



Michael Raymond Cockey

MAR 17, 1949 - DEC 3, 2022



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Michael Raymond Cockey

MAR 17, 1949 - DEC 3, 2022

Michael “Mike” Cockey, age 73, of Rehoboth Beach, DE, transitioned from this life on December 3, 2022. He was born March 1949, in Baltimore, MD.

Michael had a contagious, positive spirit with a calming demeanor that attracted you to him. He always greeted you with his enigmatic smile and a warm hug. He had that spark of energy with an infectious smile and laugh that made every gathering memorable. Mike was a spirited light that was put out too soon. He was a gifted teacher and mentor who possessed a loyal and loving heart. His time with us will live on forever in the hearts and memories of his family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his partner, Ron, and his mother, Irene, whom he was caregiver to until her transition in 2018. He is survived by his cousins Denise, Sheila and Larry and their families.

Michael’s Celebration of Life Service will be held on Saturday, January 14, 2023, at 11:00 AM at Parsell Funeral Homes and Crematorium, 16961 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE, where friends may visit beginning at 10:00 AM. A reception will follow at Michael’s house located at 22 Winchelsea Court, Rehoboth Beach, DE, 19971.

All who cannot attend in person are invited to join the services via live streaming by visiting the following link at 11:00AM on Saturday, January 14, 2022:

<http://www.parsellfuneralhomes.com/obituaries/permalink/10787630/LTWebcast>

The family would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to Michael’s numerous friends for their support during his brief illness.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations in Michael’s memory to CAMP Rehoboth, 37 Baltimore Ave, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971 (www.camprehoboth.com).

Please sign Michael’s virtual guestbook located on the Tribute page.



Obituary

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FLORIST NOTE: PLEASE DELIVER ALL ARRANGEMENTS BY 3:00 PM ON FRIDAY,
JANUARY 13, 2022 AT OUR LEWES LOCATION.



Events

Michael Raymond Cockey

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Visitation

 **Saturday**, January 14, 2023

 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET

 **Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-
Atkins-Lodge Chapel**

16961 Kings Highway, Lewes DE 19958



Celebration of life

 **Saturday**, January 14, 2023

 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM ET

 **Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-
Atkins-Lodge Chapel**

16961 Kings Highway, Lewes DE 19958





Tribute Wall

Michael Raymond Cockey

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Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium shared a **Webcast Video**.



December 8 at 5:22 AM



Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium shared an album called **Memories Album**.



January 16 at 5:14 AM



Liz D'Alesandro & Nancy Silvester posted:

About seven years ago we became neighbors with Michael. Little did we know how fortunate we would be! Michael was always friendly, making time for a little chat and a funny story. He had an adorable smile and a quick wit. Never have we seen a more handsome man all dressed up in a pair of shorts, short-sleeved collared shirt, clean sneakers, and hat to go out and do yard work. Somehow even as the rest of us were out there sweating in the yard, Michael always looked calm, relaxed, and all put together! I'm smiling just thinking about it. We miss our neighbor and friend. The courtyard is not the same without him. Blessed to have had him in our lives. Rest In Peace Michael...Liz and Nancy

January 13 at 10:42 PM



Joyce Nixon posted:

In Memory of a Wonderful Person I am saddened to hear of Michael's passing. I first met Michael in the late 1990s, when he came to Annapolis MD to visit my classroom at Parole Elementary, with Rolf and Althea from MSDE. I then had the privilege and pleasure of working with Michael at MSDE. I remember him being a friendly, helpful, and very kind co-worker with a welcoming smile. RIP Michael, you will be missed and always remembered. Prayers and condolences to all family and friends. Joyce N. Nixon (Retired MSDE co-worker)

January 13 at 5:43 PM



Bob Peffer posted:

Rest in peace Mike. Our long time friend for 41 years! Bob Peffer and Roger Nisewarner

January 13 at 10:11 AM



Tribute Wall

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Rolf Grafwallner sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Cockey family.



January 5 at 8:03 AM



Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium shared an album called **Memories Album**.



January 4 at 11:59 AM



Diane Jasinski posted:

So very sorry to hear of Michael's passing, he was a very nice man

December 20 at 5:44 AM



Lester Stein posted:

So sorry to hear of Michael's passing. I met him in the early 80s when a good friend of his was my next door neighbor in Baltimore. What a wonderful person he was and reconnected with him when I moved to DE 10+ years ago.

December 18 at 4:21 PM



Corinthia (Cori) Armstrong lit a candle in honor of Michael.



