



Michael H. Zwicke

JAN 10, 1948 - APR 8, 2023



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Michael H. Zwicke

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Michael Hans Zwicke, age 75 of Lewes, DE passed away peacefully at home on April 8, 2023. A Delaware resident since August 2012, Mike lived with his wife Debbie in Bay Crossing, a warm and giving 55+ community in Lewes. He and Debbie were married for more than 25 years, and their blended family includes six children and three grandchildren.

Mike's parents were USAF Col. (ret) Norbert and Virginia Zwicke. Just after World War II, in the transition from the Army Air Corps to the Air Force, before Mike was born, his father and mother were scheduled for an assignment in Germany. Virginia was studying the German language in preparation. At the last minute, the assignment was switched to Alaska, which was still a territory and at the time, as part of a stepped-up presence to monitor Soviet flights in the far north. Then-Capt. Zwicke was part of a USAF flight crew that flew regularly. Mike was born on January 10, 1948, in Fairbanks.

During his father's career, Mike and the growing family were stationed with him in numerous stateside Strategic Air Command bases. As an adult civilian, Mike used to say that the military treated the family well, but at times it was like living in a cocoon. That required some adjustment that began with living off the base later.

Mike earned his undergraduate degree at Bridgewater College in the Shenandoah Valley and his graduate degree at American University. He worked for the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) for 34 years. After retirement from DIA, he worked briefly for OMNISEC International and then as a contractor for 5 years with BAE Systems.

In 1997 Mike married Debbie ("the love of his life") in Annandale, VA. They each brought three children to the marriage: Mike's are Andrew of Richmond, VA; Jonathan of San Diego, CA; and Meredith (Jon Jones) Zwicke of Seattle, WA. Debbie's are Dr. Michael (Heather) of Lewes; Sarah of Myrtle Beach, SC; and James (Dr Audrey Green) Ingerski of Port Royal, SC. Mike and Debbie also have three grandchildren: Josephine, Wilson. and Kathryn Ingerski. Mike's sister, Christina



Obituary

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Gregerson, is of Apex, NC. His brother, Phil, predeceased him in 2007. Mike also had numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

In college Mike was on the track team briefly ("until I was blown off the cinders by some faster rabbits"). Even so, he enjoyed running in races ("in the middle of the pack") and on his own until after he retired. He also enjoyed walking, bicycling, photography, reading, crossword puzzles, and most spectator sports, as well as sampling wine. Mike was delighted to find that Lewes had a vibrant Osher Lifelong Learning Institute chapter assisted by the University of Delaware, having previously attended the George Mason University-affiliated chapter in Fairfax, VA.

In Virginia, Mike served for a year as chairman of the Alzheimer's Disease Fund-Raising Committee for the Springfield Chapter of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees, which raised a record amount for the chapter. He earlier was a food rescuer for Food for Others in Fairfax. In Delaware, Mike was a volunteer mentor in Beebe Healthcare's Cardiac Rehabilitation Program for 6+ years.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, April 14, 2023, at 11:00 AM at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 200 2nd Street., Lewes, DE, where friends may visit thirty minutes before the service. A reception will follow the service at the Bay Crossing Clubhouse, 17866 Galley Rd, Lewes, DE 19958.

In lieu of flowers, the family recommends a donation in Mike's memory to the Beebe Medical Foundation, 902 Savannah Road, Lewes, DE. (<https://www.beebehealthcare.org/beebe-medical-foundation>)

Please sign the virtual guestbook located on the tribute page.

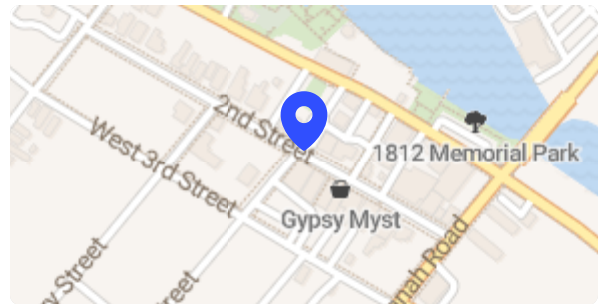


Events

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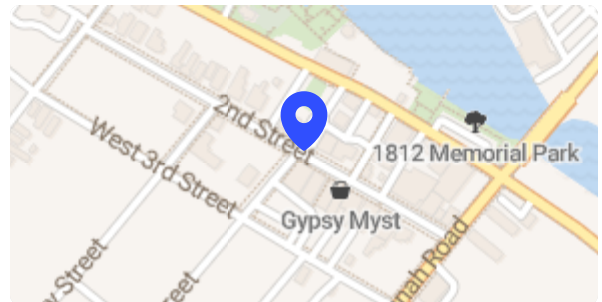
Visitation

