



## Michael J. McKiernan

May 1, 1955 - April 19, 2021

CELEBRATION OF LIFE ANNOUNCEMENT – Michael J. McKiernan passed away on April 19, 2021. To honor the life Michael lived, a celebration of life will be held on Sunday, July 11, 2021, from 2pm - 4pm at Gorton Community Center, 400 E. Illinois Road, Lake Forest, IL 60045. Memorial donations may be made to the Archimedes Rotorcraft Museum, P.O. Box 146, Burket, IN 46508 where his prized gyrocopter that he built is on display.

Michael J. McKiernan, 65, of Lake Forest passed away peacefully at home on April 19, 2021 with his wife by his side. He and his wife, Wendy, were high school sweethearts and were married for almost 44 years. He was a loving father to Peter (Erin), Nick (Emily), and a proud grandfather to Everett and Taylor. He is also survived by his sister Susan (John) Howe of North Carolina and many nieces, nephews, and cousins who loved him. Michael was preceded in death by his parents, George and Pat McKiernan and his brother George.

Michael ran a very successful Graphic Arts business, carrying on his family's tradition. He played the bass guitar and sang in several bands throughout his childhood and as an adult. He was a helicopter pilot and loved building and flying experimental aircraft. Later in life he took up abstract painting.

For additional questions or information, please contact Reuland & Turnbough Funeral Directors of Lake Forest at (847) 234-9649 or <http://www.RTfunerals.com>.

# Events

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**JUL** **Celebration of Life** 02:00PM - 04:00PM

**11**

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Gorton Community Center

400 E. Illinois Road, Lake Forest, IL, US, 60045

# Comments

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“ An external video has been added.



**Reuland & Turnbough Funeral Directors of Lake Forest** - July 09 at 06:06 PM

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“ Wendy, Kids and kidlets,

My heart breaks for all of you over the loss a wonderful, kind, funny and talented man. Wendy, there are no words that come to mind at this very difficult time in a crazy world over the death of your best friend, except it SUCKS! You and Mike were the most adorable couple around town and wherever you went. Your smiles and friendly hellos were always ready.

Please know I am keeping you close to my heart as you learn to live life without Mike by your side. I do believe his spirit lives on and that he will send you signs if you ask for them and look for them! I am sending you healing prayers and sympathy and big hugs of hope. Memories of Mike will live on in your hearts forever!

Our time on Earth is a school. Grief is the toughest class we have to take. And, remember, those who have gone before us have graduated to a better place for which God has planned.

Katie Frost Bibbs

**Katie F. Bibbs** - April 29 at 12:10 PM



“ Katie Bibbs is absolutely correct. When our brother George died I was outside on my back porch and suddenly I heard a quail call. Something like this could only have come from George. I felt it was a message that told me everything would be ok. Just heard the same thing this morning. So.... my two rambunctious brothers that I dearly loved I think wanted me to know that they are not really gone. They are out there and they are both finally ok. I miss them terribly but the quail call helped. Thanks guys. You made this easier to accept but I will always miss you both. Your sister Susan.

**susan howe** - May 02 at 05:11 PM

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“ Michael was an extraordinary man. Big hearted is the word. Always there for anyone, everyone.  
A truly creative spirit...inspiring all around him on new ways to see the world. He changed our lives. And will be forever missed. As a great musician and even more so as a friend.  
All our sympathies to Wendy, the boys and families.

Mike & Aileen Ellis

Mike Ellis - April 26 at 10:17 PM

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“ Mike was a good friend. I served with him for a number of years on the PRA Board of Directors. We always had fun at the PRA conventions. I will miss him.

Glenn Bundy - April 23 at 08:46 PM

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“ Michael was an extraordinary man. He never minced words, he was honest and who he was. I was very blessed to know the creative side of Michael. Even though he was a professional businessman, God gave him the gift of creativity and expression... through music, through Art, through his passion for life. His passing is a great loss to me. His friendship was priceless. His passion for life set him apart from other men. All my love to Wendy and his boys and beautiful grand children. He was proud of his family and loved them. Michael, God has a special place for you. Your spirit and drive will be alive in another realm. I will miss you my Dear Friend.

Robert Baird - April 23 at 06:20 PM

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“ I am so very sorry for your loss, Wendy and family. My sincere condolences to all of you. Mike was far too young... Hugs to you. Jennifer Durot

**Jennifer Durot** - April 22 at 11:47 AM



“ Mark and I were so shocked to hear of this very sad news of Mike....  
We are so sorry for your loss  
We both sends our condolences to you and family ...  
Mark and Mary Debiase

**mary debiase** - April 23 at 12:01 PM



“ Wendy, I am so sorry for your loss. Please be kind to yourself during this difficult time.  
Janet Fryer

**Janet Fryer** - April 23 at 02:40 PM



“ Wendy, so sorry to hear about Mike. Never easy to go through this. I remember the times Mike, Jerry and myself had playing music together. Mike wrote some really good music that we were able do together playing out - those were fun times and that's how I remember Mike.

**Mark Stella** - April 26 at 01:04 PM



“ Wendy, I'm so sorry for Michael's passing, he was a very special man and your soulmate for 50 years. Peter and Nick, your dad's passion for family, friends, music, hobbies, and his business interests was over the top. I hoped he passed some of his strong passion for life down to you. Michael was a true and loyal friend to me, I will miss talking to him.

Kent Springer

**Kent Springer** - April 26 at 02:02 PM



“ I am so sorry Wendy

**Robert Reidel** - April 27 at 08:17 AM



“ Wendy: I just happened across Michael's obituary by accident, but I just wanted to let you know that I'm thinking of you during this difficult time. I have fond memories of working with you at the City of Lake Forest. God Bless you and your family.

**Susan Griffin** - April 29 at 05:29 PM