



Michael David Roberts

August 17, 1956 - January 1, 2023

Michael David Roberts, 66, unexpectedly passed away at home on Jan. 1, 2023, from a heart attack. Mike was born Aug. 17, 1956 to David and Donna Roberts in Aurora, Colo.

Mike and his family lived in military bases all over the country during his father's service in the U.S. Marine Corps, but always returned to their home base—their grandparents' home in Wisconsin. In 1972, the family settled in Sandpoint, Idaho. Mike graduated from Sandpoint High School in 1975, and then attended the University of Idaho. He remained in Moscow for more than 31 years.

In 1984, he married Valerie, and they soon welcomed their son, David, in 1985. The couple's time with David was limited to just 13 days due to a congenital heart defect. Mike and Valerie were then blessed with three daughters—Donna in 1986, Jill in 1987, and Jennifer in 1990, who completed their family.

Mike owned and operated an imprinted sportswear business, and then drove a school bus for the Moscow School District for 13 years. In 2019, Mike and Valerie retired and moved to Ephrata, Wash. to be closer to family. Mike returned to bus driving, and was currently employed by the Quincy School District.

Mike was a devoted family man and was incredibly supportive of the many activities his daughters', wife, and grandchildren participated in. Mike was also an avid sports fan who loved the Idaho Vandals, Gonzaga Bulldogs, Milwaukee Bucks and Brewers, and the Seattle Mariners. He was also a proud, life-long fan of the Green Bay Packers. In November he fulfilled his dream by attending a game at Lambeau Field.

Mike was preceded in death by his mother, Donna, and son, David. He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Valerie; father David Roberts; sisters Pam Taylor and Robin Cloyd; daughters Donna Nelson (Randi), Jill Roa (Richard), and Jennifer Porter (Evan); grandchildren Mackenzie and Kaden Nelson, Mariona Roa, and Owen Porter; and nephew Jimmie Taylor and family Jayme, Landon, and Luke.

A casual memorial will be held on Saturday, Jan. 21, 2023 at 11 a.m. at Ephrata Community Church, 54 K Street Southeast in Ephrata, followed by a reception.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 21. 11:00 AM (PT)

Community Church of Ephrata
54 K Street SE
Ephrata, WA 98823

Tribute Wall

CB

“ I first met Mike at the Moscow Bus Garage in 2001. I came to work as a Bus Driver and Mike was already Driving at that time. We became friends over the years. Some of the other drivers would over hear us arguing and caring on about this and that. Some would even step in to stop the fight before it come to blows. Mike just thought this was the funniest thing. So we would really get going at each other when this happened. It was just a way for us to relieve the pressor and stress of everyday driving. As a School Bus Driver, you have to be at your best when you get behind the Wheel. Dealing with noise and sometimes wild children, not to mention other drivers and the every day stress of being responsible for all those young lives. We worked together for many years and ribbed each other many times. It was all in Fun, I can't remember a time that we really did have a real fight over anything. Mike was a great friend and had a heart of gold. I missed him, when he left Moscow and moved to Quincy. We still kept in touch over the phone and Text. Every once in a while he would call me when he came back though town and we would have Breakfast together and have a laugh or two about the past. His last Text to me on New Years Evening, " Hey Butthead, happy new years." Shortly after that is when I got the call that he was gone. Mike, my good friend, you will be truely missed. Sincerely, Cliff Beck

Clifford Beck - January 18, 2023 at 08:36 PM

MH

“ We just heard of Mike's passing and send his family our sincere sympathy. Mike was our daughter's bus driver for several years here in Moscow. She lives with a disability and we always felt really safe having Mike as her driver. He always looked out for her, going above and beyond what was expected. As we live in the country, Mike always made sure she was safe before he would drive away. He also was her defender when a group of kids on the bus decided to be bullies. Mike was a kind and compassionate man, and we know he will be sorely missed by those who love him. But Heaven just got a great addition! The Hanleys

Margaret Louise Hanley - January 13, 2023 at 02:12 PM

JT

“ Mike is my husband's uncle, and he and his family are very close to our hearts. Mike was an amazing uncle, husband, father, brother and grandpa and he is already terribly missed. I'll always remember how he lovingly teased me, his fondness for Pepsi and his love of the Vandals and the Packers. Family gatherings won't be the same without his snarky (from love) comments and observations. We will never forget him, and we will hold Val, the girls and his grandkids close.



Jayne Taylor - January 12, 2023 at 04:52 PM