



## Frederick J. O'Brien

July 25, 1933 - April 24, 2018

Dateline Jasper, IN

Frederick J. O'Brien, age 84, of Jasper, Indiana, passed away at 3:25 a.m. on Tuesday, April 24, 2018, at Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center in Jasper, Indiana.

Fred was born in Huntingburg, Indiana, on July 25, 1933, to Franklin N. and Josephine (Knebel) O'Brien. He married Gloria Bretz on August 13, 1955, in St. Mary's Catholic Church in Huntingburg, Indiana. She preceded him in death on February 7, 2018.

Fred was a 1951 graduate of Huntingburg High School. He earned his Bachelor's Degree in Education in 1955 from Xavier University and then earned his Master's Degree in Education from Indiana University.

Fred served in the Army Reserves for 30 years, and retired as a Colonel. He was also the Commander of the 324th Military Police Unit in Jasper.

He was a teacher for over 30 years in several school districts.

He was a member of Holy Family Catholic Church in Jasper.

He enjoyed spending time with his family, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, especially attending their sporting events. He liked doing crossword puzzles, and he was an avid St. Louis Cardinal's baseball and Kentucky Wildcat's basketball fan.

Surviving are two daughters, Patti O'Brien, Huntingburg, IN, Liz (Joe) Milligan, Jasper, IN, three sons, Michael (Andrea) O'Brien, Jasper, IN, Steve (Lisa) O'Brien, Jasper, IN, and Jim O'Brien, Lebanon, IN, 11 grandchildren, one step grandson, and three great grandchildren, and two brothers, John (June) O'Brien, Oxnard, CA, and Dan O'Brien, Atlanta, GA.

A Mass of Christian Burial for Frederick J. O'Brien will be held at 10:00 a.m. on April 27, 2018, at Holy Family Catholic Church in Jasper, Indiana, with entombment to follow in the Fairview Cemetery Mausoleum in Jasper.

A visitation will be held from 2:00-8:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 26, 2018, at the Becher-Kluesner Downtown Chapel and one hour before services at the church on Friday.

Memorial contributions made to Holy Family Catholic Church or a favorite charity.

Online condolences may be made at [www.becherkluesner.com](http://www.becherkluesner.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Fairview Cemetery Mausoleum

1020 Kundek Street  
Jasper, IN 47546

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 26. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Becher & Kluesner Funeral Home - Downtown  
214 East 7th Street  
Jasper, IN 47546  
(812) 482-4141  
email@becherkluesner.com

## Visitation

APR 27. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Holy Family Catholic Church  
950 Church Ave  
Jasper, IN

## Mass of Christian Burial

APR 27. 10:00 AM (ET)

Holy Family Catholic Church  
950 Church Ave  
Jasper, IN



# Tribute Wall



“ *Frederick J. O'Brien*

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January 01, 2023 at 10:54 AM



“ *Mr. O'Brien was my first Saturday morning basketball coach in fifth or sixth grade. He was SO knowledgeable and a great teacher. I always looked forward to practice and the games. What a great guy! I know this, too, because Mike was always such a nice, fun, and energized friend, too. Great dad. Great son. That was my experience.*

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**Joe Pfister** - May 02, 2018 at 09:31 PM



“ *I had Fred for my driver's education teacher one summer at Otwell. He was lots of fun and made us feel comfortable in the learning experience. He had his own brake on the passenger side. One day we stopped while I was driving for fast food. He was eating a burger, and he thought I was going a little too fast at one point. He said, "Linda, don't make me drop my burger and step on it when I have to apply this brake!" Lots of fun! Please accept my condolences.*

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**Linda Schnarr Thompson** - April 27, 2018 at 11:01 AM

JO

“ My name is John O'Maley. Fred O'Brien was my high school basketball coach at St. John's in Loogootee back in 1966-67. I have had many coaches in basketball as well as other sports. I was coached by Bob Knight when I played for West Point Basketball. Of all the many coaches I had, I truly admired Fred as one of my best and favorite coaches who had a profound impact on my life. He was a great strategist and tactician as a coach. But much more importantly, he was a great role model. He was honest, sincere, a great, humble Christian man and always dedicated to his players. He gave me confidence, pride, encouragement and I knew he cared about me as a person well beyond the game and the win/loss record. He made it clear that trying your very best to be a good person, a good Christian and a good student was far more important than just being a good athlete. Unfortunately, I had lost track of Fred as I had stayed in touch for many years. But I have often thought of him and thanked God for putting him in my life. I am sorry for your loss. Please know that he undoubtedly made a very positive impact on the many students he interacted with. If I have the option and choice to play for one of his teams in heaven, that would be a wonderful thing!

