



Leon Michael Kress

October 15, 1945 - February 8, 2023

(Leon) Michael Kress 77, of Upper Marlboro, MD passed away peacefully on February 8, 2023. Born on October 15, 1945, in Washington, D.C to Leon George and Anne (Nolan) Kress. He is preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Carl Kress.

Living in his childhood home of Baltimore, Maryland, Mike attended parochial school graduating in 1963 from Calvert Hall College High School, attended the University of Maryland, served in the Army Reserve, and worked as an overhead crane operator at Bethlehem Steel Sparrows Point.

Ultimately, Mike followed the footsteps of his father as the 2nd generation to create a lifelong career in the tire and automotive service industry. He successfully managed several corporate owned Goodyear and General Tire retail locations in the Washington-Baltimore Metropolitan area. He left the retail market to work as an outside commercial tire salesman for Stidham Tire in Landover, Maryland.

Settling in Southern Maryland, Mike achieved his personal goal of having his very own family business by opening Marlboro Tire and Automotive, Inc. in 1982. Over the years, the business has employed his father, his brother, both sons, his daughter, grandchildren, nephews, and many other unrelated employees who Mike always considered family. The business continues today with its 40-year family history. At the helm, are 3rd and 4th generation family members to have a career in the tire and automotive service industry.

During his 60-year career in the industry, Mike made many achievements.

Most notably, while serving on the Board of Directors for the Maryland Tire Dealer Association, he played an integral role in drafting and lobbying to pass Maryland scrap tire laws that remain in place today. Mike also served on the Board of Directors for the Chesapeake Automotive Business Association and the Automotive Aftermarket Federal Credit Union with the same enthusiastic dedication.

Mike was a smart, caring and funny husband and father who surrounded himself with family in his business. He loved fun family adventures to the beach, cruises with his wife, and camping annually with his children and grandchildren. He will be missed immensely and always be with his family in loving memory.

Survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Leda (Raby) Kress and children, Brian (Lisa), Tim (Heidi), and Megan; five grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. Along with many other family members and friends.

Visitation will be held at Raymond Funeral Chapel at 5635 Washington Ave, La Plata, MD 20646 on February 23, 2023 from 2-4pm and 6-8pm with prayer service at 7pm. Interment will be private for immediate family.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Hospice of the Chesapeake.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 23. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Raymond Funeral Chapel
5635 Washington Ave.
La Plata, MD
business.office@raymondfuneral.com
<http://www.raymondfuneralservice.com>

Visitation

FEB 23. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Raymond Funeral Chapel
5635 Washington Ave.
La Plata, MD
business.office@raymondfuneral.com
<http://www.raymondfuneralservice.com>

Prayer Service

FEB 23. 7:00 PM (ET)

Raymond Funeral Chapel
5635 Washington Ave.
La Plata, MD
business.office@raymondfuneral.com
<http://www.raymondfuneralservice.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Leon Michael Kress*

October 08, 2023 at 10:45 PM



“ *Leon Michael Kress*

October 04, 2023 at 03:12 PM



“ *Mike was a very nice man always had a smile on his face. He was a good father and a good person. We will miss him.* ❤️😭

David Icenhower - February 24, 2023 at 12:05 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Leon Michael Kress.*



February 23, 2023 at 01:05 PM



“ *Peace be with be you and the entire family.*

Erik Johnson - February 23, 2023 at 12:56 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Leon Michael Kress.*



February 23, 2023 at 11:57 AM



“ *I remember Michael Kress (Mr. Kress to me) fondly as I have been close friends with his son Tim for over 30 years. The words I would use to describe him, "kindness", "thoughtfulness", "always a gentleman" and "giving". Mr. Kress always took such good care of us kids, mentored us, taught us, and always supported us, and yes repaired our cars at the time in our lives where we had absolutely no money. Thank you Mr. Kress and may you rest in peace sir.*

Please accept our donation to Chesapeake Hospice in lieu of flowers, The Binebrink Family.



Eric Binebrink - February 23, 2023 at 11:53 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Leon Michael Kress.*



February 22, 2023 at 09:05 PM



“ *Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of Leon Michael Kress.*



February 22, 2023 at 11:28 AM



“ *While working at the shop many moons ago, I learned that Mike was a man not to be out punned. When leaving one day, I said, "hasta banana". to which he replied without hesitation, "Chaquita later". When Mike got a slight smirk, and began fiddling with something on the counter, you were about to be out punned.*

David Moore - February 22, 2023 at 09:46 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Leon Michael Kress.*



February 21, 2023 at 04:36 PM



“ *Terry & Aileen Crawford purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Leon Michael Kress.*



Terry & Aileen Crawford - February 21, 2023 at 01:59 PM

JH

“ Mike & I attended St Matthew's grade school together & then Calvert Hall. I think we were in the radio club together at Calvert Hall.

I was happy to spend some time with him at our 50th reunion. May he rest in peace!

Jim Mullen '63 Calvert Hall - February 21, 2023 at 10:41 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Leon Michael Kress.



February 20, 2023 at 09:38 AM

LS

“ Mike will be so missed by so many. His commitment to excellence in products and services led Marlboro Tire & Automotive to draw repeat customers from far and wide. But beyond that, I will always remember his sense of humor, willingness to help those less fortunate, and patience with those having different opinions.

I am so thankful for sharing good times with him and Leda for more than 54 years.

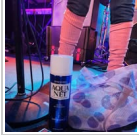
Prayers for Leda, Brian, Tim, Megan and their families.

Linda Skidmore - February 18, 2023 at 08:39 PM

CB

“ I was a customer of Marlboro Tire for many years, Mike ran a good business. He will be missed My condolences to his family & friends.

Charles Brown - February 16, 2023 at 12:46 AM



“ *Sending prayers and all my love. So very sorry <3*

Jennay Byrne - February 15, 2023 at 09:28 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Leon Michael Kress.*



February 14, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Michael Kress*



Heidi Kress - February 14, 2023 at 08:46 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Leon Michael Kress.*



February 14, 2023 at 08:00 PM