



## Michael C. Harsha

August 27, 1974 - April 27, 2013

Michael C. Harsha, 38, of Kankakee, died April 27, 2013, in Kankakee. Services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 11, at Calvary Bible Church in Bourbonnais. Arrangements are made by Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home, west Kankakee.

He was born Aug. 27, 1974, the son of Gerald and Bonnie Wood Harsha. He worked for Welch Ready Mix in Oak Forest. A kid at heart, he enjoyed playing GI Joes with his sons, playing football with his kids and watching Duck Dynasty. He loved trains, cooking, gardening and poker, and he was very handy. He loved the holidays, especially Christmas and Halloween, and he loved spending time with his family... "the more the merrier." He enjoyed watching sports on TV, especially the Chicago Cubs and the Chicago Bears.

He is survived by his wife, the former Tara Wallerich, whom he married July 31, 2009, at their home in Kankakee; his children, Kaytlyn, Justin, Jerry and Ethan; his parents, of Kankakee; paternal grandmother, Lissie Harsha, of Kankakee; aunts and uncles, Carolyn Harsha and Christine Harsha, both of Kankakee, and Bruce and Renee Wood, of Limestone; sister-in-law, Andrea Harsha, of Kankakee; his mother-in-law and father-in-law; several brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law; 14 nieces and nephews; and many friends.

He was preceded in death by one sister, Lisa Robin Harsha; one brother,

Jeffery "Scott" Harsha; paternal grandfather, Walter Harsha; and maternal grandparents, John and Lorraine Wood.

Memorials may be made to the Harsha Family Fund at Fifth Third Bank (located in Ultra Foods, Kankakee).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAY 11. 1:00 PM (CT)

Calvary Bible Church  
2587 E. Armour Rd.  
Bourbonnais, IL 60914

# Tribute Wall

JW

“ I Miss and love you my beautiful Son-In-Law, don't know what We are gonna do with out you! Except look at your photo and thank the good Lord that we were blessed to have known and loved you!

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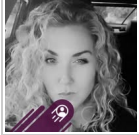
**Julie Wallerich** - July 12, 2013 at 09:50 PM

MM

“ I will miss his "EEE" face. When he reached out to me in 10' and I made plans to visit him, the first thing he did before shaking my hand at the airport when he picked me up was the face, it made me laugh and set the tone for the week or so I was out there. Miss you buddy.

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**Mike "melvin" Malvestuto** - May 10, 2013 at 01:17 AM



“ I can't help but to feel selfish at this time and be mad that He is gone! Mike didn't discriminate, he welcomed anyone with open arms. He loved his family and his friends! And for the past few years he had gone through some major ups and downs. From finding the love of his life and marrying her, which I had the honor to be a part of, to losing both his sister and brother. I thank Tara for being in his life at this difficult time in his life! So thankful that he found you! He was the "Rock" for so many, but Tara, You were his! When he met you, you made him feel complete! He loved you so much. I am so thankful that he had you to lean on! Thank you so much for making him complete! Love you!



The type of friend that Mike was is a one of a kind. You don't find very many of them anymore. If you needed him he was there, no matter what time!

He was the type of person that loved having family and friends around him. He was a Pro when it came to planning parties! And good ones too! And if there was a card game in the making, HE WAS IN! Mike could talk to anyone, but he held his family and friends close. I felt safe around him and at ease. Mike was more of a brother to me. He never called me by my name, he always called me "Sis". And when I introduced him to someone I introduced him as my brother. We could sit and talk about what would seem to be stupid stuff to other people, but cool to us. We took pride in the fact that we could answer any trivia question about the movie "Rocky"! We were such "Friday the 13th" & "Nightmare On Elm Street" nerds! When the new "Nightmare On Elm Street" movie came out we had to go see it only to walk out disappointed! He said it just wasn't right without Robert Englund!

