



Michael John Phillips

July 17, 1951 - March 25, 2023

Age 71, of Braidwood, IL, formerly of Lockport, IL, passed away peacefully Saturday, March 25, 2023, at his home. He was born July 17, 1951, in Chicago, IL, to the late Michael John and Jean F. (nee Kozerski) Phillips. He graduated from Lockport High School, where he was affectionately known as "Buster." After his father's passing, he ran the family hardware store, Western True Value Hardware in Lockport. He was an extremely hard worker, who held three jobs simultaneously to support his family. He worked for Avatar Corporation in University Park, IL, the Reed-Custer Community Fieldhouse, and the City of Braidwood in the Water Department. He loved sports, both as a lifelong fan of the San Diego/LA Chargers and Detroit Red Wings, and as a participant in adult-league hockey. He also enjoyed coin and stamp collecting. But the center of Mike's life was always family. On April 11, 1980, he married the love of his life, Joan, in Joliet, IL. He was a dedicated husband, proud father, and doting grandfather. He enthusiastically coached teams in the Tri-County Recreational Soccer League and Little League Baseball. He taught his children to skate, icing the backyard to play hockey with them. Every minute with his family was treasured. Surviving are his wife of forty-two years, Joan Phillips of Braidwood; five children, Derek (Mindy) Phillips, Michael (Jacie) Phillips, Brian Phillips, Darcy (Dhyia) Phillips, and Kimberly (Martel) Thomas; seven grandchildren, Caleb and Collin Phillips, Hartson and Valentina Phillips, Sterling Phillips, Winston Thomas, and one on the way; sister, Joyce Tischer of Elwood; three nieces, Cindy (John) Daigle, June (John) Wassenaar, and

Nancy (Dean) Mitchell; and many cousins and friends. A Celebration of Life will be held on April 22, 2023, from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the R.W. Patterson Funeral Home, 401 E Main St., Braidwood, IL. Cremation rites will be accorded and inurnment will take place in Lockport Cemetery. Cards may be sent to Patterson Funeral Home. For more information and to visit his online guestbook, please log on to www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

APR **22**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

ST

“ I am so sorry to hear about Busters's passing, My husband Tinker Terzick and I know had known him for years. he was such a great person. Tinker had so many funny stories about them back in the day with baseball. May they both meet in heaven! I pray you and your family are sent many blessings. He will always be missed. God Bless you and your beautiful family.
Love Sandi Terzick and family.

Sandra J Terzick - March 31, 2023 at 02:52 PM

ME

I was glad to know Buster in that we had similar interests. Baseball hockey and football.. He played on my men's hockey team at the old inwood ice rink. He was well liked and fun to be around. Rest in Peace Mike

Mitch Egdorf - April 22, 2023 at 05:27 PM

JD

“ On behalf of Mike's Lockport High School classmates, I send our deepest condolences to Joan and the entire Phillips Family on Mike's passing! Mike was the best of the best! A friend to everyone! We will all miss him greatly! I'm so happy that Mike was able to reunite with his old high school classmates at our 50th reunion. The group at his table filled the room with laughter and smiles. Vaya co dios! Go with God, my friend!
P.S. I still have my 'True Test' battery charger I bought from Mike at his Western Auto store back in 1967. It has even more meaning! It's my link with my buddy!
John Dzak and LTHS class of 1969! XOXOXO

John Dzak - March 31, 2023 at 10:18 AM

GM

“ *My sincere condolences to Derek and the rest of the family, sorry for your loss.*

*Gary Motoike
Mittera*

Gary Motoike - March 30, 2023 at 01:55 PM

DW

“ *Back when we were kids in Bonnie Brae subdivision, I used to play sandlot baseball with Mike and others nearly every day in the summer. We also played a lot of pool on his table in his parents' (very tight) garage and wiffle ball in his backyard. At Ludwig School we sometimes played the spelling game hangman, using the names of, what else, sports stars to try to stump each other. When his dad got tickets to the Harlem Globetrotters game at Joliet Central High School, Mike generously invited me. I hadn't seen Mike since high school, but I remember well his sense of humor, enthusiasm and friendliness. What a great guy! Miss you, Mike. ~ Dan Woods, LTHS Class of 1969*

Dan Woods - March 30, 2023 at 03:44 AM

CD

“ *3 files added to the tribute wall*

Cindy Daigle - March 29, 2023 at 02:32 PM