- Friday**, April 14, 2023
- 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM ET
- St. Peters Episcopal Church**
2nd & Market Streets, Lewes DE



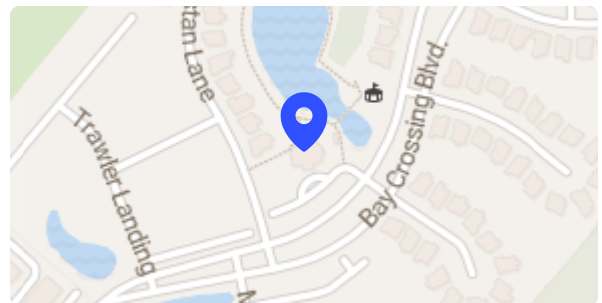
Memorial Service

- Friday**, April 14, 2023
- 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM ET
- St. Peter's Episcopal Church**
Second & Market Streets, Lewes DE



Luncheon Reception

- Friday**, April 14, 2023
- 12:30 PM ET
- Bay Crossing Clubhouse**
17866 Galley Road, Lewes DE 19958





Tribute Wall

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James Monti posted:

Today we mourn the loss of a great guy named Mike Zwicke. My fond memories of Mike go way back to all the times we both would meet for some family event. We'd always find the time to discuss matters involving the family or some other events happening at the time. You could always have an intelligent conversation with him because he was always well versed in so many ways. Going forward, I will miss Mike's wit and humor that he always brought with him wherever he went. RIP buddy and may you rest in our Savior's arms for all of eternity. I look forward to seeing you once again in Heaven. Perhaps then we can continue our conversation where we left off. Jim Monti

April 14 at 7:49 AM



Ernie Freeman Janis Freeman posted:

Debbie and family, we are so sorry to hear about Mike's passing. Walking through our community, Mike always had a smile and a wave. Our hearts and prayers go out to you. JJanis & Arthur Perry

April 14 at 6:09 AM



Melanie Strub posted:

"PEACE will come as time softens your sorrows. Until then, let your cherished memories fill your heart and bring you comfort." Our deepest sympathies, Debbie Melanie and Peter Strub

April 13 at 11:47 AM



Christine Brzowski posted:

We were privileged to know Mike as a brilliant editor at DIA, but we were blessed to know him as a wonderful friend outside work. Highly intelligent and quietly funny, he made discussing the world's problems a pleasure. We'll miss his insights on the news of the day, his colorful descriptions of travel destinations he and Debbie visited, and his generous, kind spirit. Our deepest condolences to Debbie and Mike's family. Christine Brzowski and Larry Maguire

April 12 at 7:05 PM



Rabbi Dick White posted:

Please accept my deepest sympathies. May God bless and comfort you. Rabbi Dick White

April 11 at 5:04 PM



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RK

Ruth Kaufman posted:

We are so sorry to hear this sad news. Mike will be missed very much. Thinking of Debbie and all the family.

April 11 at 1:03 PM

GS

Georgette Schlegel posted:

Wishing you strength to get through this difficult time. Our paths often crossed as we walked around the community. Mike always gave a wave. Thinking of you and your family. Georgette and Bob Schlegel

April 11 at 9:07 AM

JB

Judi Barry posted:

Dear Debbie and family, We are so sorry for your loss. Mike was a gentle soul that always had a smile and a wave for you as you passed him on his walks around Bay Crossing. He will be missed by all his friends and neighbors. We will keep you in our prayers. Judi and Bill Barry

April 11 at 8:47 AM



Michael Wieder posted:

Very sorry to hear Debbie. Wishing you comfort. Nancy and Mike Wieder

April 11 at 8:19 AM

AK

Alan Kayn posted:

We were sad to hear about Mike's passing and will miss seeing him walking around the Loop always waving and smiling when we pass him by. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Debbie and your family. Rita and Alan Kayn

April 11 at 4:32 AM

JH

Jennifer Hamer posted:

Sending all our thoughts and prayers to you, Debbie!!! We love you and are so very sorry for your loss. Mike was such a sweet, gentle loving man. Such a gem.

