



# Michael Bernard Miller

APR 15, 1954 - MAR 10, 2019



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# Table of Contents

<b>Obituary</b> .....	Page 3
<b>Events</b> .....	Page 4
<b>Tribute Wall</b> .....	Page 5
<b>Media</b> .....	Page 12



## **Michael Bernard Miller**

APR 15, 1954 - MAR 10, 2019

**M**ichael Bernard Miller, age 64, of Marine City, passed away peacefully March 10, 2019, following a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. He was born April 15, 1954 in St. Clair to the late Milton and Ursula Miller.

Mike's smile and laughter will forever be remembered by the many who had the opportunity to know him and share in his life. As a coach and mentor for over 40 years, Coach Mike impacted the lives of all he formed through the various sports and activities he led. Mike a proud Eastern Michigan University graduate and U of M fan, loved fantasy football, music, and all outdoor activities. But his time spent with his grandchildren was what he cherished the most.

He is survived by his wife, Deb Miller; daughter and son in law, Janel and Brett Coppens; son, Dustin Miller; grandchildren, Brett Jr., Molly, Colton, Paul and Olivia; sister, Kathy Jones; brothers, Jim Miller and Henry (Renee) Miller and many special nieces, nephews and a large network of extended family and friends.

A memorial visitation will be held Friday March 22nd 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Young Funeral Home, China Twp. A private memorial service will be conducted.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the family will be placed in a scholarship fund in Mike's name, which will be awarded to area youth and carry on Mike's legacy.

To leave a message of comfort visit <http://www.youngcolonial.com/>




# Events


**Michael Bernard Miller**

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## Memorial Gathering

 **Friday**, March 22, 2019

 1:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET

 **Young Colonial Chapel Funeral Home**  
4061 Saint Clair Hwy, East China MI



## Cemetery Details

 Cremation



## Tribute Wall

**Michael Bernard Miller**

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**Sean Stawiasz** posted:

Mike, I love you, I miss you, I won't forget you.....Go Packers! oh, I mean Go Lions! Probably the greatest football pilgrimage I've ever made, glad we had the opportunity to take it together.

March 22 at 10:59 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Footprints Tribute Blanket to the Miller family.



March 15 at 1:14 PM



**Jerry Warkentien** posted:

So many good things to say...So many great memories...So many years we worked and Coached together...So much appreciation for all the work you did for the athletes of MCHS...You will be missed.Jerry Warkentien"Go EMU"

March 13 at 4:11 PM



**Pete Kennedy** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Mike was born to be a coach. Mike was more like a player/coach on the Holy Cross football team. You were proud to be a friend of Mike Miller. You were proud to be a teammate of Mike Miller. What fond memories, lifting weights at Coach Egans, riding around town for hours or hanging at the Millers visiting with Milt and Ursula. Hank, you are an amazing brother, even as kids by Mike's side. Thank you my friend for caring like you did.



March 13 at 2:15 PM



**Dianne & Chuck Goodrich** posted:

Mike & I attended Holy Cross together. He played right tackle while I played left on the Crusader football team. Mike's good natured laugh & smile will always be remembered. It has been said, "Where ever a good soul has walked, there is a trail of beautiful memories".This statement certainly applies to Mike.

March 12 at 12:42 PM



# Tribute Wall

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**Alexander Kreft** lit a candle in honor of Michael.



March 12 at 12:39 PM



**Paul Cole** posted:

I had the complete Blessing of meeting Mike back in 2017 when I was visiting Henry and running in the Free Press Marathon. All I can say is I will always remember the meeting on the road along the river as well as having coffee later that morning. Such a kind spirit seemed to be around him. I know later he was asking "about the friend from Ca. I feel very fortunate to have met Mike and spend a little time with him on this planet. I do hope we will see each other again. Rest in Peace my friend.

March 12 at 10:41 AM



**Carri Koehler** posted:

Rarely does a coach come along who prepares your kid so well - not only for the next competition, but for life. Mike felt so strongly about creating good humans first and superstars second and I appreciated that he had a vested interest in my son. Every time I ran into him, Mike couldn't wait to hear what he was up to. Rest in peace and love Mikey, you will be missed.

March 12 at 5:50 AM



**The Eubanks Family** lit a candle in honor of Michael.



March 12 at 5:41 AM

**TF** **The Eubanks Family** March 12 at 5:44 AM

So many fond memories of times spent with Mr. Miller..... You impacted so many lives. From the locker room to the field to the classroom..... we were blessed to know you.



**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Miller family.



March 12 at 5:40 AM



## Tribute Wall

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**Tom Atherton** posted:

We had a lot of laughs and good times working together. " Michael B." always had a positive attitude and huge smile on his face and his laugh could be heard for miles. He touched a lot of people and will be missed. Rest in peace my friend and condolences to the family, Tom Atherton

March 12 at 3:06 AM



**Rusty Furtaw** posted:

Shared a lot of good times with Mike when we worked together with the JV baseball team. Will miss his laugh and big smile. R, I, P, Mike Rusty

March 11 at 8:28 PM



**Donald Jamieson** lit a candle in honor of Michael.

I remember living next to the beach and you were one of the life guards. Always a great guy. May you rest in peace my friend. You Debbie and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. God Bless. Don & Kay Jamieson



March 11 at 6:19 PM



**Anonymous** sent an Ocean Breeze Spray to the Miller family.



March 11 at 4:58 PM



**Laura Decker** posted:

Mike was always my favorite lifeguard. Happy and always smiling. God speed mike you will be missed.

