



J. Michael "Mike" Burkholder

June 11, 2017

Friends of Mike with Classic/Custom Cars are encouraged to bring them Saturday to his funeral Service.

J. Michael "Mike" Burkholder, 52, of Lancaster, PA, died suddenly at the Lancaster General Hospital on Sunday, June 11, 2017. He was born in Lancaster, the son of Evelyn L. (Kline) Burkholder and the late John E. Burkholder.

He was a car enthusiast his entire life and enjoyed restoring muscle cars down to the minutest detail earning awards for his dedication to detail.

Burkholder's Quality Cars, a family business, was started by his father and grandfather in 1958. Mike took over the family business after the sudden death of his father in 1997 continuing the same high standard of quality business practice. He was loved and admired by many; he was generous with his time and resources with his family, friends and the community. He was an active member of Lampeter Church of the Brethren where he was honored to host Coffee & Donuts, and a lifetime member of AACA showing cars at AACA Car Meets.

Mike will be lovingly missed by his mother; his sisters, Cindy L. married to William Burkhart and Carol B. married to Terry Shearer; and loving uncle and

friend to nephews, Philip Burkhart, Chris Burkhart and niece, Sarah Shearer.

Family and friends are invited to Mike's Funeral Service at the Lampeter Church of the Brethren, 1900 Lampeter Rd., Lancaster PA on Saturday, June 17, 2017 at 10:00AM. Viewing will be Friday, June 16, 2017 at The Groffs Family Funeral Home, 528 W. Orange Street, Lancaster from 6-8:00PM and again on Saturday at the church from 9-10:00AM until time of service. Burial will be in Willow Street United Church of Christ Cemetery.

Donations in Mike's name can be made to the Lampeter Church of the Brethren, P. O. Box 38, Lampeter, PA 17537-0038; or Water Street Mission, 210 S. Prince Street, Lancaster, PA 17603; or COBYS, 1417 Oregon Road, Leola, PA 17540.

Previous Events

Viewing

JUN **16**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

The Groff's Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc
528 W Orange St.
Lancaster, PA 17603
(717) 394-5300
admin@thegroffs.com
<https://thegroffs.com/>

Visitation

JUN **17**. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Lampeter Church of the Brethren
1900 Lampeter Road
Lancaster, PA 17602

Service

JUN **17**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Lampeter Church of the Brethren
1900 Lampeter Road
Lancaster, PA 17602

Tribute Wall



“ *The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of J. Michael "Mike" Burkholder*



The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc - June 15, 2017 at 03:55 PM

RM

Beautiful Memories! You are all in my thoughts and prayers. May God Bless and comfort you during this difficult time!

Ruth Ann McCord - June 16, 2017 at 07:27 PM



“ *J. Michael "Mike" Burkholder*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM

RM

“ *Ruth Ann McCord lit a candle in memory of J. Michael "Mike" Burkholder*



Ruth Ann McCord - June 16, 2017 at 07:24 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of J. Michael "Mike" Burkholder.*



June 16, 2017 at 10:29 AM



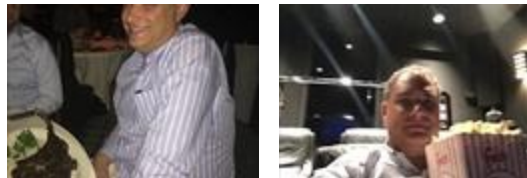
“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of J. Michael "Mike" Burkholder.*



June 16, 2017 at 08:32 AM



“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



Jonathan Wiley - June 16, 2017 at 06:35 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of J. Michael "Mike" Burkholder.*



June 15, 2017 at 10:55 PM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of J. Michael "Mike" Burkholder.*



June 15, 2017 at 09:32 PM



“ *0 file added to the tribute wall*

Linda and David Byers - June 15, 2017 at 08:55 PM



“ *a real car guy.always seen him at the Carlisle events and always smiling.he will be missed by all .*


john smulligan north east chevelle - June 15, 2017 at 08:59 AM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Pete Frederick - June 15, 2017 at 06:24 AM

 Jared Weaver

“ I only knew Mike for a short time. However, it only took that short time to know he was a genuine and great person. You don't meet very many great people in the auto industry. He was one of them. I will miss his honesty and integrity. My thoughts and prayers are with his family during this difficult time. You will be missed.

Jared Weaver

Jared Weaver - June 14, 2017 at 10:00 PM

CB

“ My deepest sympathy to Mike's family. I along with many others purchased a car from him, and he was so very wonderful to deal with. I will miss him! Cindy Bertz

Cindy Bertz - June 14, 2017 at 05:04 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of J. Michael "Mike" Burkholder.



June 14, 2017 at 03:18 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of J. Michael "Mike" Burkholder.



June 14, 2017 at 12:31 PM

CB

“ Chris and Kelly Burkhart purchased the A New Sunrise Spray for the family of J. Michael "Mike" Burkholder.



Chris and Kelly Burkhart - June 14, 2017 at 11:07 AM

VS

“ I am deeply saddened to learn of Mike's passing. I got to know Mike through our hobby and always enjoyed talking with him. I will miss our chats. My deepest sympathy to Mike's family. RIP friend.

