



## Michael Thomas Utke

November 15, 1943 - July 14, 2022

Age 78 of White House passed away Thursday, July 14, 2022 at The Residence of Alive Hospice. He was born November 15, 1943 in San Jose, CA to Harold and Ruth Gannon Utke. He worked as an administrator for Lockheed Martin before his retirement. Mr. Utke proudly served his country in the U.S. Army in Korea. He was of the Catholic faith and a member of Most Holy Trinity Church. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Shirley Sue Christian Utke; daughter, Melissa Utke; 1 brother; 1 sister. He is survived by daughters, Rebekah (Steven) Morris, White House, TN and Denise Utke, California; 2 sisters, both in OR; 3 grandchildren, Tyler Morris, Makaila Morris and Madison Morris. A graveside service is scheduled for Monday, July 18, 2022 at 1pm at Middle Tennessee Veteran's Cemetery with military honors and with Bro. Bob Snodgrass officiating. There is no public visitation planned. ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO AUSTIN & BELL 533 Highway 76 White House, TN 37188 (615)672-5000 [www.austinandbell.com](http://www.austinandbell.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Middle Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery

7931 McCrory Ln  
Nashville, TN 37221-5704  
(615) 532-2238

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

JUL 18. 1:00 PM (CT)

Middle TN Veteran Cemetery  
McCrory Lane  
Nashville, TN 37221

# Tribute Wall

RM

“ Thank you to "Aaron c/o 02 & Alyssa Ramulla c/o 07", "Joan, Gabriella, and Nicolas Benitez", "The Alcantara family", "Arisa and Adrian Resquer". The floral arrangements are beautiful and so thoughtful. Really brought a big smile and heart warming when I entered the funeral home and saw them. THANK YOU, Rebekah Utke Morris

Rebekah Utke Morris - July 24, 2022 at 04:19 PM



“ Mr.Utke was my teacher for 2 years at Most Holy Trinity. He was innovative & I remember his "blue and red star" system to motivate students. I have been an educator for over 10 years, and his patience & spirit have inspired my beliefs & teaching styles. I want his spirit to live on <3

Rebekah Sousae Furnal - July 21, 2022 at 09:23 AM

RM

Thank you for sharing.

Rebekah Utke Morris - July 24, 2022 at 04:04 PM

AE

“ Mr.Utke was such a pasionate and caring teacher. I had the pleasure of being one of his students during my middle school years at MHT. He would always encourage us to do better and BE better students. Always so kind hearted and always believed in us! Thank you for everything you've taught us throughout the years. Praying for your family and may you rest in peace knowing you made a difference in so many lives.



Alaina Estioko - July 18, 2022 at 02:20 PM

RM

*Thank you for sharing.*

Rebekah Utke Morris - July 19, 2022 at 11:41 PM

SH

“ Mike gave me my first job in spirit softball. I worked for years as an umpire and played ball. He was dedicated and kept spirit running smooth. RIP

shaelyn - July 18, 2022 at 12:56 PM

RM

*Thank you for sharing this memory.*

Rebekah Utke Morris - July 18, 2022 at 01:34 PM

EG

“ One of the best/coolest teachers I had as a kid growing up. I wasn't the best student but he never gave up on me or any of my other classmates. His knowledge and words of encouragement always helped me through hard times. He inspired me to be a better person. I will never forget his positive attitude and the love he had for his students iam forever grateful Thank you Mr Utke may you rest in paradise.

Eric gomez - July 17, 2022 at 10:19 PM

RM

*Thank you for sharing. He loved teaching.*

Rebekah Utke Morris - July 18, 2022 at 01:30 AM

IG

“ *My condolences go out to the Utke family. Mr Utke was and will always be one of the best teacher's I have had. I was lucky to have had him as a teacher for two years at MHT some great memories that will not be forgotten. Thank you for all your teachings and words of wisdom. May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face. May the rains fall soft upon your fields, and until we meet again. May God hold you in the palm of his hand. May you rest with the angels.*

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**Ismael G** - July 17, 2022 at 08:27 PM

RM

*Thank you for sharing. He loved being a teacher.*

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**Rebekah Utke Morris** - July 18, 2022 at 01:31 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Mike Utke*



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**Patrick Gannon** - July 17, 2022 at 06:46 PM



*When our family lived in Portland, OR in 1955-56, we would visit the Utkes who lived south of Portland. When Mike had his red Mustang in 1963 while in the US Army, he was assigned to an Army recruitment unit that toured state fairs. So, Mike "parked" his Mustang with my Dad for a few months, and let my brother Tom III & I drive Mike's Mustang; to keep it from getting "dusty". We loved to visit with Mike, Shirley and their daughters as they were growing up in San Jose & San Martin, CA.*