December 18 at 4:39 AM



Corinthia (Cori) Armstrong December 18 at 4:42 AM

Always had that infectious smile; such a pleasant Person. Rest In Peace Michael. With Heartfelt Sympathy, Cori



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LM

Lewis Maurer posted:

I hold dear countless memories of Micheal and his irreplaceable friendship. Big Sissy's Friday couples' dinners with Ron, sparkling holidays with an amazing family of choice, the "Kings and Queens" birthday serenade, first delivered as a duet with Ron then Michael's solos. During a memory road trip before my relocation to Oregon, Michael shared stories of his childhood summers on the Eastern Shore, which I delighted in because of his grandfather's penchant for big new Cadillacs and the image of a slow drive in the left lane across the bridge, grandfather smoking a cigar and little Michael in the passenger seat trying to ignore the sound of the horns of other cars speeding past on the right. It seems just yesterday, but years have passed since we shrugged off complaints while working out together at Everyone Fitness, "Machines are for working out, not talking!" And man, could we talk! Michael put on muscle quickly and soon out lifted me. He was pleased when during one of his cardiac tests, the technician attempting to hook Michael up to a machine commented, "He's got a large chest muscle to get through." That pectoral muscle surrounded a big, kind, loyal and loving heart. Till we meet again, Dear Friend Michael.

December 14 at 5:10 PM

KW

Karen W posted:

Always said hello on the street or in a store... open, friendly , kind. 💜💜

December 13 at 9:54 AM

VK

Valerie Kaufmann posted:

I always enjoyed my conversations with Michael during the years we worked together at MSDE. He was a kind and gentle soul who always looked on the bright side of life. He will be missed.

December 12 at 4:18 PM

CB

Christy Briedis posted:

Finding a friend in the back pew of the church, Michael welcomed me on Sundays. Quiet, kind and quick to laugh, he was a special friend. We shared humorous stories about caring for our mothers, both of us understanding what a gift it was. His kind soul is missed. Christy

December 12 at 2:22 PM



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SS

Sharyn Williamson Smith posted:

Mike's mother & mine were best buddies at Gull House & church. He was a gift to all who knew him. Prayers for peace and comfort to loved ones.

December 12 at 10:13 AM

KZ

Keith Zembower posted:

Michael really was a wonderful human being. I had so many good times with him. We got to travel to Asheville, from San Francisco down the coast to San Diego, to Spain and Portugal, D.C., and Philly. We always had a great time. I enjoyed talking with Michael as well as walking the local paths. As soon as I met Michael, I said to myself "I am going to really good friends with him whether he wants to be my friend or not." Michael had tons of friends that he had collected over the years; he was a lucky man. One of the things he loved to talk about was his experience as a Montessori teacher. I can just imagine how the kids must have loved him. It was such an honor to have known him. I know when I asked him something personal he would often say, "Well, look at the time!" which meant you are not going to get an answer to that, buster!

December 9 at 1:33 PM



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Jude posted:

Blessed to have known such a beautiful soul. RIP Michael

December 8 at 5:46 AM



Gary B. Blank January 14 at 8:23 AM

Deborah and I met Michael during college at Frostburg. Then while he taught at Mt. Savage High and I taught at St. Michael's Parochial School, we shared lots of meals and laughs, yoga classes, and he even moved into our spare room for some months. In 1974, when he joined us in Moscow, Idaho for graduate school, he became the godfather of our oldest son, born that fall. Over the years, our connection remained despite ensuing distances. He was always a cheerful voice on the other end of a phone call, in the last few years often calling while walking on the beach. He connected with our grandchildren as he connected with every child I ever saw him with. We will always treasure his genuine love and concern for folks in his life.



Dennis Trencher January 13 at 6:00 PM

Will miss his kindness



Rolf Grafwallner January 5 at 8:00 AM

The picture of him and his burst of laughter is a wonderful tribute to his personality. I had the privilege to work with him at MSDE for many years. We spent time at work and lunch breaks as well as personally, including a trip to Munich, Germany, where I am from. He was very smart but not cockey, as I told him and he rolling his eyes. He brought joy and deep thinking to our conversations. I will miss him and will be in thought with you from Munich as you celebrate his life at the Memorial Service. - Rolf Grafwallner, Jan. 5, 2023



Linda Zang December 13 at 10:39 AM

I have such fond memories of Michael and his storytelling, so witty and fun. He was terrific.



Jamie Middleton December 12 at 5:17 PM

Thank you Michael for being a friendly guy. Although not always seeing each other a lot, he always said hello in his quiet way. We shared March birthdays. I will miss you. I know Ron and your Mom are happy now. God Bless you.



Jeni Schmitt December 11 at 5:03 PM

I met Mike at Emerson Farm, north of Baltimore where we were both teachers. He was a fantastic teacher, a positive mentor, a wonderful confidante, but mostly a loving friend. We had so much laughter between us. That's a sure sign of a someone you hold dear. ❤️



Carlos Segarra December 9 at 4:04 AM

Thak you Michael for you brought to our table, RIP.



Media

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Parseell Funeral Homes & Crematorium shared a **Webcast Video**.

December 8 at 5:22 AM



CR

Caitlin Reinhart January 14 at 8:01 AM

Sending love and peace from the West Coast. Rest in peace cousin Michael. - Cait Reinhart

JI

Jim January 14 at 7:48 AM

Michael - you will always have a special place in my heart and soul

NI

Nicole January 14 at 7:06 AM

Sending love and comfort to Michael's family and friends- Nicole Swindell



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Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium shared a video to the **Memories Album** album.

January 16 at 5:14 AM





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Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Michael by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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