



## Joseph Raymond Chilson

November 30, 1921 - March 25, 2018

After a brief illness and surrounded by his loving, caring children, Joseph Raymond Chilson passed away peacefully at his home on Palm Sunday, March 25, 2018. Joe was born on November 30, 1921 in Towanda, the son of Raymond Dorman and Cecil Elizabeth Hainsworth Chilson.

Joe attended Towanda area schools, but would be quick to tell anyone he got his education at the “School of Hard Knocks”.

When he became old enough to get a job, Mr. Karl D. Shiner at Shiner’s Sand & Gravel hired him as a heavy truck driver. Mornings before climbing into his truck he would cut asparagus on the Shiner farm.

On June 1, 1942 he was inducted into the U S Army Air Corps (later known as the United States Air Force), 597th Air Engineer Squadron 381st Air. Ser. and served his country during WWII with a portion of his military time being served over-seas. He was trained and served as an airplane and engine mechanic.

Upon completion of his tour of duty, he was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, the American Theatre Medal, the American-Pacific Theatre Service Award and a Victory Medal. While he was stationed at Ardmore Army Air Field, north of Gene Autry, OK, he met and married Joyce Rozzell, his wife of 65 years.

Within a few months after his discharge from the military service on January 20, 1946, Joe and Joyce and new baby Joe came back to Bradford County. Joe and Joyce purchased a home on Mercur Hill in June of 1949 and lived on that property for the rest of their lives.

Joe was raised in a family with 10 children and he repeated that pattern. He and Joyce raised 10 children.

Joe returned to his job at Shiner's Sand & Gravel, then went to work for Towanda Borough and years later retired from Masonite which ironically was built on the same grounds where he once cut asparagus. Additionally, Joe served as caretaker at the Mercur Hill Cemetery and continued to do so through the summer of 2017.

Joe was an avid hunter and fisherman and enjoyed traveling back and forth to Oklahoma over the years with his family. The family all have great memories of time spent with the Rozzell families. He loved to gather with family and friends around the kitchen table to play cards and dominoes, and was an Eagles and Giants fan. Any movie Joe Wayne was in Joe probably saw at least a dozen times.

He is survived by his children: Anetta Soper, Jerry (Anna Chilson), Larry Chilson, Cathy Shoemaker (Chuck Cimperman), LaVeda Gunther, Valarie Donat, and Karen Chilson; as well as daughters-in-law, Nancy Chilson and Michele (Bob) Marean; 11 grand-daughters and 12 grand-sons; 18 great grand-daughters and 28 great grand-sons; 2 great-great grand-daughters; his sister Amanda Hoyt and sister-in-law Sandra Rozzell.

He was predeceased by his wife Joyce in 2009; children: Roger (2002), Joseph B (2009), Rose (2016); sons-in-law: Kenneth Gunther (2001), William Chris Shoemaker (2012) and Joseph Donat (2015), and Robert Soper (2017); brothers and sisters: Charlotte (Peg) Drislane (1971), Robert (1972), Donald (1981), Kenneth (1982), Margaret Zenewicz (1987), Isabelle Sites (1989), James (1999), Charles "Baldy" (2001) .

The family will receive friends Thursday from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Maryott-Bowen Funeral Home 217 York Ave. Towanda, PA. The funeral service will be held Friday, March 30, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at the funeral home with Pastor Dennis Fox officiating. Burial will be in the Wysox Cemetery, Wysox, PA with Towanda American Legion Post No. 42 according full military honors.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Valley Youth Hunter Education Challenge, Inc., P O Box 156, Rome, PA 18837 in Joe's memory. Memories and condolences may be expressed by visiting [www.bowenfuneralhomes.com](http://www.bowenfuneralhomes.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Wysox Cemetery

Route 187  
Wysox, PA 18854

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAR 29.** 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Maryott-Bowen Funeral Home  
217 York Ave.  
Towanda, PA 18848  
(570) 265-2272  
[info@bowenfuneralhomes.com](mailto:info@bowenfuneralhomes.com)

## Service

**MAR 30.** 11:00 AM (ET)

Maryott-Bowen Funeral Home  
217 York Ave.  
Towanda, PA 18848  
(570) 265-2272  
[info@bowenfuneralhomes.com](mailto:info@bowenfuneralhomes.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Joseph Raymond Chilson*

October 22, 2023 at 08:10 PM



“ *Joseph Raymond Chilson*

October 08, 2023 at 10:34 PM



“ *Joseph Raymond Chilson*

October 06, 2023 at 09:57 AM



“ *Joseph Raymond Chilson*

October 06, 2023 at 03:29 AM



“ *Joseph Raymond Chilson*

October 05, 2023 at 02:02 PM



“ *Butch And Darlene Sites lit a candle in memory of Joseph Raymond Chilson*



**Butch and Darlene Sites** - April 04, 2018 at 11:46 AM

LD

“ *Anetta, I'm so sorry to hear of your Dads passing. I didn't connect the name otherwise I would have tried to be at the service. It's so difficult to lose a parent, even when you know it's coming. My thoughts and prayers are with you and I expect I'll see you at Alyces service. So sad to have so many passing in such a short time.*  
*Linda and Roy Dail*

---

**Linda Dail** - April 02, 2018 at 12:15 PM

EP

“ *Euleta Pierce lit a candle in memory of Joseph Raymond Chilson*



---

**Euleta Pierce** - March 30, 2018 at 06:16 AM

DW

“ *Now the Two will be (TOGETHER ONCE AGAIN).*

*Dawn & Ron Walker*

---

**Dawn & Ron Walker** - March 29, 2018 at 04:04 PM

PH

“ *My condolences to the family...I'll always remember the good times on the "hill"*

*Philip R*

---

**PhilR** - March 28, 2018 at 09:44 AM

PM

“ Sorry to hear of your loss. I worked with Joe, Larry, Roger, etc at Masonite for many years. GOD bless

---

**Phillip McNeal** - March 27, 2018 at 06:15 PM

CZ

“ Dear cousins, We are so sorry for you all in you dad, our Uncle Joe in passing away!!Your dad was a wonderful mentor to our whole family and we all loved him so very much. You all will be in our thoughts and prayers now and in the days ahead! God bless you all!! Love, Cheryl Zenewicz and family

---

**cheryl zenewicz** - March 27, 2018 at 02:00 PM

RS

“ Cathy, Anetta and Chuck, Ernie and I send you our deepest sympathy in the loss of your Father. While words can do little at this time to ease the pain in your heart, we hope you can find some comfort, in time, from your many wonderful memories of your Dad. We pray that God will bless you with His peace.

*Renee & Ernie Stewart*

---

**Renee Stewart** - March 27, 2018 at 09:12 AM

SR

*Dear Nieces and Nephews,  
My heart is saddened with the passing of your Dad. Many memories have been shared throughout the years, with all of our family visits back and forth from Oklahoma and Pennsylvania. You all are more like sisters and brothers to me. May God give you peace in the coming days and bring you comfort in the life you shared with your Dad. My thoughts and prayers are with you!  
With Love, Aunt Sandra Rozzell*

---

**Sandra Rozzell** - March 28, 2018 at 04:06 PM