



## Michael Glavas

September 4, 1955 - January 8, 2022

Michael was larger than life. His energy and enthusiasm would fill the room. He loved people, and never let a person (or a dog) walk by the house without saying hello. He had the gift of always being himself and knowing what to do in any given situation, including being able to fix anything. Mike enjoyed nothing more than bringing people together for a meal or a laugh. He loved his extended family and took great pleasure in planning many gatherings with them regularly. His energetic spirit and desire to reach out drew him to volunteering at Colby's Army and being a member of the Master Gardeners and Beekeepers.

Mike was born in Evergreen Park, IL at Little Company of Mary Hospital on September 4, 1955. He was a loving son who cherished his mother, Rita, dearly all his life. His father, John, was a source of wisdom and an abundant conversationalist. He attended St. Albert's parish and thoroughly enjoyed growing up with his siblings, Matt and Jeannine, and many cousins, in Burbank, IL. His career took him to the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, where he worked with close friends as a Management Analyst. He retired after 30 years and soon moved to Pleasant View, Tennessee with his beloved wife. He truly embraced the "Southern" life sharing lively stories and an appreciation of nature with everyone he met.

Nothing brought him more love and pride than his wife, Arlene, of 32 years

and his two children, Sam and Audrey. On a given day he could be found working with his bees, tending to special plants in the greenhouse or on the phone with a treasured family member or friend. He will be greatly missed by so many who came to know him.

A celebration of his life will be held in Pleasant View, TN, TBA. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Damian Catholic Church, Oak Forest, IL, TBA.

He is survived by his wife, Arlene Glavas; son, Samuel Glavas; daughter, Audrey Glavas; mother, Rita O'Brien Glavas; brother, Matt (Mary) Glavas; sister, Jeannie Glavas-Cowell; and several nieces & nephews.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to one of the following organizations: Colby's Army in Ashland City, TN; Cheatham County Master Gardeners or Cheatham County Beekeepers.

AUSTIN & BELL FUNERAL HOME in Pleasant View assisted the family with these arrangements. 6316 Highway 41A, Pleasant View, Tennessee 37146 (615) 746-4433 [www.austinandbell.com](http://www.austinandbell.com)

# Tribute Wall

MN

“ *My deepest condolences to Mike’s wife Arlene, his children Sam and Audrey, as well as his brother Matt. I worked with Mike and Matt at the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District and it was a pleasure working with them both. Peace and blessings to the entire family.*

*Mary Nason*

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**Mary Nason** - January 22, 2022 at 08:45 PM

KS

“ *We are so very sorry to learn of Mike’s passing, our sincere condolences to all the family. Michael was a bright light that shined on all that knew and worked with him, he will be missed. Rest in peace Michael.*

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**Ken & Margaret Senderak** - January 22, 2022 at 11:22 AM

PL

“ I was deeply saddened to hear of Mike’s passing and want to express my deepest sympathy to Arlene, Audrey, and Sam as well as Rita, Matt, Jeannine and the O’Brien cousins. Although our lives took different paths with many twists and turns, Mike and I had always remained in contact at some level over the decades. Mike and I met in 5th grade at St Albert the Great School. We specifically met on the playground at recess where he had convinced me that he was actually in the 8th grade because he was taller than me. I continued to believe him until three years later, when I noticed that he was still in 8th grade and seemingly smart. He and I played piano together in 7th and 8th grade, but his talent and knowledge of classical music was far superior to mine. Along the way, we found unique ways to drive his mom Rita and his Dalmatian “ Matey” nearly insane. Mike was responsible for several “firsts” in my life. He invited me to my first-grade school party which is hosted with the help of Rita and some tasty pigs in a blanket. When I got my first car, a rickety 1965 Corvair as a teenager, Mike was a reluctant first white-knuckle passenger and copilot. A year or two later, Mike and his then girlfriend offered to double date when I met a girl that I wanted to impress. Along the way, Mike felt he cornered the market on Croatian culture by introducing me to lots of relatives and eastern European treats with his dad at Yugoslav Grove on Chicago’s southwest side. As a youth his was very proud of that part of his ancestry and made sure that everyone knew about it. Each of us is unknowingly responsible for a happy moment in someone’s life. I hope that Mike knew that he was responsible for many of mine. You will be missed, Mike. Rest peacefully.

