



## Joseph Hollinrake

November 10, 1925 - September 11, 2024

Joseph Michael Hollinrake was born November 10, 1925, on his parents' farm in Weller, Iowa, the sixth of nine children born to John Francis and Mary Elizabeth McKillip Hollinrake. He attended primary school at Cedar Center and graduated with the Albia High School, Class of 1944.

Following graduation, Joe farmed with his parents until establishing his own farm just north of Weller, raising hogs, cattle, and horses. He met his wife, Jean Kathryn Durbala, at a dance in Knoxville, and they were married on August 28, 1954, at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Lovilia.

As a farmer, Joe knew the importance of a reliable water source and was instrumental in founding the Rathbun Regional Water Association (RRWA). He was on the RRWA board for 42 years, serving as chairperson for 20 years, and was inducted into the Iowa Rural Water Association Hall of Fame.

Joe was a lifelong member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Weller until its closing in 1996, serving as altar boy, council member, usher, annual picnic auction organizer and trustee. He and Jean spearheaded a St. Mary's cemetery restoration project and helped establish an association for the cemetery's perpetual care. They also coauthored a book called *Weller Roots* about the history of St. Mary's and the Weller community and were the driving force in the development of the memorial building which stands in dedication

to the former church and community.

Joe passed away at his home on September 11, 2024, following a brief illness. He is survived by his daughters, Mary Kay Henderson (Rick) of Albia and Laura Hollinrake (Pat Finan) of Knoxville; sons, Steve (Kim) and John (Cami) of Knoxville, Robert of Waterloo and Marty (Kristy) of Peyton, Colorado; daughter-in-law, Suzanne of Albia; 18 grandchildren; 6 great grandchildren; sisters-in law, Suzanne Durbala and Margaret Durbala; and many nieces and nephews. Joe was preceded in death by his wife, Jean, daughter, Barb, son, Ed, and grandchildren Gabrielle and Elijah; his parents; brothers and sisters-in law John Ed and Virginia, Paul and Patty, Leo and Wilma, and James; sisters Catherine, Theresa, Marcella and an unnamed infant sister, as well as several nephews and a niece.

Tharp Funeral Home of Albia is managing arrangements. Visitation will be 9:00 a.m. to 10:45 am on Monday, September 16, 2024, at the funeral home, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Albia. A luncheon will follow, concluding with burial in Weller.

Memorials made to the family to be distributed to the Catholic cemeteries in Monroe County, St. Mary's Catholic Church (Albia), and EveryStep Hospice.

When an old man dies a library burns to the ground.

--African proverb

# Cemetery Details

## St. Mary's Weller Cemetery

Weller, IA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 16. 9:00 AM - 10:45 AM (CT)

Tharp Funeral Home  
116 Benton Ave.  
Albia, IA 52531  
(641) 932-3129  
<https://www.tharpfh.com/>

## Mass of Christian Burial

SEP 16. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church  
730 Benton Ave W  
Albia, IA

# Tribute Wall

DW

“ To the Hollinrake children, I am so sorry I didn't feel I could come today even though I so wanted to. I'm sure you know, Jean had been my best friend since high school and I always enjoyed seeing Jean and Joe and may of you over the years. What a lovely, hard-working family you had. Another farm family that survived the farm crisis of the 80's.  
Jean suffered through many health issues and survived until she broke a bone. That gets many of us at her age. I was happy to know that Joe got his wish that he wouldn't leave that house unless it was feet first. Best wishes and my sympathy for all of you.  
Donna Chamberlain Winburn

---

**Donna Winburn** - September 16, 2024 at 01:51 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joseph Hollinrake.



---

September 14, 2024 at 08:27 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joseph Hollinrake.



---

September 13, 2024 at 06:03 PM

BH

“ Ben abd Aimee Hale purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Joseph Hollinrake.



Ben abd Aimee Hale - September 13, 2024 at 02:06 PM

CC

“ I have sweet childhood memories staying in the Hollinrake home growing up thanks to my Godparents Jean and Joe. What a wonderful family. So happy we all got together this past June and we had one final family reunion. Ken and I send our love in this time of grief. Ken and Cathy Curell



Cathy Curell - September 12, 2024 at 07:22 PM

RJ

So many fond memories of the family reunions in Weller. Seeing everyone laugh and enjoy time together to our adventures of horse riding and exploring the church. Loved seeing everyone in June. Hugs to the Hollinrakes on the loss of a great man.

Renee Johnson - September 13, 2024 at 06:16 PM

MH

“ Dad, you will be greatly missed here on this earth. Best DAD ever! Thank you for teaching to be a great man, husband, father and grandfather by your great example. Love you so much! Marty

Marty Hollinrake - September 12, 2024 at 06:52 PM



“ Daniel Crall lit a candle in memory of Joseph Hollinrake



---

**Daniel Crall** - September 12, 2024 at 03:37 PM