



Michael Ray Leonard

August 2, 1952 - October 17, 2020

Michael “Mick” Ray Leonard, 68, of Crystal Falls, MI passed away Saturday, October 17, 2020, at his home with his family by his side.

He was born on August 02, 1952, in Chicago, Illinois to Charles and Leona (Martwick) Leonard.

Michael was a jack of all trades who was always learning or teaching himself something new. He joked that he was never a good student; however, his life says otherwise. He was skilled in carpentry, gardening, and genealogy. He taught himself to sail and scared many of us in the process. He spent time working on a pilot’s license and thankfully enlisted the help of professionals. He loved to camp, mountain bike, swim, hike, and ski. In addition to his family, he leaves behind a beautiful neighborhood he created in Norman, Oklahoma – The Vineyard – where his daughter still lives along with many of his clients who became friends. He loved talking about his adventures and his time spent in Hollywood, where according to his telling he met all of the stars. More than all of these, he was a lifelong lover of horses. Whether it was trail riding, team roping, or just camping and telling stories, he treasured this time spent with the friends he met through this shared love. He was a man who had many things to be proud of, but above all he was proudest of his children and grandchildren. In his eyes they were capable of anything and truly his greatest achievement.

He is survived by his two sons, Michael (Niki) Leonard of Norman, Oklahoma and Zachary (Jess) Leonard of Norman, Oklahoma; three daughters, Amanda (Chris) Boyd of Norman, Oklahoma, Jamie (Adam) Schiavo of Crystal Falls, Michigan and Maggi (Andy) Kinnen of Rifle, Colorado; one brother, Timothy Leonard of Crystal Falls, Michigan and his sister, Susan (Randall) Watts of Green Bay, Wisconsin; seven grandchildren, Parker, Chloe, Marshall, Grayson, Presley, Radek and Zooey; and one great-grandchild, Russell. He is also survived by his best friend - his dog, Shirley, who will be kept by his children and will never want for treats and attention.

Michael is preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Leona (Martwick) Leonard.

At the request of Michael's family, services will be private.

Memorials may be made in his memory.

Condolences to the family of Michael Ray Leonard may be expressed online at www.nashfuneralhome.net

The family has entrusted to Nash Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Crystal Falls with arrangements.

Tribute Wall

DC

“ I met Mick a couple years ago while looking for land. He became a friend and will be missed dearly. Will miss you bud.

Dann Claudon

Dann Claudon - November 15, 2020 at 08:42 PM

JL

“ Micky was the little cousin who lived two doors away in Grandma’s house when I was a boy. Then we moved away and we all grew up and lived our lives until I revisited Crystal Falls and found cousin Mick living in a lovely home he himself had built outside of town. He put us up for the night and showed us around his farm and, down the road, the acreage and home his father had bought years earlier. That was a wonderful visit, more wonderful because of Mick’s hospitality. A year or so later two of my grandsons were vacationing with their father and decided to stop in Crystal Falls. Mick gave them the same generous treatment, and though they were just youngsters at the time, they still remember how Mick showed them the chickens and other animals and generally gave them a great time. I also admired Mick’s impressive skill as a carpenter and desire to begin with cutting down the tree in the forest and turn that raw piece of wood into a beautiful home. When I heard he was sick, I really wanted to see him at least one more time, but whenever I was in Crystal Falls he was in Oklahoma or elsewhere. Now he is gone and with all of you I miss his understated sense of humor, his warmth, his kindness, and his dedication to extended family and friends.

Jim Leonard

James R Leonard - October 27, 2020 at 09:43 AM

PB

“ I met Mick for the first time at the Leonard Family Reunion, having not that long before become a member of the clan. Even then he stood out, more than just another new face in the gatherings. Quite some time later, when we began the move to the UP, Mick was there - welcoming us, helping us find a place to stay, helping us fix what needed fixing in that place to stay.

One of those people - there aren't that many - who are easy to be with, good to know.- easy to like and respect, to enjoy.

An unforgettable part of him - fixing our place up - he would come to a point, see a problem - how to get around it? Then the bulb would light up over his head, like in the comics, and he would see the answer and just do it.

Right now - he is leaning back, and smiling, enjoying himself and being enjoyed by everyone around.

Pat Bennett

Patrick Bennett - October 26, 2020 at 10:28 PM

DL

“ I have many wonderful memories of Mick, who I got to know again since I moved back to Crystal Falls. I came for his mother’s funeral, my Auntie Lee, and I realized that I loved the old town and, with Mick’s advice, bought a house here. Mick was always welcoming to me at the farm. I liked to see his building projects and his animals. He worked hard and loved the life he had chosen. He shared openly about his cancer and his acceptance of death. Yet he kept hoping and fighting until the end. I consider him a role model for dealing with mortality. Mick was a gentle and loving human being, with great loyalty to his family and his extended family. I am proud to be part of that, and I wish peace to all who loved him. I hope we will remember him at our next CousinFest, which Mick inaugurated many years ago. We shall also remember cousins Dickie Anderson and Mary Beth Maki. May God’s perpetual light shine upon Mick and upon all our beloved dead.
Doug and Bethany Leonard

Douglas Leonard - October 26, 2020 at 12:22 PM

TC

“ So sad to learn of Mick’s passing, and so thankful that I was able to get together with my three Leonard cousins last summer. Tim and Susie, sending you virtual hugs.



