



Michael J. Bengelink

August 23, 1948 - July 15, 2022

Michael J. Bengelink, age 73, of Cadillac, passed away July 15, 2022, at his home in Cadillac. Michael was born August 23, 1948, in Toppenish, Washington, to Bernard and Ruby (Hansen) Bengelink. Soon after Michael was born in Washington State, the family moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he graduated from South High in 1966, and continued his education, attending Grand Rapids Community College.

In 1977, Michael's career in the Corrugated Industry brought him to Cadillac where he met Sandra (Toepp), and they married on July 5, 1980.

Michael started his career in the Corrugated Industry in 1969, as a Design Trainee before moving into a full-time role as a Packaging Designer. In 1973, his desire to become a Sales Representative moved him to Kalamazoo where his sales career began. Michael retired from Pratt Industries in 2011; however he continued to be involved in the Corrugated Industry until the day of his death. For over 50 years, Michael had a deep passion for his profession where his success was well respected across the industry.

In 1972, Michael started his martial arts career in Korean Tang Soo Do Karate, in Grand Rapids. While he progressed through the ranks, his skill set advanced to the tournament circuit across the country. In 1976, he earned his first degree black belt and in 2011, was presented his second degree black

belt certificate. Michael served as an instructor for the Karate Institute of Michigan and the United States Korean Karate Association, teaching hundreds of students the art of Korean martial arts. In addition, he endured many other hobbies throughout his life where deep friendships were formed. He was an avid golfer, sportsman, and woodworker, however his greatest hobby was watching his children and grandchildren's sporting events and activities.

Michael had a love for the Cadillac community where he served in many political capacities, beginning in 1980, until his death where he served as Vice Chairman of the Wexford County Board of Commissioners.

Michael was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and brother. His larger than life personality and ability to connect with people through his laughter, integrity, and love has created a large hole that will be deeply missed.

Michael is survived by his wife, Sandra, and three children: Brandon of Cadillac, Tamra (Darron) of West Linn, Oregon, and Patrick (Erin) of Ann Arbor, and seven grandchildren: Rae-Anna, Bryce, Olivia, Dylan, Noa, Jack, and Ellora. He is also survived by his brother, Rick. He was preceded in death by his father and mother, Bernard and Ruby Bengelink.

A visitation will be held on Thursday, August 18, 2022, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Fox Hill Event Center in Cadillac. There will be a Memorial Celebration immediately following the visitation, with a special tribute to Michael at 1:30 pm.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to the Wexford County Treasurer's Office (re.) The Wexford County Veterans Memorial Wall Project (437 E Division St. Cadillac, MI, 49601). An online guestbook is available at www.petersonfh.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **18**. 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM (ET)

Fox Hill Event Center
7640 Mackinaw Trail
Cadillac, MI 49601

Memorial Celebration

AUG **18**. 1:30 PM (ET)

Fox Hill Event Center
7640 Mackinaw Trail
Cadillac, MI 49601

Tribute Wall

EB

“ In 1971-72 Mike was the advisor for our group at Jr. achievement in Grand Rapids. Then next year he had me back as the first and only High school advisor to the group. I will always remember when Mike took me to the Cottage bar for a beer on my 18th birthday. I had not seen him since 1982 when he stopped by Zales jewelers in Grand Rapids, but he was always a good guy.

ed blakely - September 08, 2022 at 06:55 PM

RD

“ Wish I could be there. Mike will be well missed. He was a very pleasant man to be around God will take good care of the man he created. my prayers for him and all of his friends and family. A true loss



Renee Dahlstrom - August 18, 2022 at 12:11 PM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Michael J. Bengelink.



August 17, 2022 at 09:59 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Michael J. Bengelink.*



August 16, 2022 at 11:22 AM



“ *Bill, Marcia. Katie, Matt, and Lisa purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Michael J. Bengelink.*



Bill, Marcia. Katie, Matt, and Lisa - August 14, 2022 at 10:45 AM



“ *Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of Michael J. Bengelink.*



August 05, 2022 at 10:10 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Hobbies*



Dan O'Riley - August 02, 2022 at 07:44 PM

DO

Mike was an Auxillary Deputy with WCSD and played Softball on The Chiorboys with other Area Officers!

Dan O'Riley - August 02, 2022 at 07:50 PM

DO

RIP my Friend!

Dan O'Riley - August 02, 2022 at 07:51 PM

KP

My sincere condolences to your family.

Kathy E Parsons - August 10, 2022 at 04:33 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Michael J. Bengelink.*



August 02, 2022 at 08:57 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michael J. Bengelink.*



August 02, 2022 at 08:53 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Michael J. Bengelink.*



August 02, 2022 at 08:41 AM



“ *So sorry for your loss! Prayers to your family*
🙏



Linda Vranish - July 26, 2022 at 07:12 AM



“ *Golfed with Mike and went on a trip or two with he and Sandy but the memory of him that will always be very vivid in my head is how he would greet me when he would see me. He would smile a big smile, reach out that big paw of his, grab my hand and pull me into him and slap me so hard on the back that sometimes I thought his hand was going to go right through me! When you were hugged by Mike, you knew you had been hugged. You will be missed my friend!*

Mark Tanner - July 25, 2022 at 04:58 PM

JL

“ The community has been shocked and saddened by Michael’s sudden death. He was certainly a fine example of the word SERVICE. Many great memories were made with friends and associates. Sandy, may our Lord comfort you and keep you close as we remember and pray for the tragic loss you experienced.

Jerry & Diane Leavell - July 22, 2022 at 02:06 PM



“ [Memorial Trees](https://www.petersonfh.com/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of Michael J. Bengelink.

July 22, 2022 at 11:05 AM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Michael J. Bengelink.



July 22, 2022 at 10:53 AM

(J)

“ I am sorry 😞 Aunt Sandy for your beautiful loss. Uncle Mike is already missed a lot. All of us down here in Midland GA are thinking 🤔 of all of y’all and we are extremely sadden for all of your loss. Sandra AKA (Nonnie) and Steve are always praying 🙏 and thinking about y’all. Hugs and kisses 🤗 🤔 🤗 🤔 🤗 🙏 🙏 🙏 🙏



(Nonnie) Sandra and Steve Jones - July 22, 2022 at 09:15 AM

(J)



(Nonnie) Sandra and Steve Jones - July 22, 2022 at 09:18 AM

DH

Sandy I was so sad to hear of Mikes passing 😞. He will be missed by you and your family and so many friends. I always enjoyed being around Mike and was a pleasure to be friends of you both ❤️ My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family ❤️ 🙏

Dianna Haines - July 29, 2022 at 01:43 PM