*Mike was such a loving grandson to take care of his Granny G in Santa Clara in so supportive ways.*

*Our deepest condolences to my cousin Mike's sisters, and his daughters Denise and Rebekah & their extended family.*

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**Patrick Gannon** - July 17, 2022 at 07:01 PM

IG

*Thank you for posting this picture. I finally get to see a picture of the car we would talk about so much. 🐶*

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**Ismael G** - July 17, 2022 at 08:40 PM

RM

*Thank you for sharing. He spoke of you all often throughout the years. He loved that car!*

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**Rebekah Utke Morris** - July 18, 2022 at 01:32 AM

AR

“ *My fondest memories of my childhood were spent in Mr. Utke's classroom. I wasn't the type to excel in school, always had average grades, wasn't ambitious at the time, but in his eyes, he never forgot to tell me how proud he was of me. He was with me during my years of running for student council, prepped me for high school entrance exams, and even checked in on me as an adult pursuing my nursing degree. He has made such a huge impact on my life and I'm so grateful to have had a teacher who inspired me to be more than I could ever imagine. I know he would be proud of the person I became and I'm grateful for the time he spent with me at MHT. You will be greatly missed Mr. Utke. Rest In Peace.*

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**Arisa Resquer** - July 17, 2022 at 06:31 PM

RM

*Thank you for sharing this. He loved teaching. I am a nurse as well. Glad he was a pivotal role model to help you pursue your career.*

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**Rebekah Utke Morris** - July 18, 2022 at 01:34 AM

RM

*Thank you for the beautiful floral arrangement that was sent for my father's funeral.*

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**Rebekah Utke Morris** - July 24, 2022 at 04:09 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael Thomas Utke.*



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July 17, 2022 at 06:22 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Michael Thomas Utke.*



July 17, 2022 at 05:50 PM



“ *As someone that has pursued higher education, encountering a wide variety of teachers and professors, Mr. Utke still stands out as the best teacher I've ever had. I used to be a class clown, not too serious about school, but had high ambitions to be a somebody. Not only was Mr. Utke always full of positive words and affirmations, he genuinely came off as someone that was proud of all the kids he taught. My only regret is that I never had a chance to check in with him now as an adult to let him know how much he inspired me to continue reaching beyond what people generally think possible for a child of East San Jose. He'll be sorely missed, but always remembered with great gratitude. Rest in power Mr. Utke.*

**Kyle Ong** - July 17, 2022 at 03:29 PM



*Thank you for sharing this. So, nice to read the impact he had. He loved teaching.*

**Rebekah Utke Morris** - July 18, 2022 at 01:36 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael Thomas Utke.*



July 17, 2022 at 03:11 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michael Thomas Utke.



July 17, 2022 at 03:07 PM



“ This was the best teacher my daughter had at Most holy trinity . Mr Utke was very loved by students and parents. He will be in our hearts forever. Rest In Peace are Angel



Michelle Alcantara - July 17, 2022 at 03:05 PM



RIP Mike you will be missed. Lee and Jo Jo send our love to all.

Lee and Jo Jo - July 17, 2022 at 05:03 PM



RIP Mike you will be missed.. Lee and Jo Jo send our love to all

Lee and Jo Jo - July 17, 2022 at 05:05 PM



Thank you for sharing. The parents at MHT were so good to my father. You all treated him like family.

Rebekah Utke Morris - July 18, 2022 at 01:37 AM



Thank you for the beautiful floral arrangement that was sent for my father's funeral.

Rebekah Utke Morris - July 24, 2022 at 04:10 PM

BW

“ *Mr. Utke was one of the best teachers I've ever had. He went above and beyond for me and my classmates and we were lucky enough to have him for both 7th and 8th grade. He made a huge impact on a lot of our lives and I am grateful to have met him. May he Rest In Peace. Sending love and prayers to his family.*

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**Bianca Alcantara Wanless** - July 17, 2022 at 03:01 PM

IG

*Yes, he was the best #1*

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**Ismael G** - July 17, 2022 at 08:41 PM

BW

*We were so lucky to be able to have him for two years! I hope you're doing well.*

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**Bianca Alcantara Wanless** - July 17, 2022 at 11:05 PM

RM

*Thank you for sharing.*

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**Rebekah Utke Morris** - July 18, 2022 at 01:38 AM