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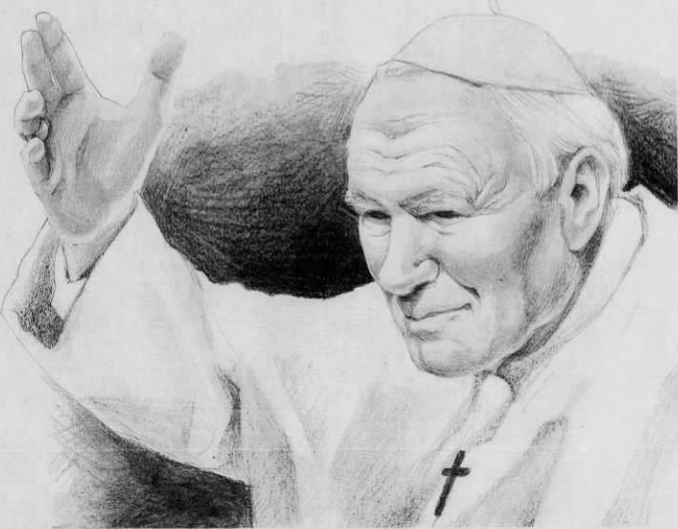
# Arizona Daily Star

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1920 ~ 2005 · 'THE PILGRIM POPE'



Lash Tuckman / Arizona Daily Star

# Pope John Paul II

## Served as an example for his flock until the end

WIRE REPORTS

**VATICAN CITY** — Pope John Paul II set an example of how to live life, a shepherd who traveled the world, battled communism and proclaimed his moral code opposing abortion, casual sex and consumerism. In his final days, crushed by sickness that slowed his vigorous gait and silenced his powerful voice, he tried to set an example of how to suffer and how to die.

As he hovered near death, his system failing, the pontiff who once skied and hiked mountains refused to go to the hospital, preferring to remain in his Vatican apartment with his closest aides at his bedside.

He died at 9:37 p.m. — 12:37 p.m. Tucson time — in his apartment three stories above St. Peter's Square, as tens of thousands of faithful gathered within sight of his window for a second night of vigils, amid millions of prayers from Roman Catholics around the world.

People wept and knelt on cobblestones as the news of his death spread across the square, bowing their heads to a man whose long and down-to-earth papacy was the only that many young Catholics around the world remembered.

For more than 19 minutes, not long after his death was announced, the largely Roman crowd simply applauded him. The applause is an Italian tradition in which mourners often clap for important figures.

Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the German prelate who is the chief guardian of church doctrine, said John Paul had been aware that he was "passing to the Lord."

John Paul had often warned against a modern world that preferred to ignore its elderly, seeing them as useless appendages of society. Many said his persistence to stay on his job — even travel — set a wonderful example for the sick and the ailing.

"The Polish pontiff who led the Roman Catholic Church for 26 years was 84. "We all feel like orphans this evening," Undersecretary of State Archbishop Leonardo

## Tucsonans remember pontiff with love

By Tom Deal

Tucson Catholics, especially those who met Pope John Paul II, remember him as a charismatic presence, an intellectual force, a champion of human rights and a man of political action who asked the fall of communism in Europe.

Mostly, they say he was a good priest whose frequent travels made Catholics around the world feel he was their pastor.

**The pope's football**

Attorney **Tin Reckart** was a graduate student at Stanford University when he flew to Rome to give the pope a football.

Carrying a football was an attention getter designed to get him close enough to actually touch the pontiff.

"To this day, it will never leave me how much at peace I was. It has been a source of great comfort," said Reckart, who was studying for his law degree and MBA in 1981 when

### SERVICES

► The Catholic Diocese of Tucson is planning three special services for Pope John Paul II.

**Today:** 2 p.m. memorial service for all Catholics, St. Augustine Cathedral, 1925 Stone Ave.

**Tuesday:** noon, special children's Mass, St. Augustine.

**Tuesday:** 8 p.m., community interfaith service, St. Augustine.

### INSIDE

► **LIFE AND LEGACY:** He hailed from humble Polish beginnings, but the pope used his position to deliver his Catholic message to the world. **A2**

► **GRIEF AND SOLACE:** Tucson Catholics converge on their churches upon hearing of the death of John Paul. **A11**


► **AN ARRAY OF CHALLENGES:** John Paul's successor will have to deal with a changing church in a changing world. **A2**

► **NOTE ON STARNET:** For complete coverage of Pope John Paul II's life and impact, visit [www.azstarnet.com/fair](http://www.azstarnet.com/fair)

### SEE JOHN PAUL, A13

### IN TODAY'S STAR

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### Weather

**TODAY'S FORECAST**

Monthly summary: High 50 / Low 53

Saturday: High 50 / Low 55

For complete weather information, see the back page of Star.

[www.azstarnet.com/weather](http://www.azstarnet.com/weather)

### Missing sections


► Because of a larger than usual press run due to the death of Pope John Paul II, some copies of today's Arizona Daily Star may not contain the usual advertising inserts, the comics or the Home and Garden sections, all of which are printed before the rest of the newspaper. If your Star is missing any of these, please call Reader Advocate Debbie Kunkel at 434-4080 after 8 a.m. Monday for replacements. You may also e-mail her at [advocate@azstarnet.com](mailto:advocate@azstarnet.com).

### Air show at D-M draws thousands

► Modern planes, vintage planes, re-enactments and a chance to hear personal stories from veterans of the war drew tens of thousands of spectators to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base. The air show is worth the drive. **Tucson/Region**

### Abu Ghraib prison attacks wound 56

► Dozens of militants fire rocket-propelled grenades and set off two car bombs at the Abu Ghraib prison outside Baghdad, wounding U.S. troops and prisoners in a 40-minute battle. The violence follows a period of declining insurgent attacks. **Page A15**



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