



Michael John Wayer

April 3, 1946 - October 27, 2025

Michael John Wayer, 79, of Kankakee, peacefully found comfort in his well-deserved rest on Monday, October 27, 2025. Michael was born on April 3, 1946, in Chicago, the son of Vincent and Mary (Madecyzk) Wayer. He was a proud graduate of the University of St. Mary of the Lake and DePaul University.

He devoted more than 35 years of his career to educational leadership within Catholic schools in the Chicago area and at St. Patrick's Grade School in Kankakee, where he guided the school through its transition to Aquinas Catholic Academy. His dedication to faith-based education and his commitment to students, families, and colleagues made a lasting impact on the community he so faithfully served.

On June 24, 1972, Michael married the love of his life, Virginia H. (Kmiecik) Wayer, and together they shared 52 wonderful years filled with love, laughter, and devotion.

Michael is lovingly remembered by his children, Ali (Jeff Dumas), Jason (Misti), and Teri (Travis Crumrine); and his adored grandchildren, Ollie, Sophia, Gabriella, Spencer, Isaac, and Stella. He is also survived by his brother, Vincent Wayer, and brother-in-law, Gregory Macievic.

Preceding him in death were his wife; his parents and sister, Patricia (Wayer) Macievic.

Michael enjoyed tending to his garden, watching movies, writing poetry, and reading. He cherished annual family vacations and occasional trips to Las

Vegas casinos.

The family would like to express heartfelt gratitude to all who shared their love, prayers, and support. Though he is no longer with us, his spirit, humor, and love will continue to guide our family always.

Cremation rites have been accorded.

Memorial visitation will be from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the 12:00 p.m. memorial Mass on Friday, December 5, 2025, at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Kankakee.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association.

Arrangements are by Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home, Kankakee.

Please sign his guestbook at www.clancygernon.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

DEC 5. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Patrick Catholic Church
428 S. Indiana
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-6716

Memorial Mass

DEC 5. 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Patrick Catholic Church
428 S. Indiana
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-6716

Tribute Wall

ER

“ Our condolences to the family. May God bless you through this difficult time 🙏🙏



Ed and Nancy Rodgers - December 01, 2025 at 04:24 PM

LF

“ Deepest condolences and sympathy to the family of Michael Wayer. He was a very kind man and always had a wonderful smile. Having known him and Virginia for many decades at St. Pat's know there was no sweeter couple in the world then them. We would often catch up before the 4:00 p.m. Sat. mass with treasured stories of their grandchildren and life. Know Michael is with Virginia and God in heaven. They both will be deeply missed. Your family is in our prayers during this difficult time. 🙏💔



Lou & Jolynne Fahey - November 29, 2025 at 07:53 PM

KD

“ In 1980, Mike and I began 30 year careers as principals of Catholic schools in the Diocese of Joliet. Mike started at St. Patrick in Kankakee and I began at Immaculate Conception School in Morris. During those years, Mike and I participated together in many meetings and functions. Mike was a faith filled servant leader – a man of God, family, and others. He had a great sense of humor and was always able to put things in proper perspective. During those years, he helped shepherd school communities through the process of many changes. For Mike, these included helping lead the mergers and the renaming of schools. Mike cared deeply and every decision he made was based on Jesus being the Reason for the school. He was an outstanding Catholic school administrator who has earned a high place alongside Virginia in Heaven. Now that he's found his eternal home, I hope that he puts in a good word for me.

Kim DesLauriers - November 03, 2025 at 11:23 AM

JU

“ I am so sorry for your loss of both of your parents now. I remember your dad as principal at St Pat's grade school and your mom taught all 3 of my children. Your parents are now together again. May you all have peace and wonderful memories

Julie Uribe - October 30, 2025 at 10:25 PM

KA

“ Michael Wayer Family I love them

Karl - October 30, 2025 at 06:52 PM

TH

“ We are so sorry for your (and our) loss. Both of your parents were such a great part of the 41 years we have lived here. Prayers for all continue. God Bless Michael and Virginia, and all of you.

Therese - October 30, 2025 at 04:06 PM