



Michael Paul Harnett

April 22, 1953 - March 5, 2023

Michael Paul Harnett, age 69, of Powell, Ohio passed away peacefully on Sunday March 5, 2023, of congestive heart failure at Riverside Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Shawn (Britt), daughter Kelly Harnett, and son Patrick Harnett. He is also survived by his stepson Jesse Britt of Hilliard, Ohio, stepdaughter Stacey (Steve) Svoboda and two wonderful grandsons, Owen Svoboda and Luke Svoboda. He is also survived by his biological Hart family, who when located in recent years, lovingly brought Mike and Shawn into their lives. He is predeceased in death by his father Richard Harnett and his mother Geneva Harnett.

Mike was born in Middletown, Ohio on April 22, 1953, to Catherine Julia Hart, the mother who gave him life. He was adopted by Richard and Geneva Harnett, the parents who raised him as their only child in Dayton, Ohio. Mike graduated from Carroll High School in Dayton and attended college at Sinclair College, also in Dayton.

Mike is a proud veteran of the Army where he served in Germany as an artillery surveyor. After the Vietnam war ended, he hoped to make a career in the Army, but the U.S. was reducing troops. His desire to be of service led him to the Dayton Ohio Fire Department where he served as a firefighter and EMT. As many firefighters do, Mike took on a second job as an insurance agent and eventually made his full-time career as a retirement planner, another

profession that allowed him to help others. Mike's desire for service led him in his last years of life to volunteer in the Veteran's Program at Riverside Hospital in Columbus, Ohio where veterans visit hospitalized veterans, a role he truly loved.

Mike loved Ohio State (OSU) football and parked cars before each home game for 23 years. He always said he loved it because every person was happy coming to the game (but he was long gone by the end of the game if OSU lost!). Most of all, Mike liked to make people laugh and smile, and so he created a bi-weekly email he sent to friends and others begging to be on his e-mail list called "Odds and Ends". Mike just wanted to make people happy, and he must have, because he had a lot of good friends.

He was a great father to his children Kelly and Pat, who will miss him dearly and carry an empty place in their hearts. Mike was the love of Shawn's life, and she was the love of Mike's life – a marriage cut too short by his passing.

A Visitation will be held from 4:00 to 6:00 pm on Thursday, March 9, 2023 at RUTHERFORD FUNERAL HOME AT POWELL, 450 West Olentangy Street (Powell Road), Powell, Ohio. The Funeral Service will be held at 11:00 am Friday, March 10, 2023 with Visitation one hour prior to the Service at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, 3924 Home Road, Powell, Ohio 43065 with burial with Military Honors to follow at Union Cemetery in Columbus, Ohio.

Mike loved dogs and supporting the military. In lieu of flowers, you may donate to Hobo's Healing Heart www.hoboshealingheart.org a non-profit founded by his daughter providing financial aid for emergency veterinary care and cremation services for families with pets in need, or www.t2t.org a non-profit honoring first responders, veterans, and their families by giving mortgage free/accessible homes to widows/children and service people who have been severely injured serving our country.

Cemetery Details

Union Cemetery

3349 Olentangy River Road
Columbus, OH 43202

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **9**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford Funeral Home at Powell
450 West Olentangy Street
Powell, OH 43065
(614) 792-1471
info@rutherfordfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/>

Visitation

MAR **10**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
3924 Home Rd
Powell, OH 43065

Funeral Service

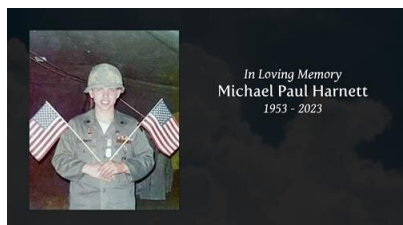
MAR **10**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
3924 Home Rd
Powell, OH 43065

Tribute Wall



“ *Rutherford Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Michael Paul Harnett*



Rutherford Funeral Homes - March 09, 2023 at 10:37 AM

LM

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. I served with Mike in Germany. We rode bikes and toured Europe together. We had several long phone calls after he got out but lost track of one another in the 80s. What a fine man. See you on the other side my friend.*

Leon "Orlow" McInelly - October 23, 2023 at 03:37 AM

KH

Thank you for sharing memories of my father. I am sorry I missed this comment. - Kelly L. Harnett

Kelly L. Harnett - October 11, 2025 at 07:16 PM

DI

“ *Mike was so proud of Patrick and Kelly. He was a very proud father. I am so sorry for your loss. He will be missed. Dinah*

Dinah - April 03, 2023 at 07:25 PM

KH

Thank you, Dinah. Did dad tell you I named my bike Dinah? :) I would love to connect with you. You can find me through www.hoboshealingheart.org

Kelly Harnett - May 11, 2023 at 07:26 PM

SO

“ Dearest Kelly and Pat, Your fathers passing is such a loss. Your father loved you both so very much! We had many great years that I will always treasure! !978-2008

Sheila O'Reilly - March 22, 2023 at 05:30 PM

KH

Thank you, mom. We did make a LOT of fantastic memories that I too will treasure.

Kelly Harnett - March 27, 2023 at 09:43 PM

SO



Sheila O'Reilly - March 29, 2023 at 03:26 PM

AR

“ I am so sorry for your loss. This is truly heartbreaking. I worked with Mike back in the JNL days. He was also so kind, caring & funny. We had many laughs back then.

Ami (Mileff) Rose - March 14, 2023 at 12:26 AM

KH

Thank you, Kelly Harnett

Kelly Harnett - March 14, 2023 at 06:06 AM

KB

“ I’m so sorry & shocked to hear about Mikes passing. I’ve known Mike since early 90’s at JNL. We’ve kept in touch over the years & it was such a joy to have known him for so long. Prayers to the family.

Kelly Batey - March 13, 2023 at 10:46 PM

KH

Thank you, Kelly Harnett

Kelly Harnett - March 14, 2023 at 06:07 AM

NK

“ I met Mike at Birchwood Swim Club in 8th grade. We were fast friends through Carroll High School and rekindled our friendship a few years ago. Mike always had a bright smile and beautiful eyes! My husband Bill met Mike at Carroll becoming friends as well. He will be greatly missed by all of us.

Nancy Kelble - March 09, 2023 at 04:05 PM

KH

Thank you, Kelly Harnett

Kelly Harnett - March 14, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Michael Paul Harnett.



March 09, 2023 at 11:40 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michael Paul Harnett.



March 09, 2023 at 10:57 AM



“ Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Michael Paul Harnett.



March 09, 2023 at 06:39 AM



“ Sending all my Love, Teri Jones purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Michael Paul Harnett.



Sending all my Love, Teri Jones - March 08, 2023 at 08:55 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Michael Paul Harnett.



March 08, 2023 at 05:14 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Michael Paul Harnett.*



March 08, 2023 at 04:16 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael Paul Harnett.*



March 08, 2023 at 04:01 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michael Paul Harnett.*



March 08, 2023 at 03:26 PM



“ *Your Town and Villiage Family purchased the Tender Tribute for the family of Michael Paul Harnett.*



Your Town and Villiage Family - March 08, 2023 at 02:37 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of *Michael Paul Harnett*.



March 08, 2023 at 10:50 AM