



Michael Gene "Mike" Morriss

November 8, 1968 - March 16, 2023

Michael Morriss went home to be with the Lord, Thursday, March 16, 2023 in his home in Waynesville, Missouri at the age of 54 years old.

Mike was born on November 8, 1968 in the Missouri Methodist Hospital in St. Joseph, Missouri to his parents Erv and Susan Morriss. His family moved to Waynesville shortly after where he attended the Waynesville School District and graduated in 1986. Mike later earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Elementary Education from Drury University, Masters in Educational Administration from Missouri State University, and a Specialist in Educational Administration from Lindenwood University.

Mike met Jeanne Broom while doing a practicum at Bowerman Elementary School in Springfield, Missouri where she was completing her student teaching. They married four years later on April 3, 1993 in the Waynesville United Methodist Church where he was a member. Mike and Jeanne were blessed with three children Makayla, Jacob, and Eric.

Mike was an educator and administrator with the Waynesville School District for 26 years where he served as an elementary teacher at Thayer Elementary, golf coach for Waynesville High School, assistant principal and later head principal of East Elementary, principal of Pershing Elementary, and principal of Freedom Elementary. Mike was proud that he had an instrumental part in the

development of Freedom Elementary where he became Freedom's first principal serving there for 11 years before retiring in 2017.

Mike excelled in athletics while in school going to state for tennis and basketball in high school and later playing on the golf team for Drury University in Springfield. In Mike's spare time he spent many weekends playing golf with his dad and friends. He was an avid golfer with a true love for the game. Making a hole in one was something Mike did on more than a few occasions and was the kind of player that others wanted on their team. Mike was the President of the Men's Golf Association for the Piney Valley Golf Course organizing the Benefit Tournament held each summer raising money for local organizations.

If Mike wasn't on the golf course, he was coaching one of Makayla, Jacob, or Eric's sports team. Mike coached their soccer, t-ball, baseball, football, and basketball teams from the time Jacob was four until Eric was 16. Mike's dedication to teaching and coaching impacted hundreds of lives instilling the love of learning and sports.

Mike leaves behind his wife, Jeanne, of the home, Makayla Rincon (JuJuan) of Ft. Bragg, North Carolina, Jacob Morriss of Aiea, Hawaii, Eric Morriss of Phoenix, Arizona, three grandchildren: JuJuan Jr, Enslee, and Ava Rincon, parents Erv and Susan Morriss, sister Lindy McKinnon, and several nieces and nephews. Mike is preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Maxine and Gene Farnham, and paternal grandparents, William and Mary Elma Morriss.

Mike loved and was proud of his community, the Waynesville School District, the Waynesville United Methodist Church, and above all else loved his family with all his heart and will dearly be missed by many.

Funeral services were held at 12:00 p.m. Saturday, March 25, 2023 in the Waypoint United Methodist Church of Waynesville, Missouri with Pastor Brett Reith officiating. Jim Wilking, Jim Robbins, Mike Keeling, and Liz Rawlings all recalled their wonderful memories of Mike. The songs "What a Wonderful World", "Bridge of Troubled Waters", "Tears in Heaven" and "Amazing Grace" were played by Pianist Cheryl Wood. Serving as escorts were Karl Wilking, Scott Kempen, Mike Thompson, JuJuan Rincon, Brian Vernon, and Davin Vernon. Burial followed in the Waynesville Memorial Park Cemetery of Waynesville, MO. Services are under the care and direction of Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville/St. Robert.

Memorial contributions may be made in memory of Mike Morriss to the Waypoint United Methodist Church of Waynesville or the Waynesville High School Tiger Athletic Booster Club and may be left at Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville/St. Robert.

Cemetery Details

Waynesville Memorial Park

Waynesville, MO 65583

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **25**. 10:00 AM.

Waypoint United Methodist Church Of Waynesville

Funeral Service

MAR **25**. 12:00 PM.

Waypoint United Methodist Church Of Waynesville

Tribute Wall

CL

“ I’m so sorry for the family’s loss. Mr. Morriss was my fourth grade teacher at Thayer Elementary. I remember him as a great, kind, and funny educator and never forgot him.

Christina Loreda - April 11, 2023 at 09:05 AM

BR

“ Love and prayers for your time of sadness may God hold you in the palm of his hand for healing.



Bernita Rogers - March 28, 2023 at 12:01 PM

NW

“ Mr Morriss was great to work with.He always used to help me when I had issues with students not behaving on my bus.He was also my son's principal. He was always fair and used to say tomorrow is a new day and we start fresh.I always used to call him my favorite principal.His kids,wife and family are in my thoughts and prayers.He sure will be missed

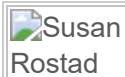
Nicole Wilson - March 25, 2023 at 05:38 PM



“ 91 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



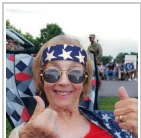
Memorial Chapels and Crematory - March 24, 2023 at 10:16 AM



“ Susan Rostad lit a candle in memory of Michael Morriss



Susan Rostad - March 22, 2023 at 04:53 PM



“ From Mike's first year of teaching, he was impressive with his control of the students and classroom. I can remember rare occasions when Mike brought an individual student outside the doorway for a talk. Mike always bent down to the student's level and spoke in such a calm quiet voice that the conversation was strictly between the teacher and student. You could tell that "Mr. Morriss" was well loved as he made a definite impact on students and fellow teachers from the beginning throughout his career.



