



## Michael "Mike" Leroy Henderson

March 9, 1958 - July 2, 2023

Michael Leroy Henderson, age 65, left this world to enter eternal salvation on July 2, 2023. Michael was born March 9, 1958 in Kalkaska, Michigan to Arvid "Zeke" Henderson and Erma Lucille Warner Henderson. Michael was the second of four boys. His older brother, Rick Henderson, was his protector and his go-to person about all dilemmas. His brother Dennis Henderson (Jolanta) was the one he wanted to talk to when he needed some laughter. His baby brother, Andy (Molly) Henderson, was the sweet, tender-hearted one that Michael worried about most. Karen Mackenzie, Mike's devoted companion, was at his side through thick and thin and helped him throughout his final battle.

Michael was raised in Rapid City and remained there all of his life. With those roots, he formed deep friendships with the entire community. He was loved and respected by all. Michael graduated from Kalkaska High School in 1976. During his time there, he played football and threw the shot put for the Track and Field team, setting records for distance. His love for the throws was evident as he attended nearly every John Lober Honor Roll Track & field meet as a competitor or as a volunteer at the shot put. Mike also loved lifting weights and shared his knowledge of powerlifting to many generations of athletes. He went on to attend Central Michigan University for a short time before determining that college wasn't the right answer for him. He followed in Zeke's footsteps by becoming a mason. He had an absolute passion for rocks and loved spending time finding, sorting, and splitting stones. His legacy lives

on with the beautiful stone fireplaces, pillars, walls, and shorelines throughout the area as well as buildings that he and other volunteers built around the Kalkaska Athletic Complex.

Michael was married to Karen Sherwood from 1998 until 2008. Together, they raised two beautiful daughters, Nicholle Eugenia Sherwood Trubiroha and Kelly Jeanne Sherwood. They were blessed with three amazing grandchildren, Paige Hansen, Lainey Trubiroha and Brody Sherwood whom Mike loved deeply. Michael had four nephews and two nieces: Dylan (Lindsay) Henderson, Deryk (Kyleigh) Henderson, Gabriella Henderson, Mykolas Henderson, Alayna Stewart and Jack Stewart. There was barely a moment that went by that he was not helping any of them with sage advice, lending a skid-steer, or offering throwing critiques.

Michael's love for his family was endless. He would do anything for any one of them. That love extended to everyone he met. He had such a kind, gentle soul that enabled him to make friends with people from every walk of life. He had friendships that lasted a lifetime with many, but even those who just met him could sense how big his heart was. He was selfless and giving to all that he came in contact with.

Mike was preceded in death by his Mother Erma and Father "Zeke". He is survived by his three brothers, devoted companion Karen Mackenzie , daughters' Nikki and Kelly, Grandchildren Paige, Lainey, and Brody, step mother Patricia (Udell) Henderson, Step sisters Debra Meadows, Sharon (Rex) Alspaugh, Judy Fritz, and step brother David Meadows.

Michael's family would like to thank all of those who assisted during his illness. There were so many that answered the call to come to his aide, whether taking him to appointments, making a meal, picking up groceries, or just sitting and talking with him. Special thanks to the Kalkaska Cancer and Infusion Center, and those that built the ramp to his house. Listing each person would take pages, but know that we know who you are and we thank you so very much for showing your love to Michael.

The family will receive friends on Friday, July 14, 2023, at Kalkaska Church of

Christ from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Funeral service will be held on Saturday, July 15, 2023, at Kaskaska Church of Christ at 11:00 a.m. with visitation beginning at 10:00 a.m. until the time of service.

Interment will follow in Clearwater Township Cemetery.

Arrangements provided by Wolfe-O'Neill Funeral Home, our family serving yours.

# Cemetery Details

## Clearwater Twp. Cemetery

Rapid City, MI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 14. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Kalkaska Church of Christ  
1725 W. Kalkaska Rd  
Kalkaska, MI 49646

## Visitation

JUL 15. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Kalkaska Church of Christ  
1725 W. Kalkaska Rd  
Kalkaska, MI 49646

## Service

JUL 15. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Kalkaska Church of Christ  
1725 W. Kalkaska Rd  
Kalkaska, MI 49646

# Tribute Wall

MM

“ Mike was my neighbor on Crystal Beach Rd. for 20 or more years. I looked at him as the gentle giant and someone who you didn't want to be mad at you cause he was strong as an ox!  
I remember Mike getting up every morning. He was my alarm clock as he fired up his truck and backed out of his driveway with the back up alarm chirping everyday. There weren't to many days that his truck didn't back out of the driveway as Mike was a workaholic!  
When you enjoy what your doing it isn't work!  
I remember one winter we got 2' of snow and they were predicting rain. Mike called me down state and asked me if it was ok to get on my roof and scrape some of the snow of my roof because he was concerned that my old roof would collapse. That was the kind of person that Mike was. Of course I said yes!!! 😊  
Mike was a great friend and neighbor and will be sorely missed.  
God Bless! 🙏  
Mark Malott

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Mark Malott - July 14, 2023 at 11:30 AM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael "Mike" Leroy Henderson.



