



## Michael J. Fitzsimons

January 19, 1951 - August 22, 2023

Our beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, brother-in-law, uncle, and friend passed away on Tuesday, August 22, 2023, at Ascension St Mary's in Saginaw at 72 years old. Michael Joseph Fitzsimons was born on January 19, 1951, in Grand Rapids, Michigan to the late Louis and Lorna (Pease) Fitzsimons.

Mike graduated from West Catholic High School in 1969. He was Freddie the Falcon school mascot at many games and activities. Right out of high school, he joined the Navy and proudly served his country during the Vietnam War until 1973. He then used the GI Bill to complete his college education and attended Grand Rapids Junior College and went on to graduate from Ferris State University in 1978 with a Criminal Justice degree. He worked for several law enforcement agencies and then started his career with Saginaw County Sheriff's Department in 1983. He went up the ranks and retired as a Sergeant in September 2008.

The most important things in his life were his wife, children, and grandchildren. He supported them in everything they were interested in. He loved watching Charles play sports, watching cartoons with Lucas and snuggling with Marcus. And that included sports activities and he became the "Voice of the Blue Jays" at Holy Cross for all basketball seasons that both kids were involved in. During football season, he cheered on the Notre Dame

Fighting Irish.

He was not one to just sit around the house (his wife would not let him do that!) and he started volunteering in 2012 at Hopevale Church answering phones and greeting staff and visitors with a smile and/or encouraging word. He always said he had the face for answering phones!

He was married to Virginia (Ginny) Ann (Borkholder) Fitzsimons on July 18, 1981, and she survives him. Mike is also survived by his children, John Michael Fitzsimons and Tracy Ann (Andrew) Schiefer along with his beloved grandsons, Charles, Lucas, and Marcus. He is also survived by his sisters and brothers-in-law, Kathleen (Donn) Miller, Jane Vitunskas, and Anne (Daniel) Walker, along with his sisters-in-law and brother-in-law, Linda (Dale) Grant and Joyce Lent. He also is survived by nieces, nephews, two special long-time friends, John Mitus and Chuck Strejnowski along with additional friends that were special to him. Mike was predeceased by his parents and “nut-twin” sister, Nancy L Fitzsimons, his parents-in-law, Lloyd and Viola Borkholder, and his brother-in-law, Andrew Lent.

The Celebration of Mike’s Life will be held at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, August 29, 2023, at Hopevale Church, 4873 N. Center Rd., Saginaw, MI. Pastor Daniel Davis will officiate where military honors will be conducted under the auspices of the US Navy and the American Legion Post 439.

Friends are welcome to visit with the family at Hopevale Church, 4873 N. Center Rd., Saginaw, on Monday, August 28, 2023, from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., then on Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service. Memorials may be given to Hopevale Church.

Memories and sympathies of Mike may be shared with the family on his memorial website at [WakemanFuneralHome.com](http://WakemanFuneralHome.com)

Michael's funeral service will be available to view online at [https://hopevale.online.church/?fbclid=IwAR0tF0o5SBO6ue44yssp9wuBdS5lOJobQCDnqW3Y\\_8ZLaPmKvwkXmayWjJE](https://hopevale.online.church/?fbclid=IwAR0tF0o5SBO6ue44yssp9wuBdS5lOJobQCDnqW3Y_8ZLaPmKvwkXmayWjJE)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 28. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Hopevale Church  
4873 N. Center Road  
Saginaw, MI

## Visitation

AUG 29. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Hopevale Church  
4873 N. Center Road  
Saginaw, MI

## Funeral and Committal Services

AUG 29. 11:00 AM (ET)

Hopevale Church  
4873 N. Center Road  
Saginaw, MI

## Military Funeral Honors Ceremony

AUG 29. 11:45 AM (ET)

Hopevale Church  
4873 N. Center Road  
Saginaw, MI

# Tribute Wall



“ So sad for the family left to grieve, but so happy that Mike is in the presence of his Savior! Will miss his frequent posts on FB - they always encouraged me and pointed me in the Right Direction. 🙏 Praying for peace for all of you dear Fitzsimons family! Thank you for live-streaming the service - what great testimonies to Mike’s faith! Jill & Tom Peck

Jill Peck - August 29, 2023 at 12:04 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Michael J. Fitzsimons.