Faye Crow - March 20, 2023 at 05:01 PM

LA

“ Mike was always nice when we were in school together. I send prayers and love to Mr. and Mrs. Morriss and his family. May God bless you and comfort you all.



Laura Hill Adamson - March 20, 2023 at 03:39 PM

KB

“ Karena Buske lit a candle in memory of Michael Morriss



Karena Russell Buske - March 20, 2023 at 06:28 AM

JH

“ So sorry for the family loss. Mike was a very nice person. RIP you will be in our prayers.

Jim Holloway - March 19, 2023 at 09:10 PM

ER

“ Eric Raspberry lit a candle in memory of Michael Morriss



Eric Raspberry - March 19, 2023 at 05:44 PM

JF

“ *Rest in peace Moose. Prayers and condolences to the Morriss family. Mike was good people. Gonna miss ya Moose.*
Jack Fincher, WHS, Class of '86.

Jack Fincher - March 19, 2023 at 02:42 PM

V(

“ *Sorry for you're loss! I remember being in Mrs. Morriss' second grade class and Mr. Morriss stopping by and visiting for a bit. I was in the same grade as their daughter. They are a great family and I know he is greatly missed!! You all are in my thoughts and prayers.*

Victoria Osborne (Powers) - March 18, 2023 at 09:45 PM



“ *Debby Myers sent a virtual gift in memory of Michael Morriss*



Debby Myers - March 18, 2023 at 09:45 PM

PG

“ *Pulaski Camp Gideons lit a candle in memory of Michael Morriss*



Pulaski County Camp Gideons - March 18, 2023 at 07:02 PM

MP

“ I'm so sorry to hear about the loss of Mike. I remember him as a student in high school, then as a fellow teacher, and finally as a principal. Mike and I shared many special moments. I especially remember our times together at conferences, where we roomed together and I got to know him well.

Mike was a personal support to me when I was going through a really tough time. I'll never forget his understanding, compassion, and encouragement. Mike loved his family deeply. He loved kids and was deeply concerned about their welfare and education.

To Jeanne and children, to Erv and Susan.... my deepest condolences. I loved Mike and thought so much of him. I believe Mike is in the arms of our Jesus now, and finally everything makes sense to him. He is home.

Mike Prater

Mike Prater - March 18, 2023 at 09:08 AM

BW

“ Brent Walters lit a candle in memory of Michael Morriss



Brent Walters - March 18, 2023 at 08:49 AM

JF

“Mike you were an absolute fair equal Principal for a couple of my children. You were the best at your profesion and always treated my family and out employs respectfully while we performed our lock and security for the schools. My prayers for your family from our family

Jerry morgan family - March 18, 2023 at 02:38 AM



“OMG! I'm shocked! Mike was one of my favorite people to work with. He was such a joy and willing to work with me to help my students' become leaders and responsible people. He truly cared. My condolences to his family, parents and friends. Such a great loss for our community.



Janice Howell - March 18, 2023 at 02:03 AM

CD

“Cornelia & Robert Dodds lit a candle in memory of Michael Morriss



Cornelia & Robert Dodds - March 17, 2023 at 10:26 PM

CD

“Mike was such a great football coach! My son Matt just loved having him and Erv as the coaches! Our prayers and love go out to you Jeanne and family.



Christie Dillon - March 17, 2023 at 10:19 PM

"H

“ *Fly high, my friend. You will be missed.*

"Luge" Hardman - March 17, 2023 at 10:13 PM

BH

“ *Barbi Hoskins lit a candle in memory of Michael Morriss*



Barbi Surmiller Hoskins - March 17, 2023 at 09:46 PM

LL

“ *So sorry to hear of mikes passing. He was a friend to my boys. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.*



Lois Lofton - March 17, 2023 at 08:34 PM

SW

“ *Such great memories of growing up with Mike and his family ... much love to Jeanne, Erv, and Susan*

Sandy Wilking - March 17, 2023 at 08:26 PM

PC

“ *Pamela Cox sent a virtual gift in memory of Michael Morriss*



Pamela Cox - March 17, 2023 at 08:15 PM

KV

“ He was an awesome principal, when my sons were in Elementary School..and an awesome friend....Mr. Morriss..you will be missed..But, what you taught your students, over the years, will help your memory live on.. Rest In Paradise, Sir...



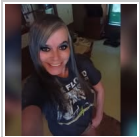
Kat De Vido - March 17, 2023 at 07:58 PM

PR

“ Rest peacefully in God's glorious presence, Mike.



Pastor Brett Reith - March 17, 2023 at 07:45 PM



“ Tracie Krantz sent a virtual gift in memory of Michael Morriss



Tracie Krantz - March 17, 2023 at 07:40 PM

KF

“ Susan and Erv...I am so sorry to hear about Mike! We should never bury our children. Nick(Farnham) and his family are so sad to hear this news also. Please know we are praying for you all!

Kay Alison Forney - March 17, 2023 at 06:58 PM

MT

“ *Michael Thompson lit a candle in memory of Michael Morriss*



Michael Thompson - March 17, 2023 at 06:49 PM

JW

“ *Mike was my principal for several years at Freedom. I always knew if I went to him that his door was open. He will be missed. Gone too soon.*

Jerri Wood

Jerri Wood - March 17, 2023 at 06:45 PM