



Michael Henry Miller

May 15, 1948 - January 5, 2024

Mike Miller, 75, of Spirit Lake passed away January 5 surrounded by family at Lakes Regional Health Care.

A graveside service with Military Rites will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 30, 2024, at the Lake View Gardens Cemetery in Spirit Lake.

Michael Henry “Butch” Miller was born May 15, 1948, to Wayne and Hazel (Bell) Miller in West Bend, IA. He attended and graduated from West Bend High School in 1966. After high school he enlisted in the Army National Guard. On August 5, 1972, Butch married the love of his life Jacquelyn Knecht in West Bend.

While Jackie was a nurse, Butch farmed until 1975 and worked for Farm Services, Reiff Grain & Feed and Batavia Elevator before beginning his career with the United States Postal Service – where he worked his way up to Postmaster until his retirement in 2005. He also continued to raise hogs and broilers with his family in Libertyville, teaching the values of responsibility, self-discipline, and hard work to his children along the way. When Jackie tragically died in 1987, Butch took the challenge of raising his children head-on: spending countless hours coaching their teams, in the bleachers watching them play and attending all their academic endeavors – band & choir concerts, speech and drama performances, awards banquets, etc. He served

on numerous committees and always encouraged his children to stand behind the decisions they made as they grew up. He also loved playing ball at the Annual Miller Reunion with his nieces, nephews and all the kids, and taking his grandkids to Arnolds Park during summer visits.

Butch was a member of the Lions Club and a lifetime member of the American Legion. After his retirement from the USPS, he worked part-time at multiple places, retiring “for good” in the Summer of 2023 from his position on the Board of Homestead Co-op. Butch was a lifelong Iowa Hawkeye fan, and you could always find plenty of pop and popcorn around during Hawkeye games.

Mike is survived by his children Mike (Deann) Miller of Richmond, TX; Jill (Ryan) McCormick of Chattanooga, TN; Chris (Cheryl) Miller of Ankeny; and Drew Miller of West Des Moines; Grandchildren Riley, Cole and Callie McCormick, Jake, Devyn, and Luke Miller; and sister Peggy (Merle) Boomgarden of Algona; and many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents, wife Jackie, brothers Herb, Rich, Bud, Lannie, and Denny along with his sister Joyce.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

MAR 30. 3:00 PM (CT)

Lake View Gardens Cemetery
Spirit Lake, IA

Tribute Wall

GT

“ *Gayle T. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Michael Henry Miller.*



Gayle T. - March 29, 2024 at 04:26 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Michael Henry Miller.*



March 26, 2024 at 03:45 PM

MB

“ *Butch was our neighbor on Center Lake for several years. He was always kind and loved to tease us. Blessings to Mike, Jill, Chris and Drew. You always made your Father proud.*
Marlys Cattrysse-Blum & Catie Cattrysse

Marlys Blum - January 13, 2024 at 08:08 PM

BS

“ *Beverly Sill lit a candle in memory of Michael Henry Miller*



Beverly Sill - January 09, 2024 at 12:52 PM

LM

“ My deepest sympathies to all the family. I enjoyed having Chris and Andrew in my music classes at Seton. I am sure he is enjoying heaven with Jackie after all these years.

Linda Mertz - January 08, 2024 at 07:51 PM

RL

“ Butch was a great man. He was very active with his children and their activities. We became friends when our daughters—Jill and Tami began playing sports together.
Thoughts and prayers with all of you!

Richelle Larson - January 08, 2024 at 04:46 PM

RM

“ We wish to send our sincere condolences to all of Butch’s family. We enjoyed our visit with him last summer at the class picnic. We will keep you all in our prayers in the days and weeks ahead and Butch will be remembered often and fondly.
Rachel & Patrick Montag
Class of ‘66 WBHS

rachel Montag - January 08, 2024 at 03:06 PM