



## Reverend Earl John (Jude) Geilenkirchen

January 20, 1938 - December 20, 2021

Reverend Earl John “Jude” Geilenkirchen, 83, was born January 20, 1938 at home in Fort Collins, Colorado, and he passed away December 20, 2021 in Denver, Colorado. Beloved brother of Adella Andrijeski, Glen Geilenkirchen, Dean Geilenkirchen, also survived by numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents Gerhard and Clara Geilenkirchen, his sister Loraine Glass, three nephews and a niece. Fr. Jude attended St. Joseph’s School in Fort Collins the first 9 grades, then went to Fort Collins High School, graduating May 1956. During his young years he was active in 4-H and FFA programs, showing animals at the county and state fairs. In his senior year in high school he entered the cherry pie baking contest and ended up as one of the 9 finalists who showed how to make their pie in front of an audience.

Fr. Jude served as Brother Jude in the Benedictine Fathers at the Holy Cross Abbey in Canon City. This is where he acquired the name of Jude. Still longing to be a priest, he went to Canada to a seminary for the required studies. He was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Denver by Archbishop James V. Casey on May 26, 1973 and served as Pastor of Our Lady of the Valley, Windsor; St. Augustine, Brighton; and St. Mary, Brush. And as Parochial Vicar at Immaculate Heart of Mary, Northglenn; Christ the King, Denver; Mother of God, Denver; St. Theresa, Aurora; St. John the Evangelist, Loveland; St. Mary, Breckenridge; Our Lady of Peace, Silverthorne; St. Anne, Granby; St. Claire of Assisi, Edwards. He also served as a missionary in Columbia. While there he worked building shelters for the poor families and a church from donations from his friends and relatives in the United States.

The Funeral Mass is at 10:00 am, Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Denver, Colorado. Interment at Mount Olivet Cemetery, Wheat Ridge, Colorado.

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Olivet Cemetery

12801 W 44th Ave  
Wheat Ridge, CO 80033-2460

# Previous Events

## Funeral Mass

JAN 11. 10:00 AM (MT)

Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception  
1530 Logan St  
Denver, CO 80203

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fr. Jude was my assistant pastor in the early 1970s in Northglenn. He would say a special mass for children in the parish center. My children grew up learning their faith with his guidance. My daughter, Sara, referred to him as Father God. Later he would be our pastor in Windsor, Colorado. May he rest in the peace of the Lord.*

Julie Jochum Gartrell - April 24 at 05:28 PM

DG

“ *Father Jude was very dear to us at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Northglenn and especially to me and my wife. He had a great sense of humor and a love of his parishioners. I was very sad to hear of his passing. Attached is a photo of Fr. Jude with Rita Martinez and my wife Ernestine who has also since passed. May they rest in the arms of the lord.*  
*David Garcia*



David Garcia - March 17 at 05:39 PM

RF

“ *I remember Jude(earl) from St. Joseph school in Fort Collins. Remember cleaning the chicken coop with Earl and betting him he would not become a priest. Needless to say I lost. He was a good friend and shared the Chester White pigs as mattresses at the fair. Good friend as was the whole family.*  
*Ray Fiolkoski*

Ray Fiolkoski - February 13 at 06:28 PM

SK

“ *Father Jude was very special to me and my family. We moved from MN to CO in 1973. I was a Catholic convert. I was active at St Augustine in Brighton. Before I knew what was happening I was Parish Council president working directly with Father Jude. He confirmed my children and we all loved him dearly. We kept in touch for years but somehow lost touch. He was a big part of my religious life and I loved how he incorporated The Broncos into his sermons. He cared about the people and their lives with Christ. He was special and touched a lot of lives. May he enjoy his life in heaven with Christ and everyone else.*

Susan Kleve - January 21 at 08:43 PM



“ *God Bless you Father Jude.  
You gave my daughter and son their first communion and  
you were so real. Very understanding and personal.  
What a great priest you were, I’m so happy to have met you  
and celebrate many Masses with you when you were at St.  
Augustine’s in Brighton, CO.  
Rest In Peace Father Jude prayers for you.*



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**Ellen Gomez** - January 17 at 02:34 PM



“ *Shirley White lit a candle in memory of Reverend Earl John  
(Jude) Geilenkirchen*



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**Shirley White** - January 04 at 02:09 PM



“ *I met Fr. Jude when I was living in Eagle, CO. His sermons drew me to him and  
then he became my confessor, I could talk to him so easily and he was always so  
honest! This was at St. Mary's Church. He forgave me for a trick I played on him  
with a fake scratch ticket. I still feel guilty because he thought he won and was  
ready to give his winnings to those who needed it. He was still willing to preside at  
several of our anniversary celebrations. May he rest in peace and may his family  
know he was a blessing to so many!! With sympathy and love, Joe & Shirley  
White*

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**Shirley** - January 04 at 02:05 PM



“ *I had the privilege of meeting Father Jude while caring for his mother, Clara, at Ft.  
Collins Good Samaritan, and again when Clara passed away. He was a very kind  
and caring man, and loved his mother. Clara was so proud to have a son who  
was a priest! I’m sure she was waiting for him at heaven’s gate!*

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**Cheryl Brinker** - January 03 at 02:40 PM