



## Michael S. Dolack

June 12, 1938 - April 29, 2025

Michael Dolack of Cadillac passed away Tuesday, April 29, 2025 at home. He was 86.

Michael was born June 12, 1938 in Chicago, Illinois to Michael J. and Rose (Dojack) Dolack. He graduated from Stephenson High School in 1956 and continued on to attend DePaul University and Alexlian Brothers School, graduated in 1959. He then went on to graduated from LaCross, Wisconsin, St. Frances Hospital School of Anesthesia. Michael then came to Cadillac Mercy Hospital Anesthesia Department, retiring after 40 years.

Michael was active in many activities: CASA football and baseball coaching, St. Ann Elementary School basketball for 25 years, football "Chain Gang" for 45 years and many Santa and St. Nicholas visits. He once played racquetball for 24 hours straight for a fundraiser for a friend with cancer. He was in the St. Ann Catholic Church choir, Eucharistic Minister, Lector and Mentor for many years. Michael also served as a board member for the Wexford Community Credit Union, Cadillac Housing Commission and volunteered to do medical missions "Back Woods" once for three weeks in Brazil.

On November 26, 1960 he married Sandra Marie Curry and she survives him along with their children: Diane Brown, Kathleen Townsend, Mickey (Sherri) Dolack; 11 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren and several nieces and

nephews.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Richard Dolack.

The Mass of Christian Burial will take place, 11:00 AM, Thursday, May 8, 2025 at St. Ann Catholic Church in Cadillac with Rev. Fr. Michael Janowski as celebrant. Friends may meet the family 10:00 to 11:00 AM prior to the service at church. Burial will take place at Mount Carmel Cemetery in Cadillac.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation. An online guestbook is available at [www.petersonfh.com](http://www.petersonfh.com).

# Previous Events

## Mass of Christian Burial

MAY 8. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Ann Catholic Church  
800 W 13th St  
Cadillac, MI 49601-9281  
(231) 775-2471

# Tribute Wall

SA

“ *First ever surgery in 1993, Mike was my beacon of trust and hope with his kindness and support. Mike was kind supportive and compassionate. He supported me through the entire process, like a guiding light.*

Steve Anderson - July 06, 2025 at 02:19 AM

DC

“ *So sorry to learn of Mike's passing. My condolences to Sandy and family.*

Debra Ehster Carmody - May 16, 2025 at 10:15 AM

SB

“ *Mike was a trusted colleague and a gentleman. The best memory of him, however, was when he visited my grandson's as Santa Claus. Though they were young, they still remember him coming to the house. I'm sure they will tell those stories to their grandchildren and Mike's legacy will live on.*

Susan Betts-Barbus - May 06, 2025 at 03:44 PM

FB

“ *From Cole and Alexis Brown purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Michael S. Dolack.*



From Cole and Alexis Brown - May 06, 2025 at 12:47 PM

FB

“ From Cole and Alexis Brown planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael S. Dolack.

From Cole and Alexis Brown - May 06, 2025 at 12:47 PM

JB

“ Here is the link to livestream the funeral on Thursday at 11am EST Live on YouTube: <https://youtube.com/live/h-c2Y5mDFuA?feature=shared>

Jamie Berman - May 06, 2025 at 12:05 PM

SC

“ Boy where to begin. Mike, Sandy, Diane, Kathy, and Mickey were like family back in the day. Endless hours in the pool, Mr. Dolack pushing us around on the basketball court betting on Dairy Queen, and you were even there when I got my tonsils out back in the late 70's.

You were a great Father, Coach, and friend. It's with a heavy heart writing this and my love, hugs, and prayers are with you all the kids and family. Thank you for all the memories. Surely not forgotten. This is an old St. Anns basketball team photo. Mickey and myself are in the middle.

God Bless  
Sean Cook



Sean Cook - May 06, 2025 at 10:25 AM

RD

“ Robert D. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael S. Dolack.

Robert D. - May 06, 2025 at 09:46 AM

BF

“ Becky VanAlst, Matt VanAlst and family. purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Michael S. Dolack.



Becky VanAlst, Matt VanAlst and family. - May 04, 2025 at 05:22 PM

BF

“ Becky VanAlst, Matt VanAlst and family. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael S. Dolack.

