



Michael Charles Ramsey

December 31, 2015

Michael Charles Ramsey is singing in the heavenly choir and biking on the streets of gold. He met his Savior and Lord early Thursday morning, December 31, 2015. He was born on September 14, 1950, in Milbank, SD, to Charles and Elizabeth (Betty) Christensen Ramsey; he was the third oldest of their eight children. The family lived in Marvin, SD, until he was 3 years old, at which time they moved to Milbank. In 1962 he became a charter member of the Milbank Baptist Church (now Valley Baptist Church). During high school, Mike was a member of the Civil Air Patrol and enjoyed an all-expense paid trip to Norway. He graduated from Milbank High School in 1968 and from Nettleton Commercial College (Sioux Falls, SD) in 1970 with an Accounting emphasis. He learned to fly while working in Milbank as a Data Processing Manager for Dakota Granite before moving to the Twin Cities in 1979 where he worked for various companies (i.e., Country Kitchen, Coca-Cola, Marigold, QualiTech). His last 15 years of employment were spent working in nonprofit organizations (i.e., Minnesota Electrical Association, Way to Grow, Arthritis Foundation). He has been at Arthritis Foundation for the past 7.5 years as a Sr. CRM Operations Specialist.

In 1979 he and Sue Campbell Conway were married, at which time he became a step-father of 3 pre-adolescent children (Lynn, Jennifer & Jason). He and Joyce Meerdink were married in 1995; Kyle joined their family in 1998. Mike was a member of Wooddale Church (Eden Prairie) where he sang in the

choir for 28 years; for the past year he has sung in the Calvary Church (Roseville) choir. Choir has been a large part of Mike's life, starting in high school where he sang in the high school choir as well as the Benson Choraliers and the Milbank Choraliers. In addition to singing in 3 church choirs in the Twin Cities, he has sung in the Twin Cities Master's Chorale (TCMC) for the past 10 years. He enjoyed riding bike, reading, Sudoku, table games, jigsaw puzzles, flowers, latch hooking, cracking a good joke, making people smile, and has been a 3-time cancer survivor. During the past several years when Mike was so fatigued from his 4th cancer diagnosis of amyloidosis, he became an avid Facebooker.

He is survived by his wife, Joyce, and son, Kyle. Also surviving are 5 siblings: Sally (Tim) Hanson, Fosston, MN; David (Janet) Ramsey, Sioux Falls, SD; Sharon (Butch) Fangsrud, Moorhead, MN; Paul (Debra) Ramsey, Norwich, CT; and Tim (Rena) Ramsey, Milbank, SD. In addition, he is survived by sister-in-law, Rosemary (Bob) Mader, Hopkins, MN; brothers-in-law Keith (Lois) Meerdink, Salem, OR; and Dwight Meerdink, Orchard, IA; and by uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was predeceased by his parents, an infant brother, and an infant sister.

A Celebration of Life service will be held on Saturday, January 30, 2016 at 11:00 am with visitation at 9:30 am at Calvary Church, 2120 Lexington Ave. N., Roseville, MN 55113. Memorials preferred to: Amyloidosis Research Foundation (www.amyloidosis.org; 1-877-269-5643); Arthritis Foundation; or Twin Cities Master's Chorale-For: Hymn Writing Scholarship.

Condolences and memories can be shared at www.washburn-mcreavy.com/obituaries.

Tribute Wall

LO

“ Mike you were always a special person to me. We shared many wonderful times together which I will always remember. My prayers will be with your family now. Loree Lonn Dempsey

loree - January 30, 2016 at 06:18 PM

TN

“ The Ramsey Nieces & Nephews purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Michael Charles Ramsey.



The Ramsey Nieces & Nephews - January 27, 2016 at 04:00 PM

UV

“ We as part of Mike's family will miss him dearly. Probably didn't visit as often as we should have but sure enjoyed the times we did. Mike was a true witness for our Lord. Prayers for you, Joyce and Kyle and his siblings.

Uncle Elwood & Aunt Virginia - January 14, 2016 at 04:18 PM

KW

“ It's so hard to lose someone you love. Reading all the heartfelt messages posted is a testimony to how loved and respected he was. My condolences to family and friends
Kris Wheeler

Kris Wheeler - January 13, 2016 at 09:53 PM

CJ

“ I also met Mike through Facebook. Being a fellow Milbank roots person myself I so enjoyed his posts. Even though his cousin is married to my cousin I really never knew him - just who he was until Facebook. He was one faith-filled person and I'm sure he's singing the Hallelujah Chorus with the choirs of angels now! That thought helps me wipe away the tears. Sincere sympathy to his family...

Cheryl Johnson - January 13, 2016 at 07:13 PM

BS

“ I'll remember Mike as one of the most positive people I've ever met - even as he struggled with this latest round of cancer. What a joy to conduct a choir with him in the bass section and, even more, to serve as a witness to God's comfort in tough situations. I continue to pray for you Joyce and Kyle.

Beverly Solberg - January 13, 2016 at 03:40 PM

LV

“ I also became friends with Mike through Facebook and the Milbank group. We all shared many moments, emotion, and memories which we came to realize was a blessing. Let your voice sing out in Heaven above.

Iana vanderburgh - January 12, 2016 at 11:56 PM

JS

“ It has been said by certain theologians that the instant they die, they will be more alive than at any time when they were on this earth. That is certainly true of Michael right now as I write this. His uplifting faith, his bright outlook on things, his mild yet strong manner as well as his eternal optimism has influenced so many. I will miss his posts on Facebook but only for a time as there is a time coming when we all will renew our friendship with him, and there we will never have to say goodbye ever again. Thank you Michael for being a wonderful example of what our savior would have us all to be. I will be praying for your family- Jim Stengel

Jim Stengel - January 12, 2016 at 11:15 PM

GS

“ Mike's family on facebook will miss him. He was part of group that enjoyed visiting about old times and what was going on in our lives. He also was on the Milbank sites and shared out there. I enjoyed Mike and his wonderful attitude, he love of his family and life. And the time he spent singing was so important to him. Sincere sympathy to his wife and son, and the Ramsey families. Peace Mike, you put up a good fight, and we thought you would beat this again. Gail Strobl

Gail Strobl - January 12, 2016 at 10:34 PM

 Debbi Higginbotham

“ Although we grew up in the same town, I only knew Mike through Facebook. He was unfailingly upbeat, and I miss him.

Debbi Higginbotham - January 12, 2016 at 09:53 PM