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Phillip Lach - January 18, 2022 at 12:44 PM

BL

“ 6 files added to the album Michael Memories



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**Bonnie Lipsky** - January 16, 2022 at 03:52 PM

BH

“ Sooo sorry to hear about Mike's passing...thoughts and prayers for his entire family!



*As kids growing up, Mike enlisted me many times to lend a hand during snowball fights against the O'Briens...an endeavor for which we were forever undermanned!*

*Great to see how many hearts he touched along the way.*

*Concentrating on the good times shared with Mike always helps ease the pain...RIP.*

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**Bill Herman** - January 13, 2022 at 10:56 PM

DW

“ I still find it almost impossible to believe. That someone so full of life and so young, is gone. I knew Mike for many years. First at the MWRD, and then as a valued coworker and good friend.

We often played racquetball together after work with his friends Pete & Omar. On occasion we enjoyed dinner together with Arlene & Ingrid at Emilios.. Mike introduced us to one of our favorite spots in the city - Pegasus on Halsted St. Pete played in the band there, outside on the rooftop in the summer, overlooking the back of the skyline. I have fond memories visiting with Mike, Matt and their Dad in Ft Myers Beach.

I will miss him dearly, Don Wunderlich

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**Donald Wunderlich** - January 13, 2022 at 04:38 PM

DN

“ Mike was funny, welcoming, engaging, and a good teacher. He was a long time friend of my cousins, and as such we were often at the same parties. For a time, we were also coworkers. His laughter was always genuine, and contagious. I was looking forward to collecting honey... so unbelievable...



My deepest sympathies to Arlene, Audrey and Sam, and his entire, heartbroken family.

Deb

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**Deb Novotny** - January 13, 2022 at 12:56 AM

PB

“ MIKE, YOU WILL BE MISSED BY ALL OF US. RIP GRAT HUMAN BEING!!

PRAKASH BHATT

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PRAKASH BHATT - January 12, 2022 at 05:27 PM

JC

“ Too soon the gardener left his bouquet of flowers and now, the world can understand his garden. Rest in Peace Mike.

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Joe Calvillo - January 12, 2022 at 02:08 PM

MB

“ That contagious smile! You can not forget. Rest in Peace Mike.

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M Usman Baki - January 12, 2022 at 01:28 PM

TC

“ My deepest condolences to the entire Glavas Family on the loss of Mike. I met him at Lewis University and shared many good times with him. Mike had a great sense of humor and I remember he had a fondness for peanut butter, during his college years. A great guy who will be missed by all. RIP, Mike, I'll see you on the other side!

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Tom Cronin - January 12, 2022 at 11:40 AM

FG

“ Mike was one of the good ones, no, the best. He was the ultimate big brother, always available to help with his own brand of excellent advice. I grew through the District with Mike and there are a few major pillars in my life that I can thank him for. He had that positive selfless quality that will remain in the spirit of all those he touched. My heart reaches out to his wonderful family for their loss. I am shocked but I know that Mike can Rest In Peace with his influence living on.

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**Frank Gaweda** - January 12, 2022 at 10:29 AM

EM

“ Our deepest sympathies for your family. Mike was such a pillar of strength—he will be missed and our thoughts are with you.



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**Emily** - January 11, 2022 at 11:00 PM

KB

“ Michael was such an inspiration and so supportive of newbie Master Gardeners like me. He had an easy way about him and immense knowledge about gardening, which he shared enthusiastically. He loved everybody and shared himself generously. I will miss him a lot. Sincere condolences to his wife, Arlene, and family.

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**Kim Baldinger** - January 11, 2022 at 08:30 PM

LI

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Lisa** - January 11, 2022 at 08:22 PM