



## Cyril B. "Pete" Korte

February 3, 1938 - September 26, 2023

Cyril B. "Pete" Korte, age 85 of Highland, IL, died Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at his home in Highland, IL.

On Saturday, July 12, 1958, he married Jane E. Korte nee Luitjohan at St. Paul Catholic Church, Highland, Illinois, who survives.

Pete was born, February 3, 1938, to Ben and Mary (Toennies) Korte in Damiansville, IL, the 11th of 12 children. He attended Damiansville Elementary School and one year of Aviston High School. He started his career with Basler Electric when he was 16 years old; he joined the U.S. Army Reserve when he was 19. He and Jane were just kids when they met, while their older siblings were dating.

With a small loan from his father-in-law, Pete bought a backhoe and started doing small jobs around Highland. Soon after, he joined forces with his brother-in-law, Joe Luitjohan, to create Korte & Luitjohan Excavating Contractors, Inc. In 1959, he and Joe joined the Operating Engineers Local 520 with card numbers 39 and 40. Starting as a utility contractor, today their creation has become a significant part of the metro-St. Louis building scene. Over the years, his business ventures included a tree moving business, a strawberry farm, a crane service, mini warehouses, the Beagle Inn Bar and Grill, a Made Rite restaurant, and last but not least, a Highland establishment, Windows on Broadway.

He was involved in many civic organizations, including the Knights of Columbus and the Highland Jaycees; he was a volunteer fire fighter for the City of Highland, a board member for the Southern Illinois Builders Association (SIBA), Trustee for the Operators Benefit Fund, a board member for Camp Ondessonk, a regionally recognized Catholic youth camp and a member of St. Paul's choir.

As a member of those organizations and his parish, he chaired the St. Paul Kirchenfest and the Jaycees Highland Homecoming in both 1976. He served as president of the Jaycees chapter, and of SIBA. He also started the annual Camp Ondessonk Golf Scramble, which is in its 28th year.

In 2019 he received the Highland Chamber of Commerce 2019 Homer Poss Lifetime Achievement Award; Pete made a significant positive impact on the Southern Illinois area.

Survivors include:

Wife - Jane E. Korte (nee Luitjohan), Highland, IL

Son - Gregg E. (Celeste) Korte, Edwardsville, IL

Son - Kevin G. (Kathie) Korte, Breese, IL

Daughter - Gloria A. (Kenneth) Toennies, Trenton, IL

Daughter - Sandra A. (Fiance Jeff Irwin) Bretz, Oakdale, IL

Daughter - Janice M. (Cliff) Korte-Couch, Highland, IL

Daughter - Tammara J. (Luke) Schutzenhofer, Highland, IL

Daughter - Karen J. Boulanger, Highland, IL

Grandchild - Kara (Andrew) McGarrahan

Grandchild - Kayla (James) Cowell

Grandchild - Matt Korte

Grandchild - Jared Korte

Grandchild - Marta Korte

Grandchild - Jenny (Mike) Rivera

Grandchild - Joe Feldman

Grandchild - Karen Miller  
Grandchild - Lance (Sarah) Toennies  
Grandchild - Larissa (Mark) Chapman  
Grandchild - Abbie (Buster) Hendricks  
Grandchild - Chelsie (Luke) Voss  
Grandchild - Sarah (Jake) Frederking  
Grandchild - Matthew Bretz  
Grandchild - Samantha (Tyler) Kathmann  
Grandchild - Benjamyn (Siarra) Brinker  
Grandchild - CJ (Significant Other Kim Wallner) Couch  
Grandchild - Amanda (Bruce) Bradley  
Grandchild - Jacob (Fiancee Bailey Snell) Couch  
Grandchild - Jayna (Collin) Frank  
Grandchild - Kaitlin (Tommy) Kloss  
Grandchild - Molly (Joe) Middleton  
Grandchild - Lydia Schutzenhofer  
Grandchild - Danielle Boulanger  
Grandchild - Aaron (Fiancee Taylor Goring) Boulanger  
Grandchild - Jon Patrick Boulanger  
Grandchild - Wilson Boulanger  
Grandchild - Miriam Boulanger  
Great Grandchildren - 36  
Great Great Grandchildren - 2  
Brother - Jerome "Dick" (Clara) Korte, Collinsville, IL.

He was preceded in death by:

Father - Ben Henry Korte

Mother - Mary Korte (nee Toennies)

Twin Boys - Keith and Kevin

Son-In-Law - Dr. Matthew W. Bretz, D.C. - Died 12/18/2012

Son-In-Law - Jon Wilson Boulanger - Died 10/29/2021

Grandchild - Gabrielle Boulanger - 2/14/2013

Sister - Marie Rolves

Sister - Alvina Luitjohan

Sister - Sister Florence Korte, ASC

Sister - Alice Luitjohan

Sister - Sister Mary Judith Korte, ASC

Brother - George Korte

Brother - Joe Korte

Brother - Ferdinand Korte

Brother - Edmund Korte

Brother - Raymond W. "Ray" Korte

Brother-In-Law - Louis Rolves

Brother-In-Law - Francis Luitjohan

Brother-In-Law - John Luitjohan

Sister-In-Law - Agnes Korte

Sister-In-Law - Veronica Korte

Sister-In-Law - Jeannie Korte.

