



## Conrad J. Fetsch

December 30, 1952 - July 16, 2019

Conrad J. "Santa" Fetsch, age 66 of Highland, IL, died Tuesday, July 16, 2019, at his residence.

He was born on December 30, 1952, in St. Louis, MO, the son of Vernon and Florence (nee Koecher) Fetsch.

On August 22, 1980, he married Phyllis K. Cooke at Maryland Heights, MO. She survives in Highland, IL.

He was a member of Boy Scouts of America / Eagle Scout with gold, silver & double bronze palms; Highland Masonic Lodge A.F. & A.M #583 (7 years as Secretary); Trenton Lodge #109 (Junior Warden); York Rite Bodies; White Shrine of Jerusalem; Royal Arch Mason's; Western Clinton County Board of Trustee's for Meals on Wheels; International Brotherhood of Real Bearded Santas; Knights Templar in Belleville, IL.

Conrad J. "Santa" Fetsch was born in St. Louis Missouri. He grew up in Overland, MO and was a graduate of Ritenour High School. He continued his education at Missouri Valley College earning a degree in American Humanics. He also earned degrees (AA & BA) from New Jersey College of Business. Conrad worked as a District Executive for the old Kickapoo Districts of the Cahokia Mounds Council, BSA. He did various other jobs around Highland,

but was best known as "Santa Claus". Every year he was Santa for the City of Highland and other Metro communities. For many years his hobbies were, being very active in his places of employment and memberships.

Survivors include:

Wife - Phyllis K. Fetsch, nee Cooke, Highland, IL

Son - David W. Fetsch, Highland, IL

Daughter - Lorien L. (Wesley) Martindale, Highland, IL

Son - James V. (Kristen Pauli) Fetsch, Edwardsville, IL

Grandchild - Abigail R. Fetsch, Highland, IL

Grandchild - William D. Fetsch, Highland, IL

Grandchild - Julia L. Martindale, Highland, IL

Brother - Vernon J. "Jay" (Denise) Fetsch, Overland, MO

Mother-in-law - Maryanna Cooke, Sullivan, MO

Brother-In-law & Sister-In-law - Numerous

Nieces and Nephews - Numerous

He was preceded in death by:

Father - Vernon Bernard Fetsch

Mother - Florence K. Fetsch, nee Koecher

Father-In-law - William James Cook Jr. - Died 2005

Arrangements are being handled by Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Conrad graciously gifted his body to St. Louis University School of Medicine for Medical Research.

Visitation will be held from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM on Sunday, August 04, 2019, at Highland Masonic Lodge #583 AF & AM in Highland, IL.

Celebration of Conrad's Life will be at 4:00 PM on Sunday, August 04, 2019,  
at Highland Masonic Lodge #583 AF & AM.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Family.

# Tribute Wall

MS

“ Condolences to Phyllis and family from Conrad' s cousins in Jefferson City. - Bill, Jim, Richard, Carole, Bob and Margie Pohl.

Margie Steinmetz - August 01, 2019 at 04:10 PM

DA

“ Condolences to all the family. He was a giving, kind, big hearted man, He would give the shirt off his back. he will be missed. Conrad and Phyllis helped my daughter out when I couldn't see the light at the end of the tunnel. He would stop by my house and knock on my door several times just to see how i was doing and always had a genuine aura about him, that brightened your day... Thoughts with you all.

Darla - July 24, 2019 at 05:33 PM

BI

“ I am so sorry to hear this! My family has know him for a long time. From living next to my grandparents to playing Santa every year for my kids. Mason saw Conrad at the Switzerfest this year & had to give him his Xmas list already! He was the “best” Santa! He will be missed!



Billie - July 19, 2019 at 12:01 AM

WG

“ Uncle Conrad was so much more than Santa! He brought smiles all year long and he will be greatly missed. Lots of love to the Fetsch family!!!

Whitney Green - July 18, 2019 at 05:48 PM

CA

“ Rest in peace kind man

carolyn - July 18, 2019 at 10:30 AM

MS

“ Mary Shawki lit a candle in memory of Conrad J. Fetsch



mary shawki - July 17, 2019 at 07:59 PM

JE

“ Our family has had Conrad with us at every Thanksgiving being “our” Santa for as long as I can remember. It’s so sad that this Thanksgiving was his last time with us. He was a staple to our holiday! He will always be remembered by our family and how special he was.



