



## Jerome Leroy Michael III

August 10, 1952 - November 14, 2024

Jerome (Jerry) Leroy Michael, III, 72, of La Plata, Maryland, passed away suddenly while participating in a baseball tournament in West Palm Beach, Florida, on November 14, 2024. Born August 10, 1952, in Fayetteville, North Carolina, he was the son of the late Jerome (Mike) L Michael, Jr. and the late Mary Catherine (Kitty) Cooksey Michael.

Jerry leaves behind his beloved wife, Judith (Judy) Hayden Michael. They met as teenagers and were blessed with a deep love that endured over 50 years of marriage.

Jerry is survived by sisters Kay St. Clair (Glenn), Trudy Williams (Dave), Terri Baker (Ralph), and Sandy Kalmus; sons, Raymond Michael (Holly), Aaron Michael (Amanda), and Daniel Michael (Sarah); adoring grandchildren, Brett, Nate, Cole, and Evie (Ray and Holly), Austin and Brayden (Aaron and Amanda), and Jack and Grace (Daniel and Sarah); as well as many nieces and nephews, and friends that he treated as family.

He is preceded in death by parents, Jerome L Michael, Jr., and Mary Catherine Michael, and sister Jana Michael.

Jerry was a 1970 graduate of La Plata High School and later earned a degree

through the Pollution Abatement Technology program at Charles County Community College. He began his employment with Charles County Government in 1977 and was employed for 30 years, retiring in August 2007 as the Director of Utilities. Not able to sit still, he returned to the work force and went on to work for Jackson and Tull for 11 years. In 2018, he began the last part of his working life with Water Services, Inc., which he retired from in October 2024. He is a lifetime member of the Water and Waste Operators Association of Maryland, Delaware, and the District of Columbia.

Jerry had many fond memories of growing up in Charles County. In his younger years, the Michael home on Hawkins Gate Road always was filled with family, fun, and laughter. The only and oldest brother to five sisters, he was a calming force in his childhood home. Time spent on the farm was the norm and lending a helping hand to his grandfather, “Pop-Pop”, was always his preferred activity. At a young age he became adept at helping with the tobacco and anything else needed at the farm.

Other than his wife and family, Jerry’s passion was baseball. As a lifetime in the game of baseball and coaching will do, there were numerous teams, teammates, and players that touched his life. He cherished them all. Being on the ballfield and sharing the game he loved with so many brought him joy. He loved getting to know everyone and the unique talents and personalities each brought to a team. He was truly at peace on the ballfield, and it is only fitting that his last moments were spent in his cleats.

Jerry’s interests centered around family, faith, and the outdoors. He and Judy enjoyed traveling together near and far. Their recent visit out west, which included a visit to the Grand Canyon, was a bucket list item for Jerry. Gatherings to celebrate holidays, grandkids’ school functions, sporting events, church, and the sports schedules of grandkids dominated his and Judy’s life. When asked about his plans for the day, his common response was “running

to the next game”. He had an easy smile and a warm disposition that was always welcome at friends’ and family’s homes or events. He was so proud of his family and spoke frequently about them. He was genuinely interested in hearing all the details of their activities and sharing in their successes.

A lifelong Catholic and faith-filled man. Jerry was an active and contributing parishioner at St. Ignatius Church in Port Tobacco and a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Jerry will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

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In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Charles St. Mary’s Baseball League (CHASM Baseball - 28195 Ben Oaks Drive Mechanicsville, MD 20659) or St. Ignatius Chapel Point Church (St. Thomas Manor Trust Inc. – Memo = Restoration – 8855 Chapel Point Road Port Tobacco, MD 20677).

Services will be held as follows:

A Gathering of Friends and Family will be held on Monday, November 25th, 2024 from 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm (prayers at 6:30 pm) at St. Ignatius Church - 8855 Chapel Point Road Port Tobacco, MD 20677 - and Funeral Service on Tuesday, November 26th, 2024 at 11:00 am at St. Ignatius Church with burial to follow in the church cemetery. All are welcome to join the family for a repast to follow in the church hall.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Ignatius Catholic Church Cemetery

8855 Chapel Point Road  
Port Tobacco, MD 20677

# Previous Events

## Gathering of Friends and Family

NOV **25**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

St. Ignatius Church at Chapel Point  
8855 Chapel Point Road  
Port Tobacco, MD 20677

## Prayer Service

NOV **25**. 6:30 PM (ET)

St. Ignatius Church at Chapel Point  
8855 Chapel Point Road  
Port Tobacco, MD 20677

## Funeral Service

NOV **26**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Ignatius Church at Chapel Point  
8855 Chapel Point Road  
Port Tobacco, MD 20677

## Burial

NOV **26** (ET)

St. Ignatius Catholic Church Cemetery  
8855 Chapel Point Road  
Port Tobacco, MD 20677

# Tribute Wall

KB

“ My prayers and thoughts go out to Judy and the rest if the family. I am so sorry. Retired bank teller BOA. I lived by his grandmother long time ago. And classmate of Trudy. RIP. Jerry.