Becky VanAlst, Matt VanAlst and family. - May 04, 2025 at 05:22 PM

RS

“ Rita Shankel lit a candle in memory of Michael S. Dolack



Rita Shankel - May 04, 2025 at 02:12 PM

LJ

“ Many summers were spent at Mike and Sandys house. Watching the girls (before Mickey came along) and basically being a live in nanny was a joy! As well as, swimming and having meals by the pool. We always looked at your family as our family! At a concert in July he dressed up as Santa in shorts and gave out candy canes - so funny!! Mike had so many stories to tell.... I loved how he took pictures all the time! And when someone took a picture of him he would grab a picture of Jesus or Mary to be in the picture with him!! Treasures to remember and share now. His faith is what stands out the most to us! His strong faith in God, His Blessed Mother, Mary and all the Saints and Angels was truly amazing!! He will be dearly missed! You have our heartfelt sympathy and prayers at this difficult time! We love you all, Dave and Lisa Jacobsen

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**Lisa Jacobsen** - May 03, 2025 at 04:37 PM

MZ

“ I have fond memories of going to Aunt Sandy and Uncle Mickey's house and swimming for hours. I will never forget my dad and Mickey sticking their thumbs in my dad's birthday cake at my dad's 80th party. My condolences to his family and my wishes for happy memories to fill your hearts.

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**Matthew Zender** - May 03, 2025 at 12:54 PM

LS

“ Our love and condolences to Sandy and family. We have many fond memories from living in the neighborhood in our early years and our years at St Anns together as well magical Santa visits. Mike will be missed by his many friends on earth and greeted by his many friends in heaven! Sending love to the family, Linda and Lori Jesweak and families

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**Linda Sayfie** - May 01, 2025 at 10:54 PM

DJ

“ Dave and Lisa Jacobson purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Michael S. Dolack.



Dave and Lisa Jacobson - May 01, 2025 at 02:25 PM

AN

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Ann - May 01, 2025 at 12:27 PM

AN

Pretty sure Mr Dolack crashed our reunion that year, AND, wanted to use our photo frame for a quick pic ❤️❤️

Ann - May 01, 2025 at 12:27 PM

PH

Climbed the steps that Jesus walked with Mike in Rome. He's also my Birthday Twin. I will miss you, Mike. ☐❤️🙏

Patricia Hillard - May 01, 2025 at 01:53 PM



I am sorry! He's my hat man! Wow! Bless all!

Carin Papenfuss Lopez - May 02, 2025 at 05:34 PM

AC

“ I had the privilege to meet Mike thru various adventures, mostly sporting, but also other settings. He was certainly one of the nicest people I have ever known. Having participated with him running and basketball, I admired his competitive spirit and joy in the activities. He had a real positive impact on my adjustment to the Cadillac community. I am sorry to hear of his passing.

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**Antton Colasacco** - May 01, 2025 at 11:32 AM

HL

“ I have no doubt that the St. Ann's family will provide Mike with a great sendoff. He was such an important part of parish and community life. Thanks to the Dolack family for sharing him with us for so many years. I like to think that he and Fr. Thome will have a great reunion. We will hold him and the family in our prayers.

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**Helen Mackey Lehman** - May 01, 2025 at 11:20 AM

VA

“ To the Dolack family I send my condolences and prayers. I lived across the street from the Dolacks about 50 years ago when I was in 3rd / 4th grade. Yes I was very young but have never ever forgotten Mr. Dolack (Mike). I was friends with Mickey, Kathy and Diane and spent a lot of time at their house. Mike and Sandy always treated me like I was one of their kids. Many memories but two things about Mike I will never forget are the car rides thru the neighborhood when Mike would let Mickey and I ride around in the trunk of the gold Pontiac. He never took us further than around the block so we were always "safe." The other is the day we kids were in the swimming pool listening to local radio when they announced that Victor Alessandra had correctly answered the trivia question and won 4 tickets to see the Tigers play the Red Sox at Tigers Stadium. He had called in and answered the trivia question correctly but gave the DJ my name. I had no clue and as an 8 year old to hear your name called over the radio was something else. Not only that but he took Kathy, Mickey and I to the game to see Mark Fidrych pitch his rookie season. First Major League Baseball game I ever went to and Mike took me. We will see you again on the other side Mike. Till then RIP my friend.

