555 Lakeshore Drive...many of us had great memories there. My heart goes out to sweet Ellen and kids, grandkids. Xoxo

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**Tammy Michael** - January 25, 2024 at 10:11 PM

TC

“ It was with great sadness that I received the news of Joey’s sudden and unexpected passing from Christi Masi (Masengill) yesterday. The last time I saw him in face to face was a dinner with Joey, Ellen, Scott and Christi in 2016 here in Seattle. We spoke several times while Scott was battling cancer as well as after he had passed in 2018. He had reached out to me after my father had passed away in August 2021 and wanted to but was unable to attend his service in Fletcher. While I moved away from NC many years ago, the bond of friendship that we developed during our college years into our mid 20s easily withstood the test of time and distance. We could pick up our previous conversation from years earlier about the same silly story/stunt we had pulled in our misspent youth with ridiculous ease. I have been smiling all day thinking about Lonny and Scott talking their Brevard-speak hatching up some silly plan as they giggled through the whole conversation. I am grateful for his friendship and the great memories and want to pass along my sincere condolences to Ellen and family, his extended family and all of his friends. Godspeed my friend, until we meet again.

Terry Cooke, Woodinville, WA

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Terry Cooke - January 25, 2024 at 07:46 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joseph Patrick McGuire.



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January 25, 2024 at 06:33 PM

LR

“ Love, Mike & Leah Russell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph Patrick McGuire.

Love, Mike & Leah Russell - January 25, 2024 at 06:33 PM

SF

“ Every time I saw Joe's name light up my phone, I smiled, knowing it was going to be a good conversation. During some of the hardest times in my life, Joe would stop by my office, talk music for a long time, and really be checking in on me. A truly wonderful man, caring, kind and funny. I'll miss the calls.

Scott Fahy - January 25, 2024 at 05:07 PM

EM

“ Joe was a pleasure to know and work with. He was a kind and generous man who always had fond memories and stories to share about his family and friends. Thoughts and prayers to his family.

Eric McDaniel - January 25, 2024 at 04:02 PM

EB

“ Joe was a vibrant soul who left us too soon; our hearts are broken for his beloved Ellen, children and adored grands. His big-hearted laughter echoed with life, and his enthusiastic spirit brightened every room. He never met a stranger and always took the time to find connections with every new friend he met. He was truly one-of-a-kind, and the world was wealthier for his too-brief time among us. His zest for life will forever be remembered and cherished in our hearts; when I think of Joe, I always smile. My heart and prayers are with the family as we all grieve together.

Elizabeth Bridgers - January 25, 2024 at 02:12 PM

KP

“ Joe's smile, laugh and enthusiasm was contagious! He genuinely cared for those around him and was always eager to get an update on my family and boys. He always had a story to tell about Ellen or his family and I am so sorry for the sudden loss you all are feeling. My prayer is you find comfort in all the stories and memories of Joe. He will be missed by so many!

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**Kristin Powell** - January 25, 2024 at 01:53 PM

MR

“ I will always remember Joe's infectious smile and genuine kindness to everyone he met. He always made a point to stop and ask how my son was and would beam with pride telling me about his kids and grand(s). I loved seeing pictures and his smile when he bragged on them. The way he spoke of Ellen was full of love and it was obvious how deeply he loved her. His love of family, his care for strangers and gentle demeanor will always be what I remember most about Joe.

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**Mary Kate Rikard** - January 25, 2024 at 01:33 PM

KM

“ To Joe, there were no strangers, just those he planned to get to know. Joe had the biggest heart and deeply cared about friends and colleagues, both personally and professionally. He always took the time to talk, to share, to support, to give advice, to discuss family and ask questions, to make you feel appreciated. I am heartbroken we have lost such a wonderful person. Sending peace and support to his family during this difficult time.

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**Kelly McInnis** - January 25, 2024 at 01:21 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Joseph Patrick McGuire.*



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January 25, 2024 at 12:17 PM



“ *The HomeTrust Bank Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph Patrick McGuire.*

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**The HomeTrust Bank Family** - January 25, 2024 at 12:17 PM



“ *Joe was one of a kind. An intelligent, honest, thoughtful person who loved his family and friends. A mentor and friend with one of the most incredible memory's I've ever known. Joe never met a stranger. He was genuinely interested in learning about others and would engage anyone in meaningful conversation. I will miss going to lunch and seeing the most recent pictures of Ellen, the kids and grandkids, along with Lucy his buddy. My heart goes out to the family and everyone Joe touched in his life, we mourn as one today.*

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**Gary Howell** - January 25, 2024 at 12:09 PM



“ *Joe, Jefe, Boss, mentor, friend, family. I would be writing for days to summarize all the things Joe was to me and my heart is broken knowing the hole we will never be able to fill.*

*McGuire family, I cannot imagine your immeasurable loss, my heart is broken for you. Lifting you up in healing light during this time.*

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**Heather Johnson** - January 25, 2024 at 11:04 AM

BK

“ Amazing person. Joe was a very kind person and I greatly enjoyed our trips to have coffee, how he doted on his family, his love for his hound, and overall genuine interest in helping others advance with no hesitation. You will be missed big guy. Prayers to the family for quiet comfort and rest.

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**Barry Kirby** - January 25, 2024 at 10:59 AM

MK

“ There are people that you meet in life that touch every single part of your life, rather it is personal or professional. Joe is one of those people to me. He took a huge interest in seeing me succeed, he taught me tons about work and life, usually at the same time. One of the most genuine, thoughtful, generous people I have ever known. He loved his family more than anything in the world and my heart breaks for them during this time. There will never be another Joe, rest easy my friend.

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**mike knepshield** - January 25, 2024 at 10:47 AM

RJ

“ Joe was my mentor and friend.. It's rare to know someone with such a big heart and passion for his family and friends. I pray for peace and comfort for his family during this time. ♡

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**Randy Janoe** - January 25, 2024 at 10:39 AM

BC

“ I was a "Lakeshore Drive neighbor" with the McGuire family. We were like brothers and sisters to each other.....inseparable. I have many fond memories of our childhood growing up next door to each other. I am very sorry for this loss. My sympathies go out to Joey's wife and children and grandchildren and to his sisters Carla and Missy. He will surely be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with the McGuire family.....Sincerely, Barbara Garmany Carnegie.

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**Barbara Carnegie** - January 24, 2024 at 06:27 PM