



Michael R. "Mike" Rivard

July 26, 1950 - June 6, 2019

Michael R. "Mike" Rivard, age 68, of Bradley, IL passed away Thursday, June 6, 2019 at Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee, IL. Mike was born July 26, 1950 in Kankakee, IL, the son of Raymond Joseph & Edna Mae (Smith) Rivard. Mike married Agnes Devine on March 16, 1974 in Irwin, IL.

Mike worked in maintenance. His first car was a 1941 Plymouth. Years later, he found that exact car that he previously owned and bought and restored it. Mike enjoyed his daily McDonald's breakfast club. He enjoyed watching his granddaughter play softball. Mike enjoyed spending time with his family.

He was an avid blood donor for the American Red Cross, having donated 48 gallons of blood over the years.

Mike was a parishioner of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bradley, IL.

Surviving are his wife, Agnes Rivard of Bradley, IL; three daughters and two sons-in-law, Brenda & Pong Balinquit of the Philippines, Michelle Rivard of Mascoutah, IL, and Renee & Colin Harling of Bradley, IL; three grandchildren, Liberty Rivard, Evan Balinquit, and Oakleigh Harling; three sisters and three brothers-in-law, Barb & Bob Langley of New Berlin, IL, Terry & David Lintecum of Fountain Hills, AZ, and Judy & Tim Ziemer of Palmer, AK; several brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law; and numerous nieces and nephews. Mike is preceded in death by his parents.

Visitation will be held from 4-7 p.m. Thursday, June 13, 2019 at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais, IL. A funeral mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Friday, June 14, 2019 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bradley, IL. Burial will follow at Sts. Mary & Joseph Cemetery in Chebanse, IL.

Memorials may be made to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (www.lls.org).

Cemetery

Events

Sts. Mary & Joseph

Chebanse, IL,

**JUN
13**

Visitation

04:00PM - 07:00PM

Bourbonnais - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.
295 Main St., NW, Bourbonnais, IL, US, 60914

**JUN
14**

Funeral Mass

10:00AM

St. Joseph Catholic Church
211 N. Center Street, Bradley, IL, US, 60915

Comments



“ We were given a gift when our moms became roommates at Miller & for having the opportunity to know Mike and the entire Rivard family...including his wonderful sisters, all of their spouses, & all their children & the grandchildren. Grateful our families grew to have a friendship that felt like an extended family. Our mom loved each and everyone of you. ALL of you always included mom in your visits. And after your sweet mom, Edna, passed, Mike was a faithful visitor still. He was such a kind, caring man. He continued to visit mom regularly never forgetting to bring her that fresh cup of coffee she loved almost as much as his visits. Mom enjoyed the conversation, laughs, and catching up on family happenings. That is the connection she & Mike had...FAMILY. They loved their families fiercely. It wasn't ever one sided... where one only wanted to talk about his or her own children. They both always wanted to also hear about each others families. We will be forever grateful for the blessing of Mike & the entire Rivard Family. Rest in peace Mike. Prayers to you all.

Kim Hubert
(Alice's daughter)

Kim Hubert - Yesterday at 03:38 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to Agnes and all Mike's family. Mike and I were first cousins with only 3 years difference in age. I recall many Rivard family gatherings during which we interacted in our childhoods. As I, Mike was interested in genealogy and family history. I cherish the CD he prepared and gave to me with records and photos of our Rivard and Breault ancestors. Thank you, Mike. Rest in peace.

Wayne Hubert - June 14 at 10:56 AM



“ Prayers to the Rivard family. Mike was a nice man always with a smile on his face. My thoughts are with you all.

Jessica - June 12 at 09:57 PM



“ 100 files added to the album LifeTributes





“ When People say nobody is perfect I think to myself well they must not have a dad like I do. He was the most patient, selfless and caring man I have ever met. He would drop everything to help me whether it be to fix a hole in the wall, assemble a piece of furniture, bring me a tool to use that I didn't own, put a screw in my broken glasses, bring me to the airport, fix the brakes on my car, fix a necklace, bring Liberty to practice, and hold Oakleigh so I could get something done around the house. This list could last several pages but the selfless act I will never forget was the trip he made to pick me up from California when I was pregnant with Liberty. He never complained once (that I know of) about driving to pick me and my belongings up to bring me back home. He made me a bed in the truck accompanied by a tv to make the 55 hour drive with a trailer a little more comfortable for me. I often think of how the last 14 years could have been much different if he never made that trip to get me and I stayed living states away. I am so thankful for him being a father figure to Liberty for the first 8 years of her life. She knew that with her Papa around, her bedtime was a little later, bowls of ice cream were a little bigger and the bacon had a perfect crisp to it. Her Papa never missed a school concert, softball game, track meet, basketball game, volleyball game, awards ceremony or school play. I can say the same about him never missing events for his three daughters as well. My dad recently made comments about his goal was to watch Liberty play highschool softball. This may not be the way he expected to do that but will now never miss a game. He only had 6 short months with Oakleigh. He would get so excited when we would drop by unexpectedly and get to hold her. “Tell Papa all about it,” is what I am going to miss him saying the most. Now we will tell her all about him. My dad was the happiest man when his family was all in one place. He loved watching Evan and Liberty interact and become inseparable when he visited. Three years ago he brought us on an unforgettable Disney World vacation that was perfect in every way. The memories we created on this trip are priceless. We called it a vacation of a lifetime until we returned home and he immediately started talking about wanting to do it all over again! I'm also lucky to have so many memories of family vacations when I was a child. We took numerous road trips to see family, experience new places and make new memories. My dad has talked about moving to Colorado since I can remember. I have no doubt he is drinking coffee on top of a mountain talking everyone's ear off about everyone special in his life. We will miss you dad and life will never be the same. Love you Dad
-Renee

