



Joseph McPherson Jarvis

May 31, 1938 - October 21, 2025

Funeral Service Zoom Link - Joseph McPherson Jarvis - Saturday, October 25th, 2025 at 3:30pm.

<https://zoom.us/j/94114034999>

Joseph McPherson Jarvis, 87, completed his mortal journey on October 21, 2025, in Murray, Utah, surrounded in love by his family. He was born May 31, 1938, in Bakersfield, California, to Leo Paul and Louise Coggeshall Jarvis. He was married for 65 years to Kathy Lynn Abbott, sealed in the Los Angeles Temple on September 1, 1960.

Husband, Father, Grandfather, Great-Grandfather – these are the titles Joe cherished most. He began his pursuit of these titles in Bakersfield, California, raised in a loving home provided by his parents and siblings. After completing high school, he undertook both bachelor's and master's degrees at Humboldt State College, focused on his love of the science of nature. During this time, he joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, which he was introduced to by the young lady who would become his wife. His love of the Church and the Gospel of Jesus Christ remained at the center of his life to its end.

Professional life took Joe and his family throughout the west to locations as different as Fallon, Nevada and Arcata, California. He paused his professional

pursuits to serve in the U.S. Army, stationed at Sandy Hook, New Jersey, during some of the tensest moments of the Cold War. Joe's professional pursuits ultimately brought his family to Cedar City, Utah, where they would reside for nearly 40 years as Joe moved from work with government agencies to the private sector as an environmental consultant. Any opportunity that got him outside and into nature was one Joe would eagerly accept, which meant fishing, camping and hunting were staples of the Jarvis family life. After retirement, Joe and Kathy eventually settled in Mink Creek, Idaho, where he could enjoy the beauty of nature every day and stay busy on his small farm.

Joe served tirelessly in his church and community. He loved the scouting program and served as scoutmaster for many years. In total he served in nine different bishoprics, the first at age 23, and loved those experiences, especially serving the youth and young adults. With his wife, Kathy, Joe served two full-time missions for his church in Manchester, England and Johannesburg, South Africa, experiences that reinforced for them the reach and depth of God's love for all His children. Joe dedicated much of his retired life to searching out his ancestors through genealogy and temple work, which brought him love and appreciation for those who had come before him. Through his tireless service, thousands have been blessed.

For Joe, his family and his God always came first. He rejoiced in his posterity and found every opportunity to attend their events and special moments. His dedicated service to his family remained his focus through his final days; his witness of the Savior and His Gospel remained his gift to all. Joe lived valiantly and served selflessly. He simply knew no other way.

Joe is survived by his wife, Kathy, his children, Jennifer Seamons (Jeff), Jamon Jarvis (Ann), Mary Erasmus (Leon), and Beau Jarvis, along with 16 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister, Alice Bowen, his brother, Bob Jarvis, and his brother-in-law, Greg Abbott. Joe

was preceded in death by his parents, Leo and Louise Jarvis, his brother-in-law, Carver Bowen, and his sister-in-law, Elizabeth Jarvis.

A viewing will be held at the Mink Creek Ward building (7316 N Capitol Hill Rd, Preston, Idaho) on Saturday, October 25, 2025, beginning at 2 pm MT, followed by funeral services at 3:30 pm MT. Graveside services will be held at the Tonaquint Cemetery (1777 S. Dixie Dr., St. George, Utah) at 2 pm on Monday, October 27, 2025.

Joe's family wishes to thank the many medical professionals who attended to their father and husband, especially the nurses and doctors of the Neuro-ICU and Hospice teams at IHC hospital in Murray, Utah. Their kindness and professionalism were invaluable during a very challenging time. Additional thanks to the many friends and ward members who have reached out in love and support repeatedly.

Please share memories and condolences at www.serentiyfhs.com. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to one of the many organizations and charities that support the natural beauty and wonders surrounding us all.

Previous Events

Viewing

OCT **25**. 2:00 PM - 3:15 PM (MT)

Mink Creek Ward
7316 N Capitol Hill Rd,
Preston, ID

Funeral Service

OCT **25**. 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM (MT)

Mink Creek Ward
7316 N Capitol Hill Rd,
Preston, ID

Graveside Service

OCT **27**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (MT)

Tonaquint Cemetery
1777 S Dixie Dr,
St George, UT

Tribute Wall



“ I am so sorry for your loss, Jarvis family. Papa Joe sounded like such a wonderful grandpa from what Zach and Megan have shared over the years. I donated for 5 trees to be planted in Klamath National Forest near Arcata in honor of Papa Joe through A Living Tribute. The certificate should be on its way via mail to Jamon. I can see why Papa Joe liked Arcata, its such a beautiful area. I discovered Klamath is huge but also in great need of reforestation due to decades of logging and wildfires. Hoping this small contribution will help one of his favorite places live on. Sending all my love, thoughts, and prayers to you all.

Sarah Hunt - October 27, 2025 at 08:57 PM

KJ

Thank you so very much Sarah. This means a lot to my family and me and so much to Joe. It is so kind of you to think of him. Love, Kathy Jarvis

Kathy Jarvis - November 03, 2025 at 03:32 PM

JJ

“ 13 files added to the album Joe & Family



Jamon Jarvis - October 23, 2025 at 09:31 PM

EA

“ We have the greatest respect and admiration for Joe and Kathy. He served as our Bishop and she as our Relief Society President, and they served with dedication and distinction. Kathy, we are so sorry for your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers as you deal with this heartbreak. You are strong, and well-grounded in the gospel. You can do this! Love, Don and Erlene Anderson

Erlene Anderson - October 23, 2025 at 06:05 PM

RO

Oh Kathy,
We are deeply saddened to hear that Joe is gone. He will truly be missed, especially for his great service and the positive impact he made on all of us. Please accept our heartfelt condolences during this difficult time. May his soul rest in peace.

Ronnie - October 24, 2025 at 03:08 AM

LP

“ Oh Kathy, what a shock to read off Joe's passing. He was such a great person. Was it sudden or had he been ill for a while. My condolences go out to you and your beautiful family. Life is so lonely being alone. Call me if you would like to talk. You and Joe were the best.

Lynn Parke - October 23, 2025 at 05:06 PM

AF

“ My husband David Firmage shared his love of botany, gardening and conservation with Joe and we loved our time with this couple in Johannesburg where our love of the temple and all things relating to family history bound us together. I will always treasure the memory of a special visit to us in Maine and send my love and condolences to Kathy and the family! It is so hard to loose a husband and father! God bless you with the peace that can come only from Him!!!

Alexandra Firmage - October 23, 2025 at 04:49 PM

IE

May you find comfort in the following days, as hard as it seems right now. My thoughts and feelings are with you. We loved working with you and Joe on our mission. With lots of love from Ian Evans and my deceased wife Jacqui

Ian Evans - October 23, 2025 at 06:01 PM

JD

Dearest Kathy, I was shocked and saddened to read of Joe's passing! I have fond memories of both of you welcoming me into Dan's circle of friends. Dan and Joe had many great adventures while serving in the scouting program, with the 50-mile hikes in the Uintah mountains at the top of the list! May you find peace in your cherished memories and your sweet family surrounding you. Love you, my friend, Janet Dix

janet dix - October 23, 2025 at 08:11 PM

KJ

Dear Janet...I seem to be living. In a dream the past few weeks but wanted you to know how very much I appreciate your remarks and message at the time of Joe's passing.. Good friends mean so much. Thank you for your thoughtfulness. I love you Janet💕💕

Kathy Jarvis - February 04 at 07:26 PM