



Michael B. Cunard

November 3, 2021

Michael B. Cunard left this world at the age of 72 on November 3, 2021. He was the son of the late Ret. Marine Capt. Edward Cunard and Betsy (Bryar) Cunard. Adored father to Melissa Cunard Hocko (Michael). Amazing “Pop” to Brooklyn Rose and Dylan Michael Hocko. Dear Brother of Catherine Cunard, Samuel Cunard (Barrie), and the late Joseph Cunard. Loving Uncle of Allison Almaraz and Madison Cunard. Interment will take place at Gloucester County Veterans Cemetery with the other heroes. According to his wishes, services will be private.

Michael spent his childhood in Virginia, South Carolina, and Southern California before the family settled in West Deptford, New Jersey. After graduating from West Deptford High School, he enlisted in the US Army. He served his country in Vietnam with the 82nd Airborne.

Michael was a man of many talents and held a number of careers over the decades including, but not limited to construction, masonry, navy yard rigger, machinist, and millwright. As an adult, he lived in Florida, Louisiana, and Maryland before finally settling back in South Jersey.

Michael was truly the smartest person we’ve ever known. He was an avid reader with particular interests in history and art. Michael couldn’t work any type of technology to save his life, but he could speak at length on any number of current or historical topics. His memory & store of knowledge unmatched.

Michael was kind and generous to a fault, but he didn’t suffer fools. Please

don't tell him vaguely you heard or saw it somewhere. Where did you read it?
Good luck bringing fake news or alternative facts to the debate.

He was funny. Michael had a sharp wit and charm for days. He was a master of sarcasm, dark humor, pranks, and dad jokes.

Michael was full of advice & words of wisdom (much of it inappropriate for writing here). Don't worry Dad, we won't let anyone leave us holding the bag. Mostly, we will miss the unconditional love and pride he showed us as a father and grandfather. Michael had endless patience. We honestly can't remember a time he even raised his voice. Not only would he get the shovel, he'd probably try to send us out of town & take the rap.

Michael was a man's man. He was incredibly strong, both physically and mentally. He said he should've died fighting a grizzly bear. The damn cancer was pretty close. He passed away about 6 weeks after diagnosis, telling almost no one he was sick. We will spend the rest of our lives missing him.

Tribute Wall

RD

“ *Very sorry for your loss Melissa, your dad will be missed greatly.*

ray denham - November 26, 2021 at 06:59 PM

JE

“ *I'm so sorry to hear of Mike's passing. It truly saddens my heart. I worked with him at Tractor Supply and he was one of my favorite people I have ever met. I feel lucky that I was able to get to know him. He was a kind, genuine, strong man who was so funny, so wise, and he always looked out for us. I will never forget his smile and his never ending kindness.*

Mike, I hope you are eating all the the babe ruth's you can imagine!

-With Love, Jenna



Jenna - November 14, 2021 at 12:32 PM

MH

“ *Some of my favorites. I've always felt so lucky that he was my dad.*



Melissa Cunard Hocko - November 12, 2021 at 10:18 AM

PJ

Aww Melis, you did an amazing job putting together the obituary & the memory wall. I loved seeing all the pictures of your dad with a lot of them bringing back great memories, of when you were growing up. Your dad was an unbelievably, great father & I thank God, that he was in your life. Your dad deserves every ounce of credit for being the ONE, who raised you to be the intelligent, kind hearted, honest, successful, beautiful, loving woman that you are today. 💕

Knowing every day, all the pain that you & your dad were going thru & not being able to do anything to take that pain away, these last weeks were breaking my heart & I'm so sorry that all I could do was pray, to give you both the strength to get thru. As always, I am here for whatever you need.

I love you 💕

Patti Johnson - November 13, 2021 at 11:20 PM

MH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Melissa Cunard Hocko - November 12, 2021 at 09:39 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Michael B. Cunard.



November 11, 2021 at 06:46 PM

TF

“ Mike will always hold a special place in our hearts here at Tractor Supply. Mike was truly a special person who would light up anyone’s day when he walked through the door. Mikes smile would turn someone’s bad day into a good day instantly. He truly was one of the best people to work with, we will forever hold all the memories and laughs that we all created and shared close to our heart. May he rest easy. Mike you will never be forgotten here at Tractor Supply and it will never be the same without you.
Tractor supply family.



Tractor Supply Family - November 11, 2021 at 06:30 AM

NE

“ "Uncle Mike" will forever hold a special place in my heart. He was truly a gentleman and a gentle giant of a man. I will forever cherish the memory of all his bear hugs and that ornery yet radiant smile. He was always quick witted and full of fun. He will be forever missed. May God grant His peace to all those he left behind. Rest in perfect peace Mike. Nancy Emery



Nancy Emery - November 10, 2021 at 04:50 PM

SR

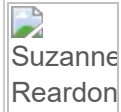
My heart aches for your loss..... I am still in shock realizing that I will no longer be able to pick up the phone and "touch base" on a variety of subjects- especially our families. (once I waited long enough for him to clear out his in box)! He would always call back and knowing his essence, I knew that.