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

Visitation will be held from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM on Thursday, September 28, 2023, at Trinity Hall, St. Paul Catholic Church in Highland, IL (Please Enter At The South Entrance) and from 8:00 AM to 9:30 AM on Friday, September 29, 2023, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Funeral Mass will be at 10:00 AM on Friday, September 29, 2023, at St. Paul Catholic Church in Highland, IL, with Fr. Pat G. Jakel, Pastor, Celebrant.

Interment will be at Saint Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Highland, IL.

Memorial contributions may be made to Camp Ondessonk or St. Paul School Educational Foundation.

# Tribute Wall



“ Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home & Dauderman Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte



Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home - September 27, 2023 at 04:25 PM

PP

*Pete was faith filled man of prayer who loved his family and was always charitable to others. Well done good and faithful servant. Come into the house of the Lord and receive lasting peace and joy. RIP Pete*

**PATRICK PRINDABLE** - September 28, 2023 at 03:56 PM

CH

*Beautiful tribute ❤️*

**Cheri** - September 28, 2023 at 06:59 PM

DP

*Pete and Jane Korte are first class highly respected and very generous people. It has been a privilege to know them. My family and friends have enjoyed many fun trips to Pete's Lake. On behalf of all of them, I offer our sincere sympathy to Jane and the entire family. Pete will be greatly missed but his legacy will live on. Prayers for all who mourn his passing. - Dan Poettker & family.*

**Dan Poettker** - September 28, 2023 at 11:50 PM

FM

“ Frank Teri Musso lit a candle in memory of Cyril Korte



Frank & Teri Musso - September 30, 2023 at 08:38 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.



September 29, 2023 at 06:56 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.

September 29, 2023 at 06:56 AM

HH

“ Jane and Family, So sorry to read the passing of Pete. Now at Peace with the Lord..Prayers coming your way for Peace and Comfort. 🙏  
Larry and Hady Hund 🙏

Hady Hund - September 28, 2023 at 10:46 PM

VC

“ Vanguard Truck Center purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.



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Vanguard Truck Center - September 28, 2023 at 03:32 PM

VC

“ Vanguard Truck Center planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.

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Vanguard Truck Center - September 28, 2023 at 03:32 PM



“ I will sorely miss this caring, generous gentleman who gifted me with deer sausage on a number of occasions. As a fellow Ondessonk lover, I'll try to remember that camp now has a heavenly advocate. Lucia

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Lucia Hodges - September 28, 2023 at 02:58 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.



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September 28, 2023 at 01:31 PM

BH

“ Bob & Susan Hoff purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.



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**Bob & Susan Hoff** - September 28, 2023 at 01:10 PM

BH

“ Bob & Susan Hoff planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.

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**Bob & Susan Hoff** - September 28, 2023 at 01:10 PM

KH

“ Kelli H. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.

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**Kelli H.** - September 28, 2023 at 11:22 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.



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September 28, 2023 at 10:27 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.



September 28, 2023 at 10:07 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.

September 28, 2023 at 10:07 AM



“ White Cap Supply/Carter Waters purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.



White Cap Supply/Carter Waters - September 28, 2023 at 09:37 AM



“ White Cap Supply/Carter Waters planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.

White Cap Supply/Carter Waters - September 28, 2023 at 09:37 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.*



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September 28, 2023 at 07:06 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.*



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September 28, 2023 at 06:28 AM



“ *Jane Hugs and prayers for you and the family. I still remember you from when I worked for you and Pete. It was when Gloria was boned. Both of you wonderful people. May God guide you always.*

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**Judy Woltering** - September 27, 2023 at 09:48 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.*



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September 27, 2023 at 08:50 PM

JM

“ Dear Jane, I will be with you in spirit on Friday. So happy you two were blessed with 65 years together. Pete is loved by all. Peace be with all of you as you celebrate his life. My love, prayers and sympathy to you. Jane Durbin McDonald

Jane mcdonald - September 27, 2023 at 05:36 PM

RS

“ Richard & Becky Skubish purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.



Richard & Becky Skubish - September 27, 2023 at 05:15 PM



“ 59 files added to the album Life Tributes



Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home - September 27, 2023 at 04:26 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.



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September 27, 2023 at 04:22 PM



“ Rita RINDERER lit a candle in memory of Cyril Korte



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Rita RINDERER - September 27, 2023 at 03:21 PM



“ Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.



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September 27, 2023 at 02:38 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.



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September 27, 2023 at 02:07 PM

GB

“ Gloria Ross, Joe Rensing and Marge Bretz purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.



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**Gloria Ross, Joe Rensing and Marge Bretz** - September 27, 2023 at 01:01 PM

GB

“ Gloria Ross, Joe Rensing and Marge Bretz planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.

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**Gloria Ross, Joe Rensing and Marge Bretz** - September 27, 2023 at 01:01 PM

RR

“ Rita RINDERER lit a candle in memory of Cyril Korte



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**Rita RINDERER** - September 27, 2023 at 12:51 PM



“ Vivid Recollections was purchased for the family of Cyril B. "Pete" Korte.



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September 27, 2023 at 12:16 PM