Tracy Grattan Crowe - October 25, 2020 at 08:33 AM



“ *To Mr. Leonard’s family.
I was one of the EMT’s who brought him home last week. I was very sad to see this posting about him.
My deepest sympathies to the family. It’s never easy to lose a parent no matter their age or yours. ❤️
Missy Spade
Integrity Care EMS*

Missy Dierkens-Spade - October 22, 2020 at 08:27 PM



“ *Just got off the phone with Joe Anderson, and he told me the sad news. Mick was a great guy and us cousins (Joe, Mick, Len and many more) had great times since we were little kids. I saw Mick about a year ago at Dick Anderson’s funeral. So Joe and I send our sincere condolences to the Leonard Family.*

Len Adzima

Leonard Adzima - October 22, 2020 at 04:52 PM



“ *Such sad news. I remember my time in Crystal Falls and being part of the Odgers gang for the last few years that I lived there. Mick was always a great friend and we spent many a night hanging out in the numerous camps we built in the woods behind his house. The last time I saw Mick was here in Las Vegas when he was here to attend a builders convention. Rest In Peace My Friend*

David Duncan - October 22, 2020 at 11:44 AM

TS

“ My deepest sympathies to Mick's family. I'm am so sorry to hear this. I was in school with Mick and he was such a sweet guy and very short. I didn't see Mick again till sometime after I came back to Michigan. I don't recall what year it was but, we were all at a party at Memory Lane. I saw Tim and went over to say hi and to my surprise this handsome (tall) man standing next to Tim was Mick. I couldn't believe how tall he had grown. We talked and laughed about how he grew for the longest time. I'll never forget that night. My heart is broken for the loss of such a sweet man. RIP SWEET MICK. Teri Stebbins-Barlow

Teri Stebbins-Barlow - October 21, 2020 at 07:51 PM

CA

“ Cindy Anderson lit a candle in memory of Michael Ray Leonard



Cindy Anderson - October 21, 2020 at 07:28 PM

CA

My deepest condolences to Mick's family! I have many memories when we were kids growing up next door to each other. Prayers for you all!

Cindy Anderson - October 21, 2020 at 07:30 PM

LK

“ I will always remember Mick. I got to know him when I was just a kid. Used to spend time at the leonard farm and then he became family to me. Thank you Mick for the love. Rest now friend. 🙏🙏❤️
❤️

Larry Ketola - October 21, 2020 at 06:43 PM

KP

“ *My sincere condolences to ALL of Micks family. Ride high cowboy!!!*
🌻

Kathi Phillips - October 21, 2020 at 05:41 PM

MS

“ *Sympathies to Mandy, Jamie & Michael. I knew them when they were young in Crystal Falls, Michigan. Mandy was best friends with my Daughter, Jenni Jo Olson.
From, Mary Jane Soderberg*

Mary Jane Soderberg - October 21, 2020 at 04:04 PM

JA

“ *My sympathy to Mick's family. I, too, was a classmate of Mick's and like Terri, remember his drumming skills. During the years he lived in Norman I was able to see him some at birthday parties as I had a relative that also married into the same family. The last several years our class has been getting together to share memories and laughs and Mick has been there most of the time so it was so good to see him again. So sorry to hear about his passing - way too young and he was one of the good guys. ~ Jeri Bennett Ahola*

Jeri Ahola - October 21, 2020 at 01:34 PM

NL

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Niki Leonard - October 21, 2020 at 12:14 PM

NL

“ We have many precious memories with Grampa Mick, but a couple really stand out. First, it was so special to pick out and decorate Christmas trees with him the past couple of years. In 2018, the grandkids were able to pick one out from the farm in Michigan and decorate it with him. This last year, we were blessed to share another Christmas with Grampa Mick, picking out a tree with him in Norman, OK and spending the holiday together.



Niki Leonard - October 21, 2020 at 12:11 PM

TS

“ Terri Selvey lit a candle in memory of Michael Ray Leonard



Terri Selvey - October 21, 2020 at 10:30 AM

TS

“Mick was a lifelong friend and classmate. One of the things not mentioned in his glowing tribute was the fact that he was an exceptional drummer. All through school, as much as I can remember, he and I competed for first snare, but I was never able to beat him. I remember his percussion skills as being second only to his brother, Tim, whose timpani skills give me goosebumps to this day. Mick and I also shared the love for horses, and after my first husband died, I called him to ask him if he would help me find a horse. "I'll do you one better. I'll find the horse, I'll trailer it here, and you can keep it at my place". About a week later I was the owner of a buckskin quarter horse, and until he eventually moved his family to Oklahoma, it was "my place is your place" and I spent many hours there. After my house fire, Mick went to bat for me with the fire marshal and also rebuilt the inside of my home. My deepest sympathies to all of his family and those who loved him. There's a hole in my heart knowing he's gone.

Terri (Pivatto) Selvey

Terri Selvey - October 21, 2020 at 08:45 AM