Julie Engelmann - July 17, 2019 at 12:54 PM

SR

*Phyllis and family, Conrad will be missed so much by so many. His love for life, family and friends were his great asset. Rest in peace my friend. Love to all, Sue*

Sue Richardson - July 17, 2019 at 06:12 PM

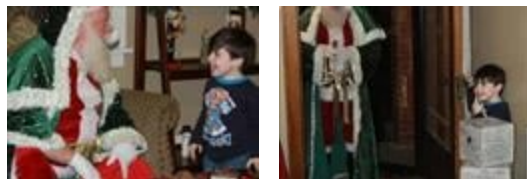
JF

“ *My brother brought so much joy to so many children and their family's as Santa and I have to say as his brother I believe in him and I believe in Santa. God blessed him and now he is Gods Santa. Good bye big brother*

jay fetsch - July 17, 2019 at 08:02 AM

HW

“ *2014, the 1st Christmas we had here in Highland... Conrad made a little boy's dream come true. Coming from a military family that has moved around a few times and our final stop (retiring from the Air Force) being Highland IL.... we were welcomed, AS FAMILY, with open arms by Phyllis, Dave, Lorien, James, the kiddos and Conrad. They were the first people we met after moving here from Germany, and who we still continue to grow our friendship with as the years have passed us by. Conrad was an amazing man. Always so very kind and caring. I can't imagine him not being with us when we stop by, shouting from the porch during a parade or just a chat while dropping Liam off to play with William and Abby. It's going to be an adjustment without Conrad around stirring up something. He truly was a man to look up to. We will be praying for everyone. Love you all oodles of noodles ♡♡♡♡ love the Warren/Smith Family ♡♡♡♡*



Heather Warren - July 17, 2019 at 01:48 AM

DA

“ *Conrad was our Santa for 12 years! We will forever hold him close to our hearts as my girls are now growing older and will miss “their” Santa!!* ”



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**Dawn Archer** - July 17, 2019 at 01:05 AM

SS

“ *My granddaughter saw him as santa from the time she was born! Goodbye Santa you will be missed. My condolences are with his family.* ”

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**Sandy Sumner** - July 16, 2019 at 11:26 PM

LO

“ *7 files added to the album Memories Album* ”



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**Lorien** - July 16, 2019 at 11:19 PM

CK

“ A great mason, man and Santa. He was our Santa at the Valley of Springfield AASR for more than 10 years and we loved him.

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**Craig A Kennedy** - July 16, 2019 at 10:19 PM



“ Uncle Conrad will be greatly missed. He brought joy to so many people. Rest in peace Godfather.

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**Veronica Lutz** - July 16, 2019 at 09:43 PM

JH

“ Condolences to the family. You will be in my prayers.

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**Judy Hereford** - July 16, 2019 at 09:42 PM

LI

“ Conrad was such a wonderful person he would do anything to help some one out. Conrad loved to be Santa at Christmas, not only did he look the part he was a Santa in real life. Christmas will not be the same with out him my condolences to the family he will be so sadly missed by all that knew him

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**Linda** - July 16, 2019 at 09:11 PM

LW

“ I have so many fond memories of Conrad. He would drop anything he was doing to help a friend in need. He was an excellent carpenter and could fix/build anything. Being active in his community was his pride. I have such fun memories of us painting giant ice cream cones for the Masonic Lodge Ice Cream Social signs, building steps to our basement and many other things he helped with, including playing Santa for a family in need doing a "special" house visit for some young boys. His heart was the biggest I have ever seen and he touched so many lives on his time on earth. Rest in peace my friend.....I will forever be great-full of receiving your generosity and friendship. Lori Wernle

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Lori Wernle - July 16, 2019 at 08:45 PM

RF

“ James & Family,  
So sorry to hear of Conrad passing. We are here for you, James if you need anything. May you all be blessed with lots of Happy Memories & remember...LOVE LIVES ON FOREVER IN THE HEART.



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Reyman Family - July 16, 2019 at 07:52 PM

SB

“ We are so sorry for your family's loss. You are all in our thoughts and prayers. "May the Lord bless you and keep you, may He shine His face upon you and bring your peace".

Greg & Stacie Bushong

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Stacie Bushong - July 16, 2019 at 07:51 PM



“ Thank you for all the time you gave to bring happiness to kids at Christmas! You were the only “real” Santa to my son. He has always said that he got to meet the real Santa in Highland. May you Rest In Peace. You will be missed by many!

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**Amy Darnell** - July 16, 2019 at 07:48 PM



“ PHYLLIS & FAMILY I AM SO VERY SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS. HE WAS A WONDERFUL MAN, GIVING HEART & LOVED HIS FAMILY. I AM HONORED TO SAY I WAS HIS DECEMBER WIFE (MRS CLAUS) I WILL MISS HIM DEEPLY. HUGS & PRAYERS TO YOU ALL.  
SHERRY MIDDLECAMP



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**Sherry Middlecamp** - July 16, 2019 at 07:23 PM



“ I wish my sister and her children didn't have to go thru this pain of loss but just knowing how many wonderful people he touched with his presence here should give them some comfort .

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**Victoria Thomure** - July 16, 2019 at 07:21 PM



“ Conrad was a wonderful man and he will surely be missed by all.

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**blair** - July 16, 2019 at 07:09 PM

EL

“ *Friendly and kind. I will not forget his infectious laugh, bright smile and warm hugs.*

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**Elaine .. sister in law** - July 16, 2019 at 06:38 PM