



Michael Vincent Gay

April 18, 1959 - August 8, 2023

Michael “Mike” Vincent Gay, age 64, of Cedarville, Michigan, died at home on August 8, 2023. He was born in Detroit, Michigan, on April 18, 1959, to Joseph Robert Maurice and Shirley Ann (Oudman) Gay.

Mike grew up in Warren, Michigan, and graduated from Center Line High School and went on to attend Wayne State University. He then moved to Hessel, Michigan, and worked at the bait shop for a few years before finding a lifelong career with Taylor Lumber where he worked for the last 37 years. He met Kim Aileen Izzard when she started working at the lumber yard, and the two hit it off. They married on December 30, 2005, at the First Union Church in Cedarville. Mike and Kim often vacationed in Florida, and they eventually bought a palm tree farm in 2020.

Mike attended the First Union Church in Cedarville and participated in the Frog Fest for nearly fifteen years.

Mike was an avid outdoorsman and loved fishing and hunting. He loved taking care of his reptiles, chickens, and turkeys on his property. He was a master gardener and took great pride in taking care of his trees and cactuses and tending to their palm tree farm in Florida.

Mike is survived by his wife, Kim; mother-in-law, Judy Izzard of Cedarville;

daughter, Barbara (Philip) Gay-Preston of Michigan; step-sons, Robert Monck of Traverse City, Michigan, and Joseph (Taylor) Giddings of Stockbridge, Michigan; step-daughter, Elizabeth (Shayne) Skeans of Hulbert, Michigan; grandchildren, Eva Preston, Penelope Preston, Joseph Giddings Jr, and Teagan Giddings; brother, Mark (Patty) Gray of Roscommon, Michigan; sisters, Suzette (Daryl) Zelenak of Midland, Michigan, and Cherie (Ron) LeCronier of Grayling, Michigan; sister-in-law, Gina Gray of Royal Oak, Michigan; brothers-in-law, Kelly (Divina) Izzard of Hessel, Michigan and Keith Izzard of Kincheloe, Michigan, and many beloved nieces and nephews.

Mike was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Shirley, and brother, Paul Gray.

Memorial Contributions can be made out to the Les Cheneaux Watershed Council, P.O. Box 578, Cedarville, Michigan 49719.

Galer Funeral Homes of Pickford, Michigan, is serving the family. Condolences may be left to the family at www.galerfuneralhomes.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Michael Vincent Gay*

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ *Michael Vincent Gay*

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *ESPN had their Mike & Mike show; Taylor Lumber's Mike & Mike were way better; funnier, more entertaining and really knew their stuff. Just won't be quite the same. Mike, you'll be fondly remembered and sadly missed.*

Islington - August 17, 2023 at 09:05 AM



“ *On Tuesday August Eighth The Lord Rose Up and opened his arm's to welcome Mike home. I suspect The Lord had an important project planned which required the Best Lumber Salesmen Known. This Salesmen had to be Punctual, Loyal , Honest , Fair , Compasionate . And above all this salesman had to Love Life , Love Nature , and Love All The Lord's Creature's . And in the end The Lord's List was short. Few could meet The Lord's strict qualifications. Mike did. See You on the other side Mike. Sincerely Paul Hitchens*

Paul Hitchens - August 16, 2023 at 08:11 PM

SD

“ always a funny guy. going into the lumbar yard was like going to a comedy show!
thanks for serving our community for all these years. I will miss his good guidance and help on my home projects

Susan Deaner - August 16, 2023 at 08:09 PM

SL

“ My husband and I have only known Mike for around a year. What a wonderful person. My heart breaks for his wife and family. I pray that God puts his loving arms around them and them peace and comfort now and always 🙏❤️

Susan and Ken Lively - August 16, 2023 at 11:37 AM

DK

“ I had the honor of working with Mike at the building center! He welcomed me with open arms and was always there to help!! It saddened me to hear he passed. Prayers to his family!

Debbie Kelly - August 16, 2023 at 09:46 AM

VG

“ It has been many years since I have seen Mike or his family. I remember the summers as children running and playing around the cabins, as well as swimming and fishing. I think of you guys often. So sorry for your loss. Sending prayers to Kim, Mark, Suzette, Cherie and the families.

Vicky Gerrish Gordon and Jim and Joe Gerrish

Vicky Gerrish Gordon - August 15, 2023 at 10:28 PM

MS

“ I am the best friend of Mike’s wife, Kim. I will remember Mike most for the charming, creative and witty way that he wooed Kim in to dating him. The man was not easily deterred and went to great lengths to show Kim that he just knew she was the one for him and that they would be great together. Over the last 18 years I have heard a lot of Mike stories and in him, Kim truly found her romantic soulmate to have critters with, fish with, be silly with and enjoy Sanibel Island with. While he passed way to young and will be missed by so many, I can imagine he is already fishing with his brother Paul.

Michelle Solo - August 15, 2023 at 04:30 PM

VM

“ I meant Mike at Taylor Lumber Company,he was a very friendly out going and intelligent, his sence of humor was outstanding with quick Witt. Most importantly he was a friend to the community I concerted him a friend and I will miss him , my deepest Condolences to his wife Kim and and family members. R.I.P. my friend

Vernon malkowski - August 14, 2023 at 07:36 PM

MK

“ The last time I saw Mike was the beginning of this last week. He was walking into Afstrom Pharmacy and I thought “What a nice guy.” I think every time I saw him I thought the same thing. So sad he passed so young. God must have needed him. Condolences to his wife and family. We will miss you ,Mike.... Marilyn Kraft Saint Martin’s Point

Marilyn Kraft - August 14, 2023 at 07:32 PM

MR

*Mike was a friend to everyone!
He was so helpful in whatever project you were attempting to accomplish.
Another Cedarville hero that has passed way too soon.
My condolences to his family.
Margie Rauch, Marc Rauch, Melissa Lanning, Heidi O'Toole*

Marjorie Rauch - August 15, 2023 at 08:29 AM

JG

It has been quite some time now but the memories are just as clear today as ever. how when the dads went herring or perch fishing all of us "children" would be off exploring, catching frogs and snakes, or be over in Mismar Bay casing carp with the kayaks. I can hear his voice clearly in my mind. Every time we meet He would stretch out his hand for a hearty hand shack and say, " Hey, how yah doin'?" My heart goes out to Kim, Mark Suzette, Cherie, and all the family.

James L Gerrish - August 16, 2023 at 08:30 PM

DR

Just like many others, I first met Mike at the Taylor Lumber counter many home projects ago. He was always smiling and ever so helpful. He always took the time to go the extra mile and offer advice and tips on whatever I was building at the time. He knew his stuff!

All of us on the board of the Les Cheneaux Watershed Council have a special place in our hearts for Mike and Kim's dedication to our annual FrogFest event. Their exhibit of frogs, snakes, and other critters has been the most popular kids attraction for many years.

Mike, you are greatly missed.

Dan Reelitz

Dan Reelitz - August 25, 2023 at 05:02 PM