- Victor Alessandra

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**Victor Alessandra** - May 01, 2025 at 10:47 AM

PS

*I worked with Michael in the OR in the early 70s. His personality.*

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**Paula Woods (Van Soest)** - May 01, 2025 at 12:02 PM

BJ

*I love this post. Thanks, Victor.*

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**Bob Dorigo Jones** - May 01, 2025 at 01:45 PM

PH

“ So grateful for Mike's skill in the OR as our kids faced surgeries at Mercy Hospital. His demeanor was so comforting to us, we always were reassured by his presence! Rest in Peace, Mike, and prayers of comfort for your family...

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**Pat and Mindy Hinkle** - May 01, 2025 at 10:46 AM

LD

“ Sandi, Our sympathies on the loss of Michael after what sounds like a rough illness. You are and he was such a good and giving person. Hugs to you. Your former coworker, Linda(Rouker) and Jim Dishman

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**Linda Dishman** - May 01, 2025 at 10:07 AM

RK

“ *PASSED*

*Passed, just a few days ago now . . .  
a living, breathing soul, into an eternity  
that is only one tick away from our own beating hearts,  
an eternity that surrounds everything we can ever know.*

*Passed into the eons of time, that we can never know again,  
are his life and soul, but not his love.  
His love that surrounds us and that is unsurpassed,  
is passed into our lives like the late autumn glow  
of the maple down by the road.*

*It colors the tone of our breath and bone.  
It sings the song of our memories.*

*~ Robert Kennedy*

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**ROBERT F KENNEDY** - May 01, 2025 at 09:30 AM

JK

“ Sandy and family, I am deeply saddened to hear of Mike's passing.

*Mike was my CASA football coach way back in the day and he always recalled those days even years later. He always had a smile on his face and time to share. My parents would always mention when they saw him somewhere around Cadillac. I enjoyed seeing him on occasion at Curry House when my mother was there.*

*Wrap yourself in the many memories you have of him and the ones that others will share with you. Let them comfort you each day.*

*John and Kimbra Klarquist*

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**John Klarquist** - May 01, 2025 at 08:06 AM

FC

“ Mike Dolack was 'rarer than radium'. He was the constant sacrament of goodness, kindness and decency. He lived as if life was the great gift worth giving your all for and sharing it with everyone. How blessed we all are to call him friend, to say 'I know Mike. He was a gift. He was that 'dearest freshness deep down thing.'

*Mike, may Almighty God welcome you home, embrace you and say, "Welcome Mike, welcome home. I thank you for the kindness you shared, the joy you celebrated and the love you brought into many lives. Welcome home, Mike, your life was 'a good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over.' Amen. Fr. Pat Cawley*

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**Fr. Pat Cawley** - May 01, 2025 at 08:02 AM

BJ

“ Remembering great times with a great guy. I meant to include these with my previous note. He was our coach in 5th grade at St. Ann's, helped Andre LaMonde and me plant one of the first trees at the new St. Ann's church, and drove Father Thome from Cadillac to Detroit so he could marry Denise and I. Thanks for everything, Mr. Dolack!



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**Bob Dorigo Jones** - May 01, 2025 at 12:18 AM

BJ

“ To our good friends, the Dolack family, your neighbors for nearly 60 years, the Jones family, send our heartfelt condolences. We loved your dad and will miss him immensely.

*Anyone who had the good fortune of knowing your dad soon came to appreciate that Mike Dolack was truly one of a kind in every good way that expression can be used. An eternal optimist, he sought to squeeze every ounce of joy out of life that he could, and he wanted those around him to share in that joy. We're all better off for knowing him.*

*Not even a debilitating autoimmune disease that weakened his muscles was strong enough to weaken his spirit. Every time I saw him in recent years, I was amazed that not once did he ever let on how difficult this disease was making it for him to do even the simple things we take for granted. He was an inspiration and role model.*

*When I say role model, I mean that literally. He showed those who knew him how life should be lived. With love for others, with passion and with purpose. He may have had humble beginnings as a child growing up on the south side of Chicago, but through hard work, he created a wonderful family, forged a successful career, and became an important and unforgettable part of our community. When he wasn't helping people as a highly respected nurse anesthetist at Mercy Hospital, he was coaching our various teams when we were young, volunteering on the chain gang at varsity football games, singing with his church choir at St. Peter's in Rome, or carrying the Olympic torch to inspire others.*