April 11 at 4:22 AM



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LM

Lorraine Marino posted:

We are so very sorry for your loss, Debbie. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Lorraine & John Marino

April 11 at 4:10 AM

FS

Francis J Storey posted:

My heart goes out to Debbie and her family at the passing of Mike. Mike was a easy person to get to know and I always enjoyed his company. His insights on what was going on in the world in these trouble times was always thoughtful and meaningful. He dedicated his career to serving our country and help make a difference. For that alone we owe him a great deal of gratitude.....Frank Storey

April 11 at 2:28 AM

LS

Linda Sweeney April 12 at 7:08 AM

We were shocked to hear of Mike's passing. Our hearts go out to Debbie and his family. Mike will be missed by all that knew him. He was such a pleasure to talk to, with much to offer on a wide variety of subjects. His intelligence and kindness was evident in all that he did. Rest in peace Mike. Mike & Linda Sweeney

JB

Judy Brunner April 11 at 6:43 AM

My heart hurts for Debbie and their family. Mike was a kind and gentle man and will be greatly missed. My late Phil Wescott was a huge fan of his and enjoyed many classes with Mike at Osher and Mike was a great contributor to the men's Ted talk group. BC will surely miss Mike! Judy Brunner

TH

Theda posted:

Tom Wrubel and Theda Levitt send condolences to the entire Zwicke family at this difficult time. You are in our thoughts.

April 11 at 1:18 AM



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NM

Nancy & Gene McCloskey posted:

Our condolence and sympathy to Debbie and family for this tragic loss in your lives. Friends,
Nancy & Gene

April 11 at 12:58 AM

EG

Eric R Gregerson April 14 at 12:51 PM

Mike and Phil helped their father give away his daughter, Christina at our wedding back in '77. Those were the early years as; he and Lyn were raising a young family; we enjoyed many family gatherings to celebrate birthdays and holidays. He strived to balance family life and career. working midnite shifts at DIA at Bolling AFB (a very long commute from Herndon). He took pride in his job and contributed to the annual Soviet Military Power and Presidential Daily Briefing. We had occasional poker nights. with his college buddies like Joe Fisher; I never won; they always did. Then on his 3rd 'at bat', he hit a home run with his marriage to Debbie at beautiful park setting in Annandale, VA. My condolences to Debbie; his was a life of accomplishment cut way too short.Eric R GregersonNewport News, VA.

ED

Ellen Dodd April 13 at 1:50 PM

Mike was the first neighbor we met when moving to BC. He couldn't have been kinder and more welcoming to us. Mike, we will miss seeing you on your walks around the neighborhood, on the bicycle trails around Lewes, and having you as a wonderful neighbor. Debbie, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family for your loss.Ellen & Mike Dodd

MP

Mary Jo Pedersen April 11 at 1:52 PM

Debbie and your Family, Kris and I are so sorry to hear of Mike's passing. May all the wonderful memories you shared with Mike give you strength to get through this difficult time. Please know we are thinking of you and your family and offer our prayers along with all your family and many friends. God bless.

MC

Miriam Cina April 11 at 11:59 AM

Debbie and Family,Our prayers and thoughts are with you at this time. It was always so nice to see you and Mike taking your walks each day. Always a smile & a wave.Sincerely,Miriam Cina and Rich Bardy

EB

Edna Bauer April 11 at 5:29 AM

Dear Debbie,I am thinking of you during this difficult time and keeping you and your family in my prayers.Love, Edna Bauer

DP

Debbie Pope April 11 at 4:49 AM

Debbie, wishing you comfort and peace during this difficult time. We are so very sorry for your loss.Debbie and Phil



Memories only last if you share them

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



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