



## Michael Daniel Byrne

May 12, 1949 - January 13, 2026

Michael Daniel Byrne, age 76, of Elkton, passed away peacefully on January 13, 2026 at his home surrounded by his family. He was affectionately known to many as "Big Mike," "Rich Mike," or simply "Mike". He lived life to the fullest and spent his final years in Elkton, Florida, surrounded by love, debate and laughter.

Mike was born to Harold and Pearl Byrne on May 11, 1949, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He was a graduate of Dominican Jesuit High School with the Class of 1967, Mike pursued further education in engineering at the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, but his passion for adventure cut his college life short. He built and rafted down the Mississippi River, built his first of three sailboats and traveled via the Mississippi across the gulf down the coast of Mexico. In-between building boats and traveling he honed his skills as a carpenter and construction that truly defined his career. An accomplished building contractor, Mike, had an unstoppable energy for his craft, specializing in creating custom homes and encouraged owners to participate in the project.

Mike's eccentric personality was as untamed as his wanderlust. A skilled carpenter and sailor, he constructed his third and final sailboat Fishhead, and sailed south to explore the waterways and warmer areas of the country. Landing in St. Augustine, he met the love of his life, Cindy Wilson, and they

united in marriage on November 3, 2001. Together, they built a loving home in Elkton, where they enjoyed life, laughter, and countless cherished memories.

Mike leaves behind his beloved wife, Cynthia Wilson and her two adult children, Anna Scott, husband Chris of Ponte Vedra; and Jeffrey Wilson, wife Mercy of Jacksonville; a sister, Patty Byrne of Wisconsin; his grandchildren Morgan, Jack & Eli and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by: Harold Byrne, Pearl Byrne, and his sisters Judy Wolf, Marianne Baldus, Jeannie Doxtator.

He will be remembered for his spirited love of life, his unstoppable energy, and the amazing ability to figure anything out he set his mind to. Mike was always ready to engage in friendly banter infused with his signature Irish wit. He will be deeply missed.

A celebration of Mike held at his home, the date yet to be determined.

St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## St Johns Crematory

385 State Road 207  
Saint Augustine, FL 32084

# Events

**Details are pending.**

# Tribute Wall

DA

“ *Michael built our family's dreams! Thank you.*

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**Darien Andreu** - January 21 at 11:43 PM

AB

“ *I remember Mike as a free spirit and also a very knowledgeable, skilled person. As a child I remember trips in his pick up cargo bed with several siblings flying all over the place. I remembered his dog named Eli.*

*One time Uncle Mike and Cindy visited me while I lived in central Wisconsin.*

*This doesn't sound like a big deal but I lived in a very rural area that wasn't exactly along the beaten path. It was great to get to know Mike and Cindy better, I will always be grateful for that.*

*Cindy, thank you for making the trip, I also remember how Uncle Mike seemed like a happier man after he met you.*

*~Andy*

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**Andy Baldus** - January 19 at 10:04 PM

CW

“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



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**Cindy Wilson** - January 19 at 02:16 PM

CW

“ During a trip we made to Alaska, we were at a music concert at a park and Michael spotted, miss and Mrs. Alaska. He had me take this picture, and was so tickled about it he showed it to everyone he knew. Simile, I'm sharing it here for you.



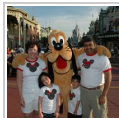
Cindy Wilson - January 18 at 09:14 PM



“ When I learned that my maternal uncle needed to give me away during the my Hindi wedding ceremony I thought uncle Mike would be mortified. Instead he's was excited and honored. On the day , I was nervous, Mike was a rock. The friend of my mother in law who coached us through the ceremony gushed about how great Mike was. Love you Uncle Mike!



Jean Patel - January 18 at 02:25 PM



Maternal uncles give a bride away in a Hindu ceremony. I thought Mike would not want any part of this. Instead he was excited and honored. On the day I was super nervous. Mike was a rock. The Patel family and guests said that Mike was a great guy for doing his duties with enthusiasm. I agreed. Thanks Uncle Mike. Much love. Jean Patel

Jean Patel - January 18 at 02:32 PM

ED

*Beautiful story 😊*

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**ellen drury** - January 18 at 02:54 PM

SD

*Love this... ❤️*

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**Shelley Doxtator** - January 22 at 04:48 PM

GW

“*What a lovely tribute. It reminds me so much of a moment I shared with him at his grand-niece Lindsay’s wedding. He turned to me and joked, ‘George Clooney might have forgotten to invite me to Italy, but the Wolfs invited me to a much better wedding.’ As we stood there taking in the incredible view, I was struck by his warmth. He always knew how to blend humor and heart to make an occasion feel truly special.*”



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**Gail & Rob Wolf** - January 17 at 11:50 AM

SC

*Michael helped build the former on our furnace first home. He was the most accomplished carpenter on our crew and helped direct us. He had a generous, irrepressible spirit and an energy that few possess. Michael was also a gifted story teller and he could entertain you with tales of his many adventures. Mike and his big personality will be missed by many.*

*Rest in peace, Michael.*

*Steve*

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**Steve Chojnacki** - January 18 at 10:22 AM

JW

“ *Story #2: One time at a family picnic at Jeanie’s, my aunt, Steve Baldus, my cousin, and I decided to take the front seat out of Mike’s very decrepit car. It was easy to do because the seat wasn’t attached to the car’s floor board. When Mike found out, he didn’t think it was funny. He said he couldn’t get the front seat back in properly. What? Properly? LOL, it was never attached to the floor board in the first place.*

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**John Wolf** - January 17 at 11:26 AM

JW

“ *I’m I the first tribute? Maybe. I have many shares. First share: Mike built my house in Idaho even though he lived in Florida. I couldn’t find a local contractor in Idaho; the design was too complicated for the local contractors. While building the house with three other helpers, including me, he was forced to build the house during an Idaho winter. He hated winters, that’s why he moved to Florida. He stuck it out in Idaho anyways. It’s unbelievable.*

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**John Wolf** - January 17 at 10:09 AM