



Michael Kenneth McVannel

April 2, 1956 - November 24, 2023

Michael Kenneth McVannel (RET US ARMY) passed away at his home in Elfrida at the age of 67. Graveside services with full military honors will be 2:00 pm on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, at the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona in Phoenix, Arizona.

Cemetery Details

National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona

23029 N. Cave Creek Road
Phoenix, AZ 85024

Previous Events

Graveside Service

DEC 19. 2:00 PM (MT)

National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona
23029 N. Cave Creek Road
Phoenix, AZ 85024

Tribute Wall

DM

“ Today, we gather here not just to mourn the loss of a great man, but to celebrate the rich and full life that he led. As I stand here, I find myself at a loss for words to describe the profound impact that Mike had on everyone he encountered.

His adventurous spirit and chosen profession took him to the far corners of the world, where he would embrace different cultures and traditions. Through his travels, he cultivated a rich tapestry of experiences, weaving together stories that transcended borders.

He was a man of great intellect. As early as the 3rd grade, he tested at genius levels however our small-town public school had no programs to help cultivate his brilliance. He deliberately failed his 12th grade English class to prevent graduating as Valedictorian because he did not want to give a speech. Through life he was constantly seeking knowledge and understanding. His thirst for learning was insatiable, and he approached every subject with a keen and open mind.

We will navigate through this difficult time, remembering the principles that he lived by---love, compassion, and generosity. He taught us that in the face of adversity, we should stand firm, united in love and respect for one another.

I look out at the faces gathered here today, a testament to the immense impact he had on all of our lives. He touched each one of us in a unique way, leaving an indelible mark that will continue to resonate in our hearts for years to come.

As we bid farewell to this remarkable man, let us remember the lessons he imparted upon us. Let us strive to live our lives with the same grace and kindness that he exhibited every day. In his memory, let us all be a source of love and light in the world, spreading joy and compassion wherever we go.

Now as we say our final goodbyes, let us celebrate the life Mike led.

Let us remember him as he was, a strong man whose spirit soared high, touching the lives of all who were fortunate enough to know him.

To conclude, I find solace in the thought that his spirit lives on, in the love that binds us, in the memories we cherish and in all which was touched by his presence. May his soul rest in eternal peace, surrounded by the love and light that he so generously bestowed upon us all.

David McVannel - March 10, 2025 at 09:02 PM

MK

“ *Cousin Mike sends his best to the family and he remembers playing in the hayloft with Michael and the other cousins.*

Michael Klawitter - December 19, 2023 at 08:52 PM

VH

“ *Aunt Lil and cousin Viki send our condolences. He fought so hard to live. We remember him as a boy in Michigan living across the street from the McVannel dairy farm.*

Victoria Hoffman - December 16, 2023 at 06:31 PM