



## Michael Jerome McLeod

November 2, 1938 - July 31, 2019

Michael Jerome McLeod, age 80, of Hessel, Michigan, died July 31, 2019, at home. He was born November 2, 1938, in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, to Lyle William McLeod and Margaret Mary (Mertaugh) McLeod.

Mike lived in Hessel for most of his life. He attended Hessel Elementary School and then graduated from Les Cheneaux Community High School in Cedarville. Following school, he worked for U.S. Steel at the limestone quarry in Cedarville until he was inducted into the United States Army. He served in Fort Hood, Texas, and after completing his service in 1962, returned to Hessel and to his work at the limestone quarry as a heavy equipment operator. He married Marilyn Ruth Payne on April 26, 1991, and they made their home at his family homestead in Hessel. He retired from the quarry in 1990 but continued to work as a caretaker for summer cottage owners in the Cedarville and Hessel area.

Mike was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Mike loved spending time outdoors and on the water - boating, fishing, hunting, gardening, and spending time with his grandchildren. He and Marilyn traveled often to the Chicago area to visit children and grandchildren. He loved to "putts" in his workshop "Old Man Land". Mike was a wonderful storyteller and enjoyed sitting on the porch telling stories.

Mike is survived by his wife, Marilyn McLeod of Hessel; daughter, Cynthia (Keith) Paloucek of Naperville, Illinois; sons, Joseph (Melissa) Burger of Lake Forest, Illinois, Robert (Joni) Burger of Cedarville, and Paul (Laura) Burger of Wheaton, Illinois; grandchildren, Drew Paloucek, Jack Paloucek, Ryan Burger, Derek Burger, Gordon Burger, Bennett Burger, and Elizabeth Burger; brother, Thomas McLeod of Cedarville; sisters, Adrienne Smith of Pickford, Michigan, Mary Ann Carr of Cedarville, Jane Hobbs of California, and Angela (Jack) Porco of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada; and sisters-in-law, Doris Payne of Lake in the Hills, Illinois, Beverly Gebben of Pewaukee, Wisconsin, and Barbara Britton of Elk Grove Village, Illinois.

Mike was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, William Patrick McLeod and Lyle Francis McLeod; and brothers-in-law, Jay Smith, Ernest Carr, Harvey Britton, Dwayne Gebben, Harold Atwill, and Clifford Payne.

A private family service is being held.

Interment will be in Edgewood Cedar Cemetery in Cedarville.

Memorial contributions may be made to your local hospice organization or Wounded Warrior Project.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Michael Jerome McLeod*

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ *Michael Jerome McLeod*

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *Michael Jerome McLeod*

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ *I always remember him as a kind man! He will be missed! I'm so sorry for your loss!*

**victoria** - August 05, 2019 at 08:57 AM



“ *So sorry to hear of Mike's passing  
I grew up with the McLeod family all the brothers and sisters. They all had Nick names, Mike was Cude. I remember him diving off one of the post at Mertaugh Boat Works. I was in awe! So much fun growing up with Mike and his family. He surely well be missed.  
Thoughts and prayers are with the family. Bernice Brenek Rutecki*

**Bernice Rutecki** - August 03, 2019 at 01:44 PM

CN

“ I first met Mike in 1943 as we enrolled in the kindergarten class at Hessel School at the age of 4. On we went thru to the 5th grade and then to Cedarville School where we graduated in 1956. We then went our separate ways for some time until we were both drafted into the U.S. Army on the same day, Jan. 24 1962. As fate would have it we both were sent to Ft. Knox, Ky for basic training and were billeted in the same barracks for the next 8 weeks. After training and 2 years service we were both discharged In January 1964. Much later after we retired from our careers we both then lived in Hessel til now.

Mike's best days of his life were after he then married his wife Marilyn in 1991. We visited often, vacationed together, dined at restaurant's, visited friends etc. Mike was always cheerful, never moody, always welcomed a visit with a cup of coffee. He was upbeat and positive about life and his circumstances. He was kind and gracious to me and my family. He will be missed.

Charlie & Kathy Nye, sons Mike & Mark

---

Charles Nye - August 02, 2019 at 10:04 PM

SC

“ I have been thinking a lot about my classmates, he was one of them. We always had great visits and a lot of laughs when Mike was around. He will be greatly missed. 😭

---

Sonja Clegg - August 02, 2019 at 06:46 PM

RO

“ Mike was such a wonderful man, I don't know anyone that didn't like him he would give you the shirt off his back. Mike was always a very witty person, I was at their house quite a bit as a kid and he always had time to kid with his younger sister and I. He will be missed



*Robbie*

---

**Robbie** - August 02, 2019 at 06:08 PM

VM

*Mike was a character I worked at the quarry with him and you knew it was going to be a funny experience with him around. He was a smart man with a likeness for everyone  
Lunch time was all ways a laugh a minute with the Story's, mccords,Dutcher's,Johnson all around one tring to out wit the other,comedy hour for sure.  
Heaven has received one of the good guys he will be missed*

---

**Vernpn Malkowski** - August 05, 2019 at 03:28 PM

SR

*I'm sure my husband Glen Rye was at the gate to greet his dear old friend Mike from Hessel. I'll miss them both now. They were great guys.*

*Sue Rye*

---

**Sue Rye** - August 06, 2019 at 02:27 PM

LK

*Oh Cousin! What stories went with you? Anin to Margaret, your mom and dad, Harlan Downwind (who named me) and everybody keeping you company! Mino-giizhigad....God Bless you.*

---

**Layne Kalbfleisch** - August 09, 2019 at 02:20 AM