



Michael Matthew Dillon

November 6, 1949 - November 1, 2025

Michael Matthew Dillon

“Mike”

Age 75, of Braidwood, IL, passed away peacefully on Saturday, November 1, 2025, at UChicago Medicine AdventHealth Bolingbrook. Born November 6, 1949, in Joliet, IL, to Peter and Alice (née Hilton) Dillon, Michael devoted his life to family, faith, and community.

On November 6, 1971, he married Dawn Downey at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Braidwood, where they remained lifelong members.

Together, they shared nearly 54 years of marriage, filled with love, laughter, and unwavering devotion to one another.

Michael proudly served his country in the United States Army from 1970 to 1971, stationed at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, serving during the Vietnam era. His time in the military reflected the same sense of duty and integrity that defined every part of his life.

A lifelong public servant, Michael began his fire service career at just 18 years old with the Braidwood Fire Department, where he served as a firefighter, EMT, and Training Officer. In 1973, he became a trustee for the department and was serving as Trustee President at the time of his passing. His leadership extended beyond Braidwood as he also served as President of the Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts (IAFPD) Board of Directors, representing and supporting fire departments across the state.

Professionally, Michael worked for ComEd for 34 years in a variety of roles,

eventually becoming Fire Marshal at the Dresden Plant before his retirement. Beyond his service, Michael found joy in life's simple pleasures. He enjoyed golfing and bowling and was a loyal fan of the Chicago Cubs and Bears. Above all, he will be remembered for his kindness, dedication, and steadfast commitment to the community he loved.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Dawn, and his siblings: Kathy Dillon of Braidwood, IL; Dan (Charita) Dillon of Essex, IL; Patrick Dillon of Montana; and Jennifer Brown of Kincaid, IL.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Peter and Alice Dillon, and his nephew, Daniel Dillon.

Visitation will be held at R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory on Sunday, November 9, 2025, from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. Funeral services will take place at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church on Monday, November 10, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. Following the funeral services, cremation rites will be accorded, and inurnment will be held at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in Michael's name may be made to the Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts, 1201 S. 6th St., Springfield, IL 62703, in recognition of his dedication to the fire service community.

To share memories or offer condolences, please visit Michael's online guestbook at www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com or find us on Facebook.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **9**. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

R.W. Patterson Funeral Home
401 East Main St.
Braidwood, IL 60408
(815) 458-2336
info@rwpattersonfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com>

Mass of Christian Burial

NOV **10**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Immaculate Conception Church
110 South School Street
Braidwood, IL 60408

Tribute Wall



“ 65 files added to the album Life Tributes



R W Patterson Funeral Homes, Ltd. - November 07, 2025 at 10:38 AM

PS

“ Dawn and family. So sorry to hear this. He was always such a sweet guy. Always happy. My condolences to all. ❤️

Pat Swisher - November 07, 2025 at 10:37 AM

DC

“ Mike and I worked together on a large project at the Palisades Nuclear Plant. Mike was very knowledgeable and professional. Some of the things that surpassed Mike's fire protection skills were his kindness, easy to relate to personality, generosity and love of family and friends. Mike was never condescending but always willing to help. A true giant in the industry and in life has passed to wait in Heaven for Dawn.

David Campbell - November 07, 2025 at 09:27 AM

HC

Hazel Cinotto, Dawn so sorry to hear about Mike. I know how much you love him, and you worked real hard to take care of him while he was sick

Hazel Cinotto - November 08, 2025 at 12:00 PM

JC

“ *Jim and Peggy Cole lit a candle in memory of Michael Dillon*



Jim and Peggy Cole - November 06, 2025 at 03:52 PM

CC

“ *I worked with Mike at the power plant and he would always provide help with anything at any time. He loved the fire service and we would share fire call stories all the time. Sorry for the family loss.*

Carl Chapman - November 06, 2025 at 12:20 PM

LR

“ *I was privileged to know and care for Michael, the constant backdrop in his home was the scanner, always on Michael never missed a call whether it was in person or spirit. He was truly a firefighter's firefighter, his commitment to the fire service and his community was paramount in his life. He and Dawn built a beautiful life around each other, service, and community, Braidwood has lost a giant of a man. Michael's legacy will live on in the lives he touched, the many he mentored, and the friendships he made. Godspeed Michael, I am blessed to have known you.*

Lisa Waskosky RN - November 05, 2025 at 02:56 PM

RE

“ Great neighbor-Said what he ment and ment what he said! Always knew where you stood with Mike Dillon. I'll never forget the Dillons first act of kindness toward my family. We just bought our house and being young and never living in a house before I didn't know enough to have an inspection. Turns out there wasn't any field tile connected to my septic tank. The Dillion family graciously let me attach field tile through their back yard enabling us to live there as the sewers came years later. Just one of many kind acts throughout the years. Very friendly-quiet-generous family. My condolences to the Dillion Family.

Robert Ewert - November 05, 2025 at 02:54 PM

DS

“ My condolences and prayers for Dawn and the entire family. Mike positively affected many lives with his spirit and passion for the fire service.
Dale Simpson

Dale Simpson - November 04, 2025 at 10:30 PM

SL

“ I first met Mike at Dresden Station, ComEd in 1977. Mike taught Operations Fire Brigade training and a more dedicated Fireman would be hard to come by...I believe his life revolved primarily to firefighting.
My family and I lived in Braidwood where our son loved everything about firefighting.
When we moved to Iowa we saw a sign asking for volunteers. Our son, Matt applied and after 20 years is now the assistant Fire Chief of Bettendorf, Iowa.
Matt and Mike knew each other and I credit Mike who inspired Matt.

Steve Lawson - November 04, 2025 at 02:53 PM

NG

“ He was a kind man, with a welcoming smile. Praying his loved ones take comfort in knowing he is peaceful in heaven.

Natalie Girot - November 04, 2025 at 07:42 AM

DS

“ Our hearts go out to Pres. Dillon, Dawn, his family and all his fire service friends. He was a very supportive person and he will be missed. What a lifetime of service! - Damon & Gayle Schuldt

Damon Schuldt - November 03, 2025 at 10:37 PM

JB

“ Sending hugs and prayers to friends and family.



Judy Bumpous - November 03, 2025 at 07:24 PM

MD

“ Mike and Bev Duffy lit a candle in memory of Michael Dillon



Mike and Bev Duffy - November 03, 2025 at 04:50 PM