*If he had a slogan in life, it might as well have been "Just do it" because he lived that philosophy long before Nike ever coined it. I'll never forget when he came home from a Detroit Tigers baseball game and told me about a conversation he had with Sparky Anderson in the dugout at Tiger Stadium after the game. I simply couldn't believe that anyone would have the audacity to just walk*

*into the dugout and start a conversation with one of the legends of the game. But that was your dad. Just do it.*

*If he had a friend in need, he was there to help. When a member of St. Ann's had cancer, he found a way to rally the community around her by creating a fundraiser and playing racquetball for 24 straight hours against 80+ opponents. Of course, he won every game but three or four and raised thousands of dollars in the process.*

*I'll never forget watching him ride his old black one-speed bike to work in the morning that he had while growing up in the Upper Peninsula. Or the sight of him speed mowing your lawn in his speedo. Yikes! And I will always remember playing one-on-one against him in your driveway and getting a lesson in power basketball, Rick Mahorn-style. He played bad boy basketball even before the Bad Boys did. Yes, he lived life with gusto, and for anyone paying attention, the lesson was clear. Don't be a spectator in life.*

*I will always cherish our friendship and consider the opportunity to know him one of the major blessings of my life. His was a life well-lived and an example to all of us. I don't know if he'll rest in peace, because I'm quite sure he'll be singing with the angels. Probably right now. -- Bob Dorigo Jones*

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**Bob Dorigo Jones** - May 01, 2025 at 12:12 AM

KK

“ Mike and Sandy were the first two people I met when I moved to Cadillac in 1967. Mike and I had many hospital OR memories throughout the years and I was always comfortable when he was at the head of the table. We also had many social encounters as well. Mike was always a good friend and a devout Catholic. He always carried that spirit of care and that smile like an invisible aura around him. The whole medical community was in good hands when Mike was there. RIP my good friend, you will be missed. Also my special condolences to Sandy and his children. DR Kenneth Kleyn

Kenneth Kleyn - April 30, 2025 at 09:30 PM

PH

“ Dear Sandy and Family, So sorry for your loss. Will always remember Mike, from the hospital and in life outside work. We'd not have ever gotten Slick without you two introducing us to Brick. RIP, Mike. Hope you feel our love and prayers. ❤️🙏 PK and Tom Harrison .

pK Harrison - April 30, 2025 at 07:20 PM

KP

“ My son, Hayden with Mr. Dolack back in 2014. Hayden was so excited to meet him! What an amazing man! He will truly be missed!

Thank you so much  
and thoughtful  
when I visited  
your school  
to talk about  
the Olympics  
next



Kris Piskor - April 30, 2025 at 07:00 PM

SS

“ God didn't make 'em better than Mike Dolack. He brought smiles and joy to everyone he met. I was new to Cadillac and every time I saw him he shared photos and stories about his life here, his family, his work, his faith, and his church. He wanted me to feel at home here too. What a Godsend he was to so many. Now, I pray he has seen the face of Jesus and that his family is at peace, knowing he's pain free telling stories in heaven. Peace and love to the Dolack family.

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**Sharon Stankewitz** - April 30, 2025 at 06:53 PM

TE

“ I am so sorry to hear this. He was a great man. Prayers and hugs for the family.

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**Trisha Edwards** - April 30, 2025 at 05:13 PM

AC

“ Mrs. Dolack, Diane, Kathy and Mickey- I was saddened to hear about Mr. Dolack's passing -he was a true gem of a guy. Just mentioned to Richard the other day that he should stop by and bring a treat from the Dairy Queen to your dad....

*I have so many fond memories growing up of being at your house, time spent in the pool, sleep overs, birthday parties, etc. Warm memories of the times he was "Santa" at First Bank of Cadillac - I know there's a polaroid picture of that somewhere....*

*Getting to know him as an adult, being in choir together, were blessings as well. I don't think I've ever known a more engaging, kind, generous, and good-hearted man. Every time I think of him, I will smile at what a wonderful man he was. Thinking of your family during this difficult time and wishing you peace and comfort from God.*

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**Ann (Greenfield) Clous** - April 30, 2025 at 01:45 PM