Kathryn Brukardt - November 25, 2024 at 11:00 PM

JC

“ Jerry was such a huge part of the baseball community in Southern Maryland. He was a selfless person who would throw BP for hours to make others better and he'd do it with that big smile on his face. However, his greatest legacy is his wonderful family. You can see his reflection in them. They are wonderful people who give much more to their community than they take.

John Childers - November 25, 2024 at 09:22 PM

AU

“ The Luther family and the Southern Maryland sports community has lost a good friend. Our paths crossed many time always a positive experience. When we see his kids and grandchildren on the field we will see Jerry's greatest accomplishments

Austin - November 25, 2024 at 03:43 PM

EL

I just learned about Jerry's passing. Jerry worked for me in Charles for a number of years when I was County Administrator. He was a very fine person and department head, and I enjoyed my interactions with him. His wife Judy is a gem too and she also did a fantastic job as our land acquisition officer. Many may not know it but Jerry was also a very good golfer whom I was pleased to play with on a number of occasions. A fine family and a fine gentleman.

Eugene Lauer - January 05, 2025 at 05:42 PM

TB

“ Tommy Bubonovich purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Jerome Leroy Michael III.



Tommy Bubonovich - November 25, 2024 at 12:33 PM

LF

“ Love, The Stefko Family purchased the *Full Of Love Bouquet* for the family of Jerome Leroy Michael III.



Love, The Stefko Family - November 25, 2024 at 09:53 AM

DC

“ Judy and Family,

*I will always have the memories of playing wiffle ball in the backyard with him. All the cookouts we had with all the family when we were growing up on the farm. He will be missed.*

*Danny Cooksey*

Daniel Cooksey - November 25, 2024 at 08:34 AM

TB

“ Ray and Aaron God bless you and your families. Your Father was a **GOOD MAN!** I am thankful to know he is in Heaven with Jesus Christ. God Bless! Tommy Bubonovich

Tommy Bubonovich - November 24, 2024 at 08:49 AM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jerome Leroy Michael III.*



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November 23, 2024 at 01:04 PM



“ *Judy, and family:  
What a kind and thoughtful man Jerry was, his deep love for his family was placed 1st. All can take a lesson in life in the way Jerry lived his. He will be missed greatly of those that knew him. May God comfort and bring Peace to you Judy and family.  
Warmly Joe & Judy Norris*

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**Judith T Norris** - November 23, 2024 at 12:41 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Jerome Leroy Michael III.*



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November 22, 2024 at 01:46 PM



“ *My condolences to Judy and the entire Michael's family. Jerry will be greatly missed.*

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**Jim Tanavage** - November 22, 2024 at 11:09 AM

JL

“ James L. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jerome Leroy Michael III.

James L. - November 22, 2024 at 11:04 AM

RV

“ Rick and Gaby Vitielliss purchased the Beautiful i n Blue for the family of Jerome Leroy Michael III.



Rick and Gaby Vitielliss - November 22, 2024 at 09:28 AM

RV

“ Jerry was an inspiration to all who were privileged to know him. He was truly the epitome of a great human being. A role model to all, he will always be remembered for his positive attitude, devotion to all the ball players who were lucky enough to spend time with him. Our hearts and prayers go out to Judy and the family in this most difficult time.

Rick and Gaby Vitielliss - November 22, 2024 at 09:19 AM

FF

“ From Dallas and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jerome Leroy Michael III.

From Dallas and family - November 21, 2024 at 03:13 PM

FF

“ From Dallas and family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Jerome Leroy Michael III.



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**From Dallas and family** - November 21, 2024 at 03:13 PM

CE

“ Charles E. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Jerome Leroy Michael III.



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**Charles E.** - November 21, 2024 at 01:10 PM

CE

“ Charles E. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jerome Leroy Michael III.

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**Charles E.** - November 21, 2024 at 01:10 PM

CJ

“ Jerry and family were very important to our success with our American Legion team. Jerry became our pitch caller and the person to visit the mound during games . This freed me up to manage. He was our BP pitcher and first base coach too . Obviously his boys had a positive impact on our teams too. With Jerry and family the Legion team were quite successful winning 3 straight state championships, 2 region titles and going to 2 World Series. Having Jerry there made my job alot easier. His son's were competitors just like Jerry. They didn't like losing. I owe alot to Jerry and his family. Cannot thank them enough. Judy was always there too. It was a family thing for the Michaels when playing baseball.  
CEG

Charles Edward Glaeser Jr - November 21, 2024 at 12:57 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Jerome Leroy Michael III.



