



Michael LeRoy Blanchard

November 25, 1950 - June 14, 2023

Michael LeRoy Blanchard was born on November 25, 1950, in Des Moines, Iowa to LeRoy and Grace Mary Blanchard. He graduated from Des Moines Technical High School in 1970 and attended Iowa State University. He joined the United States Air Force in June 1970, working, at first, as an aircraft sensors system repairman. He would later cross-train to become a biomedical equipment repairman, specializing in X-ray and CT scan machines, a career he loved.

Mike was stationed at Lowry Air Force base outside Denver, Colorado, where he met and later married Christine Elizabeth Day, from New Jersey, also serving in the Air Force, also attending technical school at Lowry. Although from very different backgrounds, the two became fast friends, felt they had known each other all their lives, and always felt that they could not imagine life without one another.

They were married on February 12, 1972. Mike and Christy spent fifty-one years, four months, and two days together before he left this earth to be with His Lord.

Through the Air Force, Mike and Christy traveled the United States approximately every four years, as well as going overseas to Italy. Mike retired from the Air Force in December 1990 after twenty years of military service. After his retirement from the Air Force, Mike worked for Providence Everett General until he retired.

The couple have three children: Laurie Kathleen, born in 1974 (Texas), Kara

Theresa, born in 1977 (Illinois), and Michael LeRoy II, born in 1981 (Italy). Mike and Christy are blessed with four grandchildren: Conrad Roy, age 27 (raised by Roy & Elaine DeGroot), Schyler Christine, age 22, and Payton Rae, age 16 (daughters of Kory Harp and Kara Blanchard) and Elizabeth Adele, age 7, daughter of Alan and Laurie (Blanchard) Campbell.

Following his Air Force retirement, Mike and his family moved from Spokane to Seattle. They lived in Washington State where Mike worked as a biomed, for 26 years.

In June 2017, Mike and Christy, both now retired from their respective careers, moved to the lovely and historic town of St. Augustine, Florida, which they loved.

Mike and Christy had many adventures and loved traveling. Mike's bout with cancer began in December and he fought it valiantly. He was surrounded by family in his last moments. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends. Burial with full military honors will take place at a later date in Arlington National Cemetery.

Tribute Wall

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“ Thank you, Mike, for

★ Always believing it would be OK ~ the way you held my hand, your soft, but firm, voice, which has always calmed me.

★ Teaching me to face fear head on in perfect military fashion and walking me through every difficult journey. With you and Jesus, we faced them head on.

★ As you got weaker, we reversed roles. Jesus gave me stamina and strength as only He could do, along with the help and love of our three very generous and supportive children.

★ Believing in and supporting my dreams ... you always believed in me.

★ Being a fan of my cooking all these years, even in the early years, you encouraged me to experiment. I got better until the last few years when TBI robbed me of the ability.

★ Showing me and all of us what a super hero truly is. Marvel should take notes on real heroes, and you will forever be mine.

★ You faced cancer with courage, up until you could breathe no more. We saw you win so many battles, and we both thought you'd make it.

★ You were and are "the man." The only one for me. I thank you for:

★ Your integrity

★ Your honor and mercy

★ Your steadfastness and forgiveness

★ Your trustworthiness

★ Your loyalty and finally

★ Your love

★ You set the bar so high. You always did. Because you knew who held your hand and girded you with His strength was Jesus.

★ Were you perfect? No, as anyone knew who were passengers in a car you were driving could testify. You were not perfect. Through the past six years, I have mentioned to several people at Victory Chapel that I prayed more in the car than I did anywhere else. And I meant every word!

★ Thank you for your perseverance. You fought the fight called life time and time and time again. You finished the race. And because

Jesus was your Savior, I know that He welcomed you to that place only He would prepare for you.

★ Thank you, my love. I loved you before. I love you now. And I will always love you!

Christy Blanchard (Wife) - August 11, 2023 at 07:33 PM

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The only memories I have are old memories, Mike left for the service when I was 9 years old. So the fun memories I have are from the 60s when we would play in the back yard usually baseball. I would see him from time to time over the years. At family reunions or when he would come back to visit. He was fun to hang around and listen to some of his stories. He and Chis raised a beautiful family and it sounds like he lived a great life. Love you all and let the healing begin. Hope to see you soon wishing you and the whole family well Love Craig and Lori

Craig Wheeler - August 15, 2023 at 07:02 PM