March 11 at 2:04 PM



# Tribute Wall

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**Kathleen Carleton Maloney** posted:

We had so many good times and loved watching him play football. Best middle linebacker ever. Even in high school he was loved and respected, it doesn't surprise me to see he always was. Rest peace dearest Mike. Thoughts and prayers to all the family. Love, Kaky (Kathy) Carleton Maloney xoxoxo

March 11 at 2:04 PM



**John Halpin** posted:

God speed my friend! You will be missed. "Jughead" so many happy and fun memories with Mike, from being coached by him in football and basketball at Holycross, working with him and and for him as a lifeguard at the the Edison, the Beach, and then as a security guard in Midland at the "Nuke" plant and hanging out everywhere else in between. His legacy of family first will live on forever. Deb, Janel, Dustin, Henry, and the rest of the Miller family you will be in my continued prayers.

March 11 at 1:17 PM



**Joseph Beck** posted:

Mike, me and all the other lifeguards went to a Ten Years After concert at Cobo Hall. Mike made the brownies. One of the best concert adventures ever...

March 11 at 11:40 AM



**Joann-David Smith** March 11 at 4:16 PM

I bet it was. He will Be truly missed.



**Mike Hamlin** posted:

Mike was a kind and caring man who always had a smile on his face. He will be missed by all. RIP Mike. Deb and Mike Hamlin

March 11 at 11:36 AM



**Garry & Kristi Donaldson** lit a candle in honor of Michael.

Very sad to hear that Coach Mike is gone! He fought a very brave battle! Our condolences & Prayers to the family

March 11 at 11:05 AM





## Tribute Wall

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**Kim And Henry Verstraete** posted:

Mike was an excellent mentor for my daughter Emilie as a swim coach. She swam her sophomore year till her senior year 1999. She learned hard work made her a very good swimmer and lifeguard 2000 at Algonac pool for 2 yrs. He was a great mentor coach and a beautiful soul. Rest in peace until we all meet on the other side. Condolences to your family and friends. Were out of state and won't be able to go to your service.

March 11 at 10:19 AM



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DS

**Dave Scheel** posted:

I had the good fortune to work with Mike at Marine City High School for many years. Hewas a gifted coach with a personality and positive attitude that was very special! He truly was one of the most likable people I've ever met! He leaves his family and friends with great memories until we meet again!God Bless You Coach Mike!

March 11 at 10:16 AM

JB

**Jeff Bell** March 29 at 12:25 PM

Sorry I'm a bit late on this message to Henry and Mike's family, but news travels slowly across the Pacific. My condolences on your loss. Mike Miller, aka Jughaid as he pronounced it, was a great friend. I'm sorry I didn't see him more over the years when I visited MC. I have great memories of life guarding at the Edison, and playing softball for the Corner Grocery. There was a weekend at EMU, but I don't remember much of that. And of course we had a lot of fun introducing Spike from England to the USA. Rest in peace, my friend. Zheesh!Jeff Bell

BM

**Bob Moldenhauer** March 22 at 9:53 AM

Mike would always have that wonderful smile. We had fun working together for several years for Marine City Summer Recreation with Joe Beck as our boss. Lifeguarding, cutting grass in the parks, and setting up and cleaning up for the Marine City Summer Festival. I would always see him at the Marine City Mariners football games and at the high school swim meets. The last time that I saw him was at the Riviera restaurant and he looked great. He was just a joy to be around. Mike will always be remembered and missed by anyone who knew him.Bob Moldenhauer

MM

**Mark Mcfern** March 21 at 4:06 PM

Love you Forever Cuz RIP .Everyone else has spread the word about you You Are Truly a Legend and I always knew that .Love you all Mac & Kat Hope they Have Plenty of Clip boards in Heaven and whistles

KV

**Kurt Vanwormer** March 16 at 11:32 AM

I'm sorry to hear of Mikes passing. My thoughts and prayers are with the Miller family. Godspeed Mike.Kurt VanWormer

EH

**Ed Hingelberg** March 13 at 7:25 AM

How big would the book be if all the stories about this gentle giant were to be told? Sitting next to Mike at his event on Belle River Road we swapped tales of lifting weights and many a spin around the idiot circle back in the 70's. What hit me most is what cancer can't do. I peered into the eyes of of a man that was basically a big heart with two legs attached. This nasty disease broke down his body but couldn't put a dent in the armor of his soul. What a blessing to all the lives he touched. Henry, everyone knows how close you two were. Be assured your brother still has your back. As you run into a headwind what a joy, what a blessed assurance it will be to have Mike being right there at your side. — Ed Hingelberg



## Tribute Wall

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DS

TI

**Tim** March 11 at 5:40 PM

He lived live with his heart, coached with his heart, was a kind and good man.

JS

**Joann-David Smith** March 11 at 4:29 PM

I'm writing this with a heavy heart. I have known mike aka "Jugger " for over 45 years. From playing rec ball on Gar's team to hanging out at his house and to working together at Luke's beer store. There are just so many memories of him and his bubbly personality. From life guard to Coach I can just imagine how many lives he has touched. Well ole friend your battle with the terrible "C" is over and it'soff to better things in the after life. I hope we meet again . GOD BLESS you and your family.

RD

**R. Paul Dingeman** March 11 at 3:54 PM

Words are not enough to use..when you talk about Coach Mike and all the lives he touched.and will continue to touch thru his memory..Prayers for his family



Pete Kennedy shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

March 13 at 2:15 PM

Assistant Coach Mike Miller  
1972 Holly Cross Football Team



Mike Miller  
(Jughead)

A great friend.  
A great teammate.  
A great coach.  
A great person.  
A lifelong inspiration.

Thank you for the memories!

Assistant Coach Mike Miller 1972 Crusaders



## **Memories only last if you share them**

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



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