Halloween was his favorite holiday! And he loved Christmas. He did all the Christmas shopping. He was selfless when it came to that, but the one day he was a brat was HIS BIRTHDAY! He got to be a Brat for a day! It was all about him! The one day he could be completely selfish and not feel guilty.....lol! "It's My Birthday, And It's All About Me!"

*You know, I can go on and on with one story after another but It would take a lifetime. He was my best friend, my brother, the male version of me. We loved each other like brother and sister and we fought like it too! He meant so much to so many people! He Is and always will be the people's brother!*

*And to Bonnie & Jerry (Mom & Dad), My heart breaks for you! You all have been consuming my thoughts! Katie and Jerry have been on my mind and their are no words that can describe the heartbreak I and everyone must be feeling for them. For a daughter her Daddy is her first love and for a son he is his Hero. And the pain of losing that is worse than any other!*

*Mike was a wonderful life that was ripped from us way to soon! I will forever me Mad, sad, and heartbroken. If any of his family need me ill be there for them. I love you all! I love you Brother!*

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**Erma Sizemore-Casey** - May 04, 2013 at 12:11 PM



“ *Lisa Fairfield lit a candle in memory of Michael C. Harsha*



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**Lisa Fairfield** - May 04, 2013 at 08:25 AM

JE

“ *i remember mike as a lil girl and he was always around me an my family when they told me he passed away ..... i cried i just seen him with me an my family at my grandmas funeral ..... he told everything was ok that she was in a better place.... an know i can i say god takes good people with him ..... mike was a vary nice man who i can say was like a uncle to me .....hes family is in my prayer*



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**jessica** - May 03, 2013 at 07:25 PM



“ *Kim Stephens-Ayers lit a candle in memory of Michael C. Harsha*



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**Kim Stephens-Ayers** - May 03, 2013 at 05:37 PM



“ *My deepest sympathies to the entire Harsha family. There are no words... I will keep all in my thoughts and prayers. God bless Mike and may God help his family get through this most difficult time. Will keep you all in my thoughts and prayers. Julie Denault Parker*

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**Julia Denault Parker** - May 03, 2013 at 01:00 AM



“ *Mike was such a good man, father, and overall just a great person. I just sae him at Victory lanes a week or 2 ago. He asked me if it was true I was engaged even though it was only a April Fools thing. He called me a brat cause he thought it was true even though it wasn't. This was the last time I saw him and I am glad I did. RIP Mike.*



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**Stephanie Regas** - May 02, 2013 at 08:31 PM

  
Heatherar  
Erickson

“ *Michael was an amazing Husband, a hero as a father and a true and loyal friend. There is not a person who knew him that is not both shocked, and deeply saddened by the loss of Big Mike. There are so many memories that we all share and hold dear to our hearts. I will miss you my friend and am forever grateful for our friendship, and I promise I will do everything I can to help Tara, the kids, and your family through this unmanageable loss.*

*In My Heart*  
*Heatherann Low*



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Heatherann Erickson - May 02, 2013 at 04:27 PM

RR

“ *The Harsha family lived next door to my Aunt, Uncle, and cousins growing up. My cousins and I were as close as siblings. The Harsha kids were like an extension of our own family. I remember all of us playing so many games of flashlight tag, hide and seek, etc... He was like the older brother I never had. I even made up a story in 1st grade about "my" brother, It was Mikey I had in mind when I told that tall tale. Lol! To that 6 year old little girl, he epitomized everything I thought a big brother should be. He always treated me with kindness and stood up for me when needed. I felt like the coolest kid in my neighborhood when I invited Mike (5 years older than I) to my 5th or 6th birthday party and he actually came! I have a picture of this somewhere. I hope I can find it! I was pitifully sad when they moved to Kankakee. I never did see him again and was thrilled beyond words when I discovered he was finally on facebook. To me, he looked exactly the same. I was glad to have the chance to reconnect and make him laugh. I have been shocked and saddened by his passing. I am holding him and all of his loved ones in my heart and my prayers. Peace be with you, Rachel (O'Dell) Ragan*

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Rachel (O'Dell) Ragan - May 02, 2013 at 03:49 PM