

FROM PATTY STURDIVANT ABBOTT

Our family wishes Joe could be here tonight to receive this wonderful award. We know he would be humbled – and proud! Joe “treasured” every athletic challenge he had at Saint Thomas Academy. His philosophy was that a game is not about one player – he knew it took a team to win. He always praised his team – he would love to share this award with all of you men!

Two coaches that influenced Joe were “Skip” McMahon and Tom Feely. They instilled good sportsmanship, honor, discipline, determination – and a spirit to win! They remained best of friends.

We were married October 3, 1953. We were blessed with five wonderful children – four daughters and one son – and 14 grandchildren. Sadly, Joe only met three of our grandchildren, as he passed away on February 25, 1987, at the age of 57, from LLC Leukemia. We had 34 beautiful years together.



Joe Sturdivant and the 1948 State Catholic Championship Basketball Team.