He lived for you Melissa and your beautiful family and his grandchildren. You gave him the real home he was searching for his whole life. We met years ago at your Grandmothers house . We have much to reflect on when we meet again. Michael was my best friend who was always there for me listening patiently to the latest episode of my often chaotic life. And of course, refocusing me as to the real reason I called. We both loved to go out for crabs and that was to be my treat for him for his birthday. When I didn't hear from him, I really didn't worry as I understood him and loved him unconditionally and knew I would hear from him eventually.

May you be at peace my dear friend and I will see you again on the other side! My deepest sympathy to all his family and to all who were lucky enough to know him. God Bless- my thoughts and prayers are with you at the difficult time.

Much love, Sue Reardon

Suzanne Reardon - November 18, 2021 at 10:23 AM



Melissa, Kathy was going to call me with your phone and address but, I haven't heard from her and hope she hasn't gotten Omicron! (I also misplaced her number and got a new iPhone for Christmas and it is like learning Greek! Mike gave me your address a long while ago and kept me up to date on you and your family. (with my broken arm and a move to a new place on Nov 30th, I am still looking for my address book so we can talk sometime. He would tell me about your children and your work . He would also always ask about my girls . Can you text me and give me your phone number and address?

I was to meet Mike at Julia's house in Catonsville (one of his old hang outs) We were to meet at 11 or 12 on October 29 and then I was going to treat him to crabs for his birthday! His phone was all backed up with uncleared messages so, I really didn't worry too much at first! He would show up when he got there. Only he didn't. Then, I subconsciously started to worry. That is when the next day I broke my right arm in 4 places and flew back to Maryland on Nov. 1st in horrific pain. Kathy called me after the funeral and told me he died on November 3rd. After she told me of his diagnosis and what happened afterwards, I don't think it really sunk into me. I am still dealing with the aftermath of his death and moved a into a one bedroom apartment near Kristen, my oldest daughter who at 44 had her 1st baby- a girl . Julia has 2 girls , ages 5 and 2. I moved into a one bedroom apt to be near Mayo Clinic (which is the reason I moved here.)My number is 401 439 2980 . I like texting the best. It is easier for me. (Mike and I both hated technology and had no patience with it!) I have a new iPhone and know the basics.Kicking and screaming several years ago, I put his application into the VA for him. We got it done and he liked the perks (the best medical coverage,AARP for him and his family and taking a loan to buy his sweet little cottage he loved so much! I put a fire stove just like his in my house in RI which he saw when he visited one time. That was it! He built his own as you know and did all the brick work. He was so smart and skilled! What an amazing mind! Hope you are all doing well- I know how hard it is to lose you Dad. I lost mine at 70 from double lung cancer. I also called him Pop. I think that is what drew me to Mike, they were so much alike. So, in a way, I found him again through Michael.

Oh, ps, all the pictures were wonderful displayed on his Memory wall. And the Obituary you wrote was amazing! That was him for sure! I saw two pictures I would like to have if you could copy them for me some time- no hurry, believe me, I know how busy working Mom's are! But, the two I like best where the one of the two of you- you were in your cap and gown and he had his arm around you and had on a blue shirt. You both looked so happy and him so proud having loved you and helped you along the way. The other one is the one with him and your kids sitting on the ground. He couldn't have been more proud! I bet they miss him a lot!! I pray for you all and look forward to a reunion some day. My address is: 4460 Hodges Blvd Apt 201

Jacksonville, Fl.32224

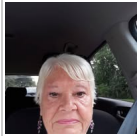
My deepest sympathy for the loss of the best father and kindest man I know.! We were all fortunate to have him in our lives even though the time was cartoon short. In the end I am so sad he had to physically suffer so. But, Kathy told me she selected 2male nurses to care for him. You were also with him when he passed, just as he would have wanted. Be strong and of good courage for his Spirit will always be with you and give you strength.

Suzanne Reardon - February 02, 2022 at 07:26 PM



Suzanne Reardon . 4460 Hodges Blvd Apt 201 Jacksonville, Fl. 32224

Suzanne Reardon - February 02, 2022 at 07:28 PM



“ *“DEAR FRIENDS”*

SENDING SINCERE CONDOLENCES TO THE CUNARD FAMILIES, IN THE PASSING OF MICHAEL. MAY OUR GOOD LORD LOOK UPON ALL AT THIS DIFFICULT TIME, AND BRING YOU PEACE.

YOUR MEMORIES OF SWEET MICHAEL ARE AMAZING! <3

TERRY LUBRANT (SCHLEMBACK)

Terry LuBrant - November 10, 2021 at 12:02 PM

PJ

“ *Patti Johnson sent a virtual gift in memory of Michael B. Cunard*



Patti Johnson - November 09, 2021 at 06:03 PM

PL

So sorry for your loss. 🙏 for the family in your time of sorrow.

Pat & Chris Labs - November 12, 2021 at 07:40 PM