



Michael William Keech

APR 14, 1958 - SEP 19, 2024



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M ichael Keech Obituary

Michael William Keech, 66, of Lorain, died Thursday, September 19, 2024 at Lake Pointe Health Center, Lorain. He was born April 14, 1958 in Elyria and was a 1976 graduate of Elyria High School.

Mike earned his Star rank as a Boy Scout. A strong canoe paddler, he was pressed into service to get an injured fellow Scout back to basecamp in the Boundary Waters of Minnesota. He also played catcher on his Little League baseball team.

Mike was a second generation Elyria High School football team offensive lineman, earning a letter and being named lineman of the week several times during the 1975 season. He blocked for running back Hubert Oliver, who later played for the Philadelphia Eagles. His uncle Dart had blocked for Heisman Trophy winner Vic Janowicz, and Mike's father set a record for snaps played. Mike's dad, Nial, was a single-wing center, graduating in 1943; his schoolmates called him 'Nails'. Like his father and his mother Carol, Mike was a powerful, constructive force.

In a game in Fremont Mike performed well against a player who had been named to an all-state defensive team. Mike put the player on his back, which is a sweet experience for an offensive lineman. He had great balance and played smart, under coach and family friend, 'Shotgun' Sheldon's tutelage.

After being diagnosed with Schizophrenia, Mike served on a National Alliance for the Mentally Ill state advisory group, where his mother was also a long-time advocate for the availability of behavioral health services. He demonstrated his goodwill by his actions, as when he reassured a schoolmate experiencing her first psychiatric hospitalization that she would be OK; indeed she recovered, and has been a nurse for many years.

Mike was a materials handler at Guilford Instrument, getting necessary materials to various spots within the Oberlin facility; his supervisor Ron understood and connected with Mike. He earned



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an Associate's Degree at Lorain County Community College. He had earlier worked at Sommer's Mobile Home Park and delivered office supplies for Au Werter's Office Outfitters.

While we have accompanied Mike on this final journey, the members of his extended family are flooded with memories of his steady good nature, his thoughtfulness and his generous love. His two brothers are indebted to him for the care he provided to each of our parents during their last days, while his brothers were located elsewhere.

Thank you for all the ways our family has experienced the love and support of our neighbors in our hometown, and for your care of Michael for over most of sixty-six years.

In memory of Mike, be generous in expressing love. Engage in quiet reflection, confess your shortcomings and always strive to be constructive.

Mike is survived by brothers, Spencer of Elyria and Bradley (Gayle) of Niles; an aunt, Sarah Keech and many cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Nial Corbin and Carol Claire (nee Schroeder) Keech.

Friends will be received Sunday, October 6, 2024 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm in the courtyard at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 330 Second Street, Elyria.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to a local nature center or metropark.

To send flowers
to the family or plant a tree
in memory of Michael William Keech, please visit our floral store.

[Read More](#)



Tribute Wall

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SK

Spence Keech posted:

Betsy and her sister Lynn made those summers so special, on the property which had been the landing spot, from New England to Ohio. My brothers and I got so much access throughout our early lives, and when sent to bed in the bunk beds did our best to stay awake and take in the stories of our elders unspooling around the table just feet beyond our heads. It wasn't a fancy cabin, in fact the wood planks inside were stained by moisture forced inside during the course of the year, and mice had to be evicted each year. I am told my dad complained about have to dump the chemical toilet, when it was Mike, myself and our older brother most made the chemical toilet necessary. I think by the time Betsy and Lynn were there there was plumbing!

September 30 at 4:37 PM

SK

Spence Keech posted:

our shared summers were a blessing, as have been continued experiences with you, now joined by family members born since. More than a few times in the 60's we walked Mr. Murray's dog back home, Our presence defied Mr. Murray's having forbidden our walking on his portion of the shore, but he wanted the dog back... His property is now the study center Northwest of the bridge crossing over Old Woman's Creek.

September 30 at 4:25 PM

BE

Betsy Evans posted:

Mike was the youngest of our cousins, on both sides of our family. My family spent 3 summers at Anderson Acres in 1965-66-67. It was once a part of our great, great, great grandparents farm which became a trailer park/cottages for rent/campground on the shores of Lake Erie on Hwy. 2/6 east of Huron, OH. Those 3 summers my sister and I got to know our Anderson cousins. The Keeches came almost every weekend from Elyria to play in the lake with the inner tubes, hike the beach, look for lucky stones, skip rocks, row the red rowboat up Old Woman Creek to the Island, and walk the farm lane, ride in the old jeep truck to the dump with my Dad and go to Cedar Point together. And we played hours of card games in the Anderson Family cottage around the old oak table, which they had to re-teach us each summer. We were one big group of 5 cousins who enjoyed everything we did together. What fond memories! Mike, one day perhaps we'll renew those memories!

September 26 at 6:23 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Michael by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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