



Michael "Mike" Joseph Bilyard

September 22, 1952 - December 28, 2023

Michael "Mike" Joseph Bilyard, age 71, of Manteno passed away Thursday, December 28, 2023 at his home. He was born September 22, 1952 in Streator, the son of Alwin Eugene & Wilma Josephine (Ohmes) Bilyard. Mike married Nancy Walker on September 20, 1980 at NAS Barbers Point Chapel in Honolulu County, Hawaii.

Mike was a veteran of the United States Navy, having served from 1975 to 1981. He was stationed in Honolulu, Hawaii and Corpus Christi, Texas. He was a Naval Aviator and flew the P-3 Orion and T-28 Trojan.

Mike graduated from Parks College of St. Louis University where he was a member of the Alpha Phi Omega fraternity.

After leaving the military he took over the family chicken farm in Bourbonnais. Mike owned Rockville Bait, worked at Armour Pharmaceuticals, and then Instrumedics before happily retiring. He was an inventor and engineer who loved tinkering in his shed. He was an avid fisherman, woodworker, and enjoyed working on model aircraft.

Mike was of the Catholic faith.

Surviving are his wife of 43 years, Nancy Bilyard of Manteno; his children,

Joseph (Karin) Bilyard of Huntley, Jennifer Bilyard of Springfield, Jeffrey (Heather) Bilyard of Bourbonnais, and James Bilyard of Oswego; one sister and two brothers-in-law, Sharon (Patrick) Skelly of Bourbonnais and Dale Barnes of TX; five grandchildren, Brennan Bilyard, Wesley Bilyard, Elwyn Bilyard, Henry Hobson, and Max Bilyard; and numerous other beloved family members. Mike is preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Patricia Barnes.

Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. until the time of the 12 p.m. funeral service on Saturday, January 6, 2024 at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Manteno. Deacon Patrick Skelly will officiate the service. Cremation rites will be accorded following the service. Private family inurnment will be held at Bloom's Grove Cemetery in Rockville Township at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the family wishes.

Cemetery Details

Bloom Cemetery

W. 8270N Rd.
Manteno, IL 60950

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 6. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Manteno - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.
291 N. Main St.
Manteno, IL 60950
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Funeral Service

JAN 6. 12:00 PM (CT)

Manteno - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.
291 N. Main St.
Manteno, IL 60950
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Tribute Wall

JB

“ Jenny Bilyard lit a candle in memory of Michael "Mike" Joseph Bilyard



Jenny Bilyard - August 02, 2024 at 02:21 PM

EG

“ I worked with Mike at CSL Behring...great person all around. The thing I will remember most about him is he put his family first...he loved his wife and was very proud of his children. Always enjoyed visiting the Bilyards farm and talking with everyone. Eternal rest grant unto him and may perpetual light shine upon him.

Ed Grabow - January 13, 2024 at 11:06 PM

AC

“ Our deepest sympathy and prayers to the family.

Amy Ciaccio-Jarvis - January 05, 2024 at 03:32 PM

CS

“ Carla Scheppler lit a candle in memory of Michael "Mike" Joseph Bilyard



Carla Scheppler - January 05, 2024 at 11:27 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Michael "Mike" Joseph Bilyard.

January 04, 2024 at 01:19 PM