August 29, 2023 at 08:47 AM



“ One of the best brothers I ever worked with! We were hired the same year in 1983. Family was very important to Mike aka (Hubba Bubba) as were the employees under his watch who he treated as family. Great loss for us all 😭 RIP brother, many many prayers to family.

William Gutzwiller - August 28, 2023 at 01:52 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael J. Fitzsimons.*



August 27, 2023 at 11:08 PM



“ *I'm so sorry for the loss of your father and husband. I am sending so many prayers to those left grieving.*

**Autumn Blaesser** - August 27, 2023 at 08:59 AM



*Mike's smile was contagious. His cheerful disposition helped get us through our sometimes tough, growing up years. The Spirit of Freddy the Falcon lives on.....*

**Pamela Corso** - August 31, 2023 at 06:29 PM



“ *Ginny and Family-So sorry to hear of Mike's passing. May our Lord and Savior fill you with His peace and comfort in the coming days and always*

**Ron and Mary Warnke** - August 27, 2023 at 08:13 AM



“ *Gosh, its so sad losing touch with people, as we go one with our own busy lives. My sincere condolences, Mike was a great person, blessings*

**gtr** - August 25, 2023 at 06:33 PM

JM

“ Mike was a lovely person and a wonderful coworker. He was taken way to soon. My condolences to his family for their loss.

Janice Mienk - August 25, 2023 at 12:35 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael J. Fitzsimons.



August 25, 2023 at 11:21 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Michael J. Fitzsimons.

August 25, 2023 at 11:21 AM

CV

“ We will always cherish Mike's sense of humor, joyful outlook on life and most of all his love for his family. We shall miss him dearly. Our hearts go out to all the family. Chris and Margaret.

Chris and Margaret Vincent - August 25, 2023 at 10:13 AM

GC

“ Ginny. Tracy. And John And Family. So Sad To Hear Of Mikes PASSING. So Sad. To Know Such A Loving Kind Gentleman That He As Is Gone. Always Enjoyed Talking To Him And Loved How He Always Teased Me. If There’s Anything That We Can Do For You Please Let Us Know. Hugs And Prayers Are Being Said. For Peace Of Mind And Heart 💜 For The Difficult Times And Days Ahead. Hugs And Love ❤️ To All Of You. Friendship Always From Ted Gail Jessica. Carrie And Family. So Sorry 😭❤️💜

gail crisp - August 24, 2023 at 07:32 PM

DA

“ Ginny and family, I am so sorry to hear of Mike's passing. He was such a great guy to work with. He will be missed by all who knew him. Dawn Dalton

Dawn - August 24, 2023 at 06:54 PM

DR

“ I will miss the smile in his voice and on his face when visiting South Campus. Mike and I loved being “Fighting Irish fan buddies” and talking football. Sending lots of love and prayers to Ginny and John and Tracy! ❤️🙏

Darlene Robinson - August 24, 2023 at 05:23 PM

DR

“ Dan REINHARDT lit a candle in memory of Michael J. Fitzsimons



Dan REINHARDT - August 24, 2023 at 01:34 PM

BZ

“ Bonnie Z. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael J. Fitzsimons.

Bonnie Z. - August 24, 2023 at 12:55 PM

AP

“ Mike was such a wonderful fellow. Kind and loving; I know he will be missed. I too will miss seeing him and hearing him say "how ya doing?" Annie Pappas

Annie Pappas - August 24, 2023 at 11:24 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Michael J. Fitzsimons.



August 24, 2023 at 08:11 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Michael J. Fitzsimons.

August 24, 2023 at 08:11 AM

RG

“ I have so many great memories of Mike, We served Holy Cross for many years on the Board of Elders sometimes getting looks when caught joking around together. We always cooked the spring school lunch outdoors together always joking around with each other and the school kids, He was a big huggy bear of a friend and I was very sorry when He and his wonderful family left Holy Cross . A good Man whom I will always remember. Dick Groening

Richard Groening - August 23, 2023 at 10:58 PM



“ Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael J. Fitzsimons.




August 23, 2023 at 09:30 PM

JH

“ Ginny I am so very sorry to hear this. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Judy Herald

Judy Hetald - August 23, 2023 at 08:09 PM

SP

“ Mike greeted me for years at Hopevale Sunday mornings, a hug and how gave you been   
I'll cherish those days til we meet in Heaven some day!

Susan Pacholke - August 23, 2023 at 12:27 PM