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July 13, 2023 at 10:12 AM

FD

“ Fred Domowitz lit a candle in memory of Michael "Mike" Leroy Henderson



fred domowitz - July 12, 2023 at 08:01 AM

FD

Went to northport and threw shot against Mike.

fred domowitz - July 12, 2023 at 08:07 AM

K(

“ Kim (. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael "Mike" Leroy Henderson.

Kim (. - July 11, 2023 at 12:02 PM

LK

“ Lisa K. purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Michael "Mike" Leroy Henderson.



Lisa K. - July 11, 2023 at 09:24 AM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Michael "Mike" Leroy Henderson.



July 10, 2023 at 05:03 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michael "Mike" Leroy Henderson.*



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July 10, 2023 at 03:10 PM



“ *I first met Mike in 1983 at the Muscle Castle in Central Lake. We became lifting partners and friends. His incredible strength and work ethic was always inspiring. A kinder and more giving soul you will never know. It is an honor and a privilege to have such a friend.*

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**Bob & Sally Nolan** - July 10, 2023 at 03:03 PM



“ *An intimidating presence that was thankfully a gentle and kind man unless harm was near. Should have his picture placed next to word MAN in the dictionary.*

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**Tim Crawford** - July 09, 2023 at 05:51 PM



“ *Mike never did anything half way. He introduced me to some very strange music and I had my first real thought of mortality in the back seat of his 67 Fairlane GT as he drifted it around that decreasing radius negative camber turn on Valley Road at Wood Road, not sure if I was screaming or only trying to. I will always remember his handshake, firm but gentle for a man of his strength. Mike was a fine man raised by fine parents.*

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**Doug Blissett** - July 08, 2023 at 11:44 AM

GP

“ Mike was my "boy next door" and I loved him, always. Gayle

Gayle Penrod - July 08, 2023 at 10:33 AM

DF

“ Mike left a big impact on me, when I was a kid, in a very quiet way. He was a great mentor, intimidating by size yet humble and meek by nature. Few and far between are the likes of Mike. I am sure he fit thru the Narrow Gate.

Dean Farrier - July 07, 2023 at 08:42 PM

NP

“ Nancy And Glenn Peal lit a candle in memory of Michael "Mike" Leroy Henderson



Nancy and Glenn Peal - July 07, 2023 at 02:59 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael "Mike" Leroy Henderson.



July 07, 2023 at 10:32 AM

GJ

“ There are no words to adequately express just how much, Mike will be missed. Few people ever know a "Mike Henderson" in their lifetime, but for those of us that have, it has been a true honor! Much like everyone that knew him, I could go on and on about his numerous, loveable qualities, but that could take all day. In short, Michael, was the pinnacle of love and kindness, and I for one will always keep you close. Until we meet again, my friend, may God keep you safe in his memory!



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**Gayle I Joseph** - July 06, 2023 at 08:56 AM

SH

“ Shelley lit a candle in memory of Michael  
"Mike" Leroy Henderson

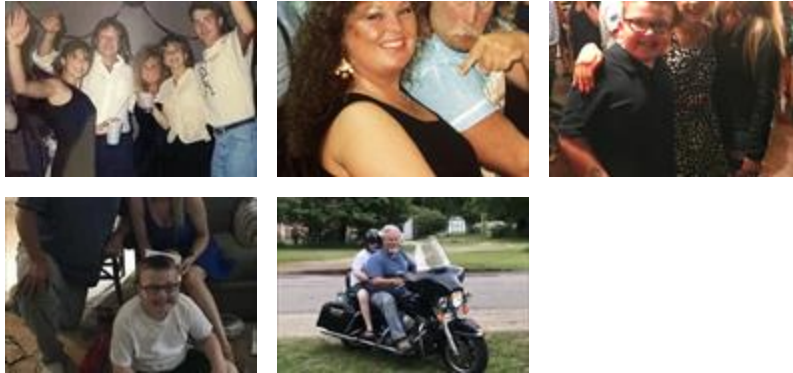


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**Shelley** - July 05, 2023 at 09:41 PM

KS

“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



**Kelly Sherwood** - July 05, 2023 at 09:34 PM



“ Tracey Peal lit a candle in memory of Michael "Mike" Leroy Henderson



**Tracey Peal** - July 05, 2023 at 02:03 PM

DN

“ Deborah Newell lit a candle in memory of Michael "Mike" Leroy Henderson



**Deborah Newell** - July 04, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Michael "Mike" Leroy Henderson.



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July 04, 2023 at 07:03 PM



“ *9 files added to the album Michael*



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**Carol Williams** - July 04, 2023 at 01:48 PM