Sincerely,

John O'Maley

513 227 7191

johnjoy1@aol.com

Cincinnati, OH

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**JOHN OMALEY** - April 26, 2018 at 11:05 AM



“ Ed Schultheis lit a candle in memory of Frederick J. O'Brien



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**Ed Schultheis** - April 26, 2018 at 09:23 AM

LO

“ *Lorrie lit a candle in memory of Frederick J. O'Brien*



**Lorrie** - April 26, 2018 at 08:28 AM

 Keena Krieg

“ *Keena Krieg lit a candle in memory of Frederick J. O'Brien*



**Keena Krieg** - April 26, 2018 at 08:23 AM

JO

“ *JOHN O'BRIEN lit a candle in memory of Frederick J. O'Brien*



**JOHN O'BRIEN** - April 25, 2018 at 10:42 PM

JO

*My brother Fred was always a gentleman, respected by all who knew him. I love him and will miss him greatly. May he rest in peace with Gloria in heaven with the Lord.*

**JOHN O'BRIEN** - April 25, 2018 at 10:44 PM

Adrian  
Kohlman

“ *Mr. O'Brien was my gym teacher all through elementary school at Petersburg elementary school. I am saddened to hear of his passing. My thought and prayers are with his family during this time.*

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**Adrian Kohlman** - April 25, 2018 at 06:09 PM

KW

“ *We wish to send our condolences to Coach Ted O'Brien and his family and all the family's of Frederick J. O'Brien. We will keep you in our thoughts and prayers during this time of sorrow, Prayers. With sympathy Kevin & Diane Wertman*



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**Kevin & Diane Wertman** - April 25, 2018 at 01:14 PM

DC

“ *Fred O'Brien was a smart, talented, clever guy! He had a mischievous sense of humor and loved to tease! He was a wonderful co-worker during his time at Petersburg Elementary School and a dear friend! Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to each and every one of his beloved family members! You are all in our thoughts and prayers! He will always be fondly remembered by me and my family! RIP, dear Fred!*

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**Darlene Clark** - April 25, 2018 at 09:17 AM

JL

“ *Fred Fred O'Brien was a dear friend. I really enjoyed working with Fred he always had a good story to tell. Elementary gym wasn't a use of Fred's talent. He had an ability for writing as well as telling stories. Rest in Peace!*

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**Jim Loveless** - April 25, 2018 at 07:59 AM

BS

“ *Brenda Schnarr lit a candle in memory of Frederick J. O'Brien*



**Brenda Schnarr** - April 25, 2018 at 07:15 AM



“ *Christi Jenne lit a candle in memory of Frederick J. O'Brien*



**Christi Jenne** - April 24, 2018 at 10:00 PM

MS

*One of the best teachers I ever had. I learned a lot from Mr. O'Brien!*

**Melisa McBeth Scrapper** - April 25, 2018 at 01:45 PM

RC

*He was a fantastic teacher. RIP Mr O'Brien. You inspired many*

**Rachel Clark** - April 25, 2018 at 05:25 PM

CG

*GREAT MAN*

**CLAUDE GRUBB** - April 25, 2018 at 06:46 PM

SS

*Condolences to the Family Fuzz Scherle*

**steve scherle** - April 26, 2018 at 10:28 AM

RF

*I want to express my sympathy to the O'Brien family on the passing of Fred. I played basketball and ran track for Fred the last years he coached at Otwell High School. He did care about people, worked hard, and taught life lessons. I later was Fred's principal the last couple of years he taught. I saw him in a different light in this role. He was more laid back but still worked hard and cared about his students. Through the years he was always friendly and spoke fondly of his coaching days at Otwell. He and Gloria were great people and will be missed.*

*Rick Fears*

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**Rick Fears** - April 26, 2018 at 12:27 PM

KE

*Mike, Steve, Jim, Patty, and Liz,*

*So sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. Both your parents were wonderful and special people. Your Dad was my Driver's Ed teacher and Guidance Counselor at Otwell High School. He always had a great sense of humor. Most importantly, he was a kind and compassionate man. I will always remember the fun our families had on our trip to Washington, D.C. and stopping by your home to visit. I think he and Glo are now together again. Thinking of each of you and keeping you in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Kim Anderson Elliott*

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**Kim Anderson Elliott** - April 27, 2018 at 09:39 AM

BB

*Very sorry to hear this last night. I played basketball and baseball for Coach O'Brien at Lexington Catholic HS. Coach was the Guest Speaker for one of our HS Reunions and he humbly said he was not much older than my Class (10 years).*

*He is missed.*

*Bob Barnes*

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**Bob Barnes** - May 12, 2018 at 10:04 PM