Renee Harling - June 11 at 09:01 AM



“ Mike was the epitome of what a father, husband, and grandfather should be. His family was everything to him and he showed that on a daily basis. His children and grandchildren have been the luckiest people in the world to be able to experience the genuine love Mike had for them. The love he had for his wife is the kind of love everyone should be able to experience. I know everyone who has ever had the

chance to meet him, will be sad to not see his happy face around.

Vicki Lynn - June 11 at 07:27 AM



“ Always enjoyed watching his love for softball and watching Liberty play. He was right there rooting for her every second of the game. Even rooting for her teammates. So sorry for the loss for this family.

Randy Fisher/Adyson Gordon - June 11 at 06:39 AM



“ Dear Mike. I'm sure your reading this seeing how sad you made everybody feel right now but you also made everyone that knew you smile, laugh and groan at your corny jokes at some time in your life. Judy and I wanted so much to show you Alaska. We know how you loved mountains and we have some awesome ones. Mike you left us way to early and will be truly missed. I'm so happy that you were part of my life. I just wish we could have watched one more Bears game together. Rest In Peace Mike.
Tim

Tim Ziemer - June 10 at 11:04 PM



“ Mike was a generous little brother who was always there to help me and my family .



Terry Lintecum - June 10 at 09:50 PM



“ My big brother Mike was one of the most amazing people I ever knew. There was literally nothing he couldn't accomplish if he set his mind to it. He was kind, gentle, loving, helpful, very funny, witty and talented in so many different ways that made me so proud to be his little sister.

He could do almost anything...from restoring his most beloved & sacred Plymouth, (or fixing any car for that matter), woodworking and creating beautiful pieces of furniture such as the huge bookcases in his family room, plumbing & welding & electrical & putting in new gas & sewer lines (which he helped Tim & I with so many different times over the years & never complained once; although he should have..lol) and he could even build a big beautiful perfect addition onto his home all

by himself! These are just a few of the countless things Mike was capable of. I will always be indebted to him for the countless hours he put in to help me and my sisters care for our mom as her health failed over the years. Although he had health issues of his own, Mike came almost every single day to Butterfield and Miller Nursing Home to help with mom. (and oftentimes more than once a day.) I will be forever grateful for our daily visits and countless conversations over a cup of coffee at Miller's while visiting our mom. We had great talks & laughs over those many cups of coffee and I will treasure those times together forever in my heart. The staff never once failed to comment about what a wonderful son he was to mom. I need to point out that Mike did the same exact thing for our dad who passed in 1993. We could always count on him!

Most importantly he was a wonderful husband to my sweet sister in law Agnes, a great dad to his beautiful daughters Brenda, Michelle & Renee, a a good father in law to Pong & Collin and a most dedicated Papa to Libby, Evan & Oakleigh. Oh how he loved them so and never failed to update me their accomplishments. His family meant the world to him.

He favorite hobby was watching all Libby's ballgames & told me many times that's what kept him going (despite his failing health.) I was lucky enough to speak with him that morning before he passed & he was bubbling with pride over Libby's softball accomplishments. He also said he had Alaska on his bucket list & planned to come visit one day when he felt better. I promised him we would show him everything & send him home in a week so he wouldn't have time to get sick in Alaska. I found out his eyes were donated & my heart soars that a part of him will still live on and be able to see the world. Maybe those eyes will get to Alaska someday to see the sights as he had planned.

So good bye to our wonderful brother, and brother in law and favorite uncle to our children & my sisters children as well.(and great uncle to their children) You are loved & will be missed dearly! We know how you loved your Plymouth and cars so we hope you're having fun cruising up above and we hope you are watching all the ballgames in a front row seat! You've earned your angel wings Mike! Rest In Peace big bro.... until we meet again!

We love you so much!!!! Judy & Tim

judy & Tim Ziemer - June 10 at 06:15 PM



“ You were a wonderful brother-in-law Mike, and we will miss you lots. God gained a fierce and true warrior by his side when He called you home. Rest in peace.

Rose & Gary Mitchell - June 10 at 05:35 PM