November 21, 2024 at 12:56 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Jerome Leroy Michael III.



November 21, 2024 at 12:47 PM

JH

“ Jerry was a great man, a great teammate and a very tough competitor. He was always there, always ready and always happy to be around the game. We should all strive to be more like him - a complete man and role model. His family and many friends were fortunate to have him for so long ‘though not long enough.

Jim Houghton - November 21, 2024 at 09:35 AM

TF

“ The Baden Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jerome Leroy Michael III.

The Baden Family - November 20, 2024 at 10:49 PM

TF

“ The Baden Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Jerome Leroy Michael III.



The Baden Family - November 20, 2024 at 10:49 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Jerome Leroy Michael III.

November 20, 2024 at 07:42 PM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Jerome Leroy Michael III.*



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November 20, 2024 at 07:42 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Jerome Leroy Michael III.

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November 20, 2024 at 03:16 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Jerome Leroy Michael III.*



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November 20, 2024 at 03:16 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Jerome Leroy Michael III.*



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November 20, 2024 at 11:45 AM

JS

“ Jerry was just a terrific guy who had nothing bad to say about anyone and who had nothing bad said about him. The world needs more Jerry’s.

*I thoroughly enjoyed being a teammate of Jerry’s these past 4 years. To my teammates that have known him far far longer I know the hurt is likely deeper and my thoughts are with you, as they are with Judy (what a great lady and baseball fan) and the rest of the family.*

*Fun memory - before each game our team gathers, stacks hands, and we do a one word cheer, usually “Win”. The cheerleader (usually Danny Lee) gives us the instructions, “Win on three” then he counts down to three and we yell “WIN!” In unison. And Jerry would always immediately add “on three” to which we’d laugh and remember to not take ourselves too seriously. As we did the last couple of games without Jerry, trying to win for him, our cheer was “Jerry!” And I know he was there with us and I swear I could hear him adding “on three”.*

*Jim Schmitz*

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**Jim Schmitz** - November 20, 2024 at 08:45 AM

WS

“ Rest easy Coach.

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**Will Sigafoose** - November 20, 2024 at 07:45 AM

TF

“ *The Steffensmeier Family purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Jerome Leroy Michael III.*



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**The Steffensmeier Family** - November 19, 2024 at 04:02 PM

DD

“ *Born & raised in La Plata, who didn't know Jerry & his family. He had a wonderful smile & always spoke kindly of everyone. I can see him playing in his school years & his parents & sisters would be right there. Just a super all American ballplayer. My love to Judy & his family. I pray God will hold you all close as you go through this time. Sending love,  
Debbie Drinks, Fellner*

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**Debbie Drinks, Fellner** - November 19, 2024 at 03:54 PM

BK

“ *It breaks my heart that Jerry has left us. I've never had such a kind, caring, savvy, and talented friend and teammate! I was always fascinated that Jerry never needed to warmup in the bullpen before entering a game. I reckon that was a reflection of his nature - Jerry was ready for anything!*

*Gonna miss receiving your pitches, Lefty. The baseball club in heaven just got a whole lot better!*

*Wishing peace and wonderful lasting memories for Judy & their lads, and all of Jerry's loved ones, BK*

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**Brian (BK) Kelley** - November 19, 2024 at 12:11 PM

DM

*Hearing the stories from my teammates about the father, husband and friend Jerry was to so many made me realize how lucky I was to know him if only for a brief moment.*

*Jerry approached me as I was running poles before the game. With a big smile and a shake of the hand he stated he was getting tired and sore from just watching me. We both laughed and went about our business. I wish I could have spent more time with Jerry but I will never forget the laugh we shared.*

*Till we meet again my fellow Lefty and Brother Knight.*

*Peace!*

*David Marvel*

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**David Marvel** - November 19, 2024 at 03:59 PM

GA

*My sincerest condolences to Judy and the family. Jerry became known to many International Right Away Association members as a friend of our organization. He was always by Judy's side, attending meetings and conferences and lending a hand. A wonderful, friendly, helpful gentleman has gained his wings.*

*Gina M. Anthony*

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**Gina Maria Anthony** - November 20, 2024 at 10:11 AM

DE

*Judy and family, I am so very sad to hear of Jerry's passing. He was always so nice and we enjoyed him at the IRWA events. I am so very sorry and will keep you and your family in my prayers. May God comfort you as you grieve such a great loss.*

*Denise Litzau*

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**Denise** - December 18, 2024 at 08:13 PM