



Michael Strum

March 29, 1956 - August 7, 2020

Michael Strum, 64, of Spirit Lake passed away unexpectedly on Friday, August 7, 2020 at Lakes Regional Healthcare. A memorial service is scheduled for 11:00 am Thursday, August 13, 2020 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, but will start at 10:45 a.m., as we all know, Mike was 15 minutes early for anything he did. Visitation will begin at 9:30 until service time on Thursday at the church. Military Funeral Rites will follow the service at the church conducted by the Iowa Army National Guard Funeral Honors Team. Burial will take place in the Worthing Cemetery in Worthing, SD.

Michael was born on March 29, 1956 in Sioux Falls, SD to Harold and Deloris (Newman) Strum. He graduated from Lincoln High School in Sioux Falls and received his Psychology Degree from the University of Missouri in Columbia, MO.

Mike proudly served his country in the US Army as a Military Policeman. He was honorably discharged and retired from the Army after 20 years of service. Mike was even more proud when daughter Michaela joined the Air Force. And jumped at the chance to visit when she was stationed in North Dakota.

Mike was united in marriage to Donna Sailor on July 6, 1988. Mike adopted Donna's two children Matthew and Emily, grateful to call them his own; to this union their daughter Michaela was born. Mike loved all three children deeply

and embraced their Native American Heritage. The marriage ended in divorce. He was later married to Dawn Ludwig in January 8, 2006 in Spirit Lake.

After retirement from the Army, Mike settled in Spirit Lake and worked for Hope Haven for 13 years. He was most recently a driver for the Rides Bus in town.

Mike was an avid reader, a huge Minnesota Twins fan, dabbled in wood working, delighted in leading music for Hope Haven Retreats and JOY Camp, and volunteered with Special Olympics. Most of all, Mike enjoyed playing his guitar and performing for anyone who would listen. A couple of his favorite accomplishments were when he got to sing at Ernest Tub's Record Shop in Nashville; and in recent years, performing with Dawn at the Clay County Fair in Spencer.

Mike was a wealth of fun facts, bad jokes, and useless knowledge. Especially any trivia pertaining to Classic Country Music! Dawn has a coffee mug with "I don't need GOOGLE; my husband knows everything" printed on the side. Surprisingly, this was not a gift from Mike!

He is survived by his wife, Dawn Strum of Spirit Lake; son Matthew Strum of Menominee Reservation, WI; daughter Emily Engrisch of Anchorage, AK; daughter Michaela (Miguel) Soto who is currently stationed in the Netherlands in the US Air Force; brothers Roger Strum of Omaha and Chris Strum (wife Angela; son Aaron) of Lenox, SD; sister Pamela Kent (husband Mike; children Haley, Kelsey, Easton) of Omaha, NE; his two grandchildren Bunnie and Roxxi; aunts and uncle, Shirley Swanson, Melvina and Richard Newman. He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Patricia, aunt Shirley Newman and uncle Pete Swanson.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in Mike's name and will be donated to a charity of the family's choice.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 13. 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM (CT)

Immanuel Lutheran Church
2300 27th Street
Spirit Lake, IA 51360

Service

AUG 13. 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM (CT)

Immanuel Lutheran Church
2300 27th Street
Spirit Lake, IA 51360


Tribute Wall



“ *Robinson Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Michael Strum*



Robinson Funeral Home - August 12, 2020 at 11:57 AM

 Amber Kollasch

“ *Dawn - I am so sorry for your loss. I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers.*
Amber Kollasch



Amber Kollasch - August 11, 2020 at 09:54 PM

RA

“ *What a blessing Mike was to so many others we were blessed to call him a friend and we saw first hand the joy that he and Dawn brought others through music and laughter. He taught us what real country music was and when you serve apple crisp you should always have ice cream to go with it. Prayers for Dawn and family as you celebrate a life well lived. May you feel the love and comfort of God's peace.*

Respite Angels - August 11, 2020 at 04:11 PM

TF

“ *The Swanson and Orth Families purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Michael Strum.*



The Swanson and Orth Families - August 11, 2020 at 12:37 PM

EB

“ *Sorry for your loss. He will always be in your heard. He is Gods angel now.*

Evelyn BRANCH - August 11, 2020 at 10:52 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Michael Strum.*



August 10, 2020 at 08:58 PM



“ *Keeping all of you in our thoughts and prayers. We enjoyed listening to Mike play and know that he touched so many lives. May all your memories, the love and support of family and friends, and the assurance of God's eternal love give you comfort and peace.*

Dave & Bev Petrick

Beverly Petrick - August 09, 2020 at 09:11 PM

ER

“ Mike will be missed by so many! I remember the first day I met him he asked me a question and after I answered he said “I think you and I will get along just fine” 😊. I will miss his smart come backs. Be Free and Fly high



Erica - August 09, 2020 at 08:14 PM

ML

“ We were so saddened by Mike's sudden death. I always enjoyed listening to Mike and Dawn when they had the church service at Cutty's. So sorry I couldn't go the last time you were at Cutty's. May God give you Comfort and Strength at this difficult time. Our Sympathy and Prayers to Dawn and all the family!
Don and Marlene Loring



Marlene Loring - August 09, 2020 at 07:46 PM

CL

“ Dawn, I am so deeply sorry to hear of Mike's passing! I am so blessed to have a copy of the two of you sharing your gift of music! Prayers for you and the family! ❤️

Carolyn Lessmeier - August 09, 2020 at 07:20 PM

LH

“ We didn't know Michael very well, but we loved his parents Harold & Deloris. Harold was one of Eldon's truck drivers for Hagen Rock & Gravel. They loved their children very much and were very proud of them! It will be a wonderful reunion going on in Heaven. Our thoughts & prayers for the family, Eldon & Linda Hagen 🙏❤️

Linda Hagen - August 09, 2020 at 05:05 PM

DH

“ Soooo very sorry to hear of Mike's death. We just listened to him play and sing at Cutty's a couple of weeks ago...So sorry to you all, Dawn and family. In our thoughts and prayers.

Dave and Linda Hagedorn

David Hagedorn - August 09, 2020 at 01:52 PM

PT

“ Paula E Krogman Tietz lit a candle in memory of Michael Strum



Paula E Krogman Tietz - August 09, 2020 at 09:25 AM

BC

“ Dawn, we were deeply saddened to hear about Mike's passing. I truly enjoyed working with you and Mike on the recording that you made at my studio. He was a talented and dedicated man. Our deepest condolences and prayers are with you at this time. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Bill & Jackie Carpenter

Bill Carpenter - August 09, 2020 at 08:39 AM

MH

“ We will always remember Mike for his friendly ways and the joy he gave to others with your singing. Our sympathy goes out to you Dawn.

TJ and Maxine

Maxine Huntsinger - August 08, 2020 at 05:06 PM

 Cindy
Voss

“ Mike was a valued driver for RIDES. He was ever so dedicated and compassionate. Mike drove for our most vital passengers and never missed a-day during our COVID shut down while transportating dialysis passengers, those trips are life sustaining. We are ever so grateful for Mike he will be missed by his RIDES family and cherished by the community he served

Cindy Voss - August 08, 2020 at 01:36 PM