C. Victor Schreck

Vic Schreck - June 14, 2017 at 07:31 AM

TC

Mike was a friend to all and will be deeply missed by his church family. The Coopers

The Coopers - June 14, 2017 at 02:15 PM

CG

“ The community has lost a wonderful man. I will cherish all of my fond memories with Mike over the last 30 years. Everything from concerts, car shows and picnics. Not to mention all of the vehicles that I have purchased from him. If Mike's heart wasn't healthy, it certainly was huge. Rest in peace my friend.

Christopher Gibson - June 14, 2017 at 07:13 AM

DH

“ I was devastated to hear about Michael passing away. I have never known a kinder, more generous soul. Michael was an artist, of sorts. His artistry was evident in the cars he restored, the decor of his home and his sense of fashion. I would use the words ' one of a kind' to describe him. He was unconcerned about fitting in with the norm, which was a trait that I admired.

I loved the ridiculousness of his arguments for not eating vegetables....like, "I don't do green." Or, I can't eat that poor carrot that someone killed." His sense of humor was one of many things that's I appreciated about him.

He was a highly intelligent man, yet he was deeply introspective. He gently cared for the hearts of those closest to him. He helped me through a very difficult time in my life when we were in our 20's, and I will be-forever-grateful to him for that. His genuine love for his family was another important part of the amazing man that we all loved.

Michael's deep faith (and mine) allows me to be glad for him, as I know he is now eternally watching over us. But, I am deeply sad for all of the people he leaves behind. An irreplaceable light has gone out for us. The world will not be the same.

Fly with the angels, Michael. I hope that I see you again.

Doreen Hershey

Doreen Hershey - June 14, 2017 at 06:44 AM

MC

“ What a nice guy. I will miss seeing him at Carlisle. He would always stop and visit us during the Corvette show. Also will miss seeing him at the car show at Burkholders. My deepest sympathies to his family.

Michelle Colon - June 14, 2017 at 05:13 AM

DB

“ *Darla Blaauw lit a candle in memory of J. Michael "Mike" Burkholder*



Darla Blaauw - June 14, 2017 at 04:19 AM

DB

So sorry to hear this !! Prayers to the family and friends at this difficult time . Thinking of you in this time of sorrow.

Darla Blaauw - June 14, 2017 at 04:21 AM

LK

With deepest sympathy. May you find strength at this difficult time. Thinking of you. Jim and Lucy Kalenich

Lucy Kalenich - June 14, 2017 at 06:56 AM

JB

I was surprised and shocked to learn of Mike's passing yesterday from a mutual friend in the old car hobby. I had the privilege of meeting Mike a year ago when I was asked to appraise several of his wonderful muscle cars. I've gotten to know him a bit more over the past year through our mutual connections and events at the Antique Automobile Club of American Museum in Hershey that he attended. Every interaction with Mike was pleasant and rewarding. His knowledge was vast and his enthusiasm contagious. He will be missed. My condolences to his family and friends.

Jeffrey Bliemeister, Executive Director - AACA Museum, Inc.

Jeffrey Bliemeister - June 14, 2017 at 02:29 PM

RW

I'll never forget the tribute Mike gave at his Dad's funeral. John would be proud of the way Mike continued his legacy with the auto business and as a man of integrity and a caring spirit. Life is a gift and Mike lived it well. Prayers for the family during this difficult time. Randy Witman

Randy Witman - June 16, 2017 at 06:44 AM

CP

So sad to hear of Mike's passing, we have known him for 20+ years buying 6 cars from him and always getting excellent vehicles and customer service! He was a honest man and just fun to stop in and ask any question we would laugh and joke a lot, we will miss him deeply, thoughts and prayers to everyone who knew him! Jeff and Cindy Patton

Cindy Patton - June 17, 2017 at 02:27 PM

JM

I can hardly think of Mike without thinking of cars too. My first memories of Mike are of when both of us were small kids running around the cars at antique car runs, either Red Rose or Hershey Region events, Mike with Cindy, Carol, and his parents, and me with my family. We both grew up to be motorheads, Mike became the Car Guy's Car Guy. I don't think I've ever met a more -serious- muscle car restorer/collector, the dedication to perfection in everything he did is breathtaking. Mike's quick easy smile and gentle ways made it easy to be his friend, his authenticity and integrity made me proud to be able to say he was my friend.

Mike, you left way too soon, the world is a lesser place for your leaving. I'm going to miss you, a lot, just like I miss your dad. But I know where you are now, save a parking place for me, OK?

John Magee - June 18, 2017 at 09:29 AM

MR

One of the few times in my life that I have felt stunned. After many years of doing business with his father and then with Mike, I can not think of anyone in this business that had more integrity than Mike. It had been I while since I had seen Mike & was reaching out to him concerning the value of a 2007 Pontiac that I knew Mike would be the expert on & now I am lost of words.

My deepest sympathy to his family & if the world had more Mike Burkholders in it, heaven would be on earth.

*Mark Ruggeri
Ruggeri Cadillac*

MARK RUGGERI - November 17, 2018 at 02:49 PM