



Michael Sheridan Gartland

May 1, 1951 - July 22, 2022

Michael Sheridan “Mike” Gartland, 71, of Waldorf, Maryland, died on July 22, 2022 at Inova Fairfax Hospital following a brief illness.

Mike was born to the late Florence Blake Gartland and the late James Francis Gartland I. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister Patricia Lou Gartland Parsons, brother-in-law Roger (Butch) Parsons, and sister-in-law Donna Gartland.

Born in New Haven, Connecticut, Mike moved to Maryland with his family in 1959. He started his career in public service in 1980 with the Charles County Sheriff’s Office as a patrol officer, rising to the rank of Sergeant. He joined the Maryland State Police as a medevac pilot where he was to combine his interest in law enforcement with his love of flying. By the time of his retirement in 2020 he had been serving as the Chief Pilot of the agency for several years.

During his many years with police agencies, Mike also owned and operated his own flight school, Freedom Air. As an instructor, he taught numerous civilian and military pilots both across the country and around the world. Mike loved his family, friends, and motorcycles but, most of all flying. If it flew, he could drive it!

He will be remembered for his easy, friendly smile and his willingness to help

anyone at any time.

Mike is survived by his wife, Alma Gartland; his daughter Renee Serpico; his brother James F. Gartland II (Cindy); his grandchildren Tyler Zupko, Michael Serpico (Makenzie) and Kylie Serpico; his nephew Jimmy Gartland (Christy); his niece Kimberly Gartland; countless friends and colleagues.

A visitation will be held on Tuesday, August 2, 2022 from 2PM to 4PM and from 6PM to 8PM with Prayers at 7PM at the Raymond Funeral Service, P.A., 5635 Washington Avenue, La Plata, Maryland 20646.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered on Wednesday, August 3, 2022 at 10AM at St. Peter's Catholic Church, 3320 St. Peter's Drive, Waldorf, Maryland 20601.

Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Gardens, 3221 Mattawoman-Beantown Road, Waldorf, Maryland 20601. Pallbearers are Tyler Zupko, Michael Serpico, Jim Dinges, David Svites, Rick Gragan, and Dale Scheider.

In lieu of flowers contributions may be made in Mike's name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or online at www.stjude.org.

Cemetery Details

Trinity Memorial Gardens And Mausoleum

3221 Mattawoman-Beantown Road
Waldorf, MD 20601

Previous Events

Mass of Christian Burial

AUG 3. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Peter's Catholic Church
3320 St. Peter's Drive
Waldorf, MD 20601

Tribute Wall

KK

“ Casey you are up next... trust me I'm coming!

Kenny King - November 29, 2024 at 10:02 PM

JA

“ Mike was my DPE for my ATP checkride. Definitely held me to a high standard - made certain I knew my stuff. Sorry to hear that he's passed on.

James - March 21, 2023 at 02:39 PM



“ I flew out of St Marys Airport and met Mike through my associations there. I flew with him and will never forget the experience he gave me at the controls of a helicopter. I know of his valued pilot skills and his great devotion to law enforcement. Condolences to his family. He is a great loss to the community. Rest in peace Mike.

Debra McCaslin - September 13, 2022 at 08:22 PM



“ Mike and I grew up in Camp Springs in the 60s. Did some crazy things together. Started a rock band with him on GUITAR and me on drums. He introduced me to my wife(Donna) then was a usher in our wedding 50yrs ago.
Rest In Peace my friend.
Pat Burke

Pats Hardfire - August 06, 2022 at 10:12 AM

CM

“ Thank you for your time

C Robert Morseburg - August 03, 2022 at 03:07 PM

BR

“ *He was a pilot's pilot, born to fly. I learned a lot from him.*
Rick Bartlett
MSP Retired



Bartlett Rick - August 02, 2022 at 06:19 PM

Jl

“ *Mike you will be truly missed my friend, May you rest in Peace!* *Jim &Terri Cantor*



jimcantor - August 02, 2022 at 04:05 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Michael Sheridan Gartland.*



August 02, 2022 at 01:33 AM

BP

“ Our condolences to Mike's family. I had the privilege to fly with Mike on a number of occasions and will hold each one dear to my heart. Enjoyed all times we had working the road together. Mike we will surly miss you. Please keep the gates of Heaven open for the rest of us.

Bobby " 67 " & Maria

Bobby & Maria Padgett - August 01, 2022 at 07:46 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Michael Sheridan Gartland.



August 01, 2022 at 06:58 PM

TB

“ Tina Browning-Eardley lit a candle in memory of Michael Sheridan Gartland



Tina Browning-Eardley - August 01, 2022 at 05:54 PM

TF

“ The Browning Family purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Michael Sheridan Gartland.



The Browning Family - August 01, 2022 at 05:24 PM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael Sheridan Gartland.*



August 01, 2022 at 01:17 PM



“ *America the Beautiful was purchased for the family of Michael Sheridan Gartland.*



August 01, 2022 at 09:15 AM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Michael Sheridan Gartland.*



July 29, 2022 at 10:08 PM



“ *Curt Carter and Sheral Gannon purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Michael Sheridan Gartland.*



Curt Carter and Sheral Gannon - July 29, 2022 at 07:29 PM

TM

“ Despite our large country, in reality the helicopter aviation community is actually quite connected...And amongst the helicopter community Mike Gartland is a legend, whose acumen and dedication as an FAA Designed Flight Examiner as well as the former Chief Pilot of the Maryland State Police is literally know throughout the country. Mike has trained, licensed and certified thousands of pilots both military and civilian in just about any type of helicopter that there is...Not to mention quite a few fixed-wing as well.

However, his greatest accomplishment might be the acquisition of the AW-139 for the Maryland State Police Aviation Command. Walk into any of the Maryland State Police hangar and you will see for yourself the finest, most capable and safest MEDEVAC, Law Enforcement and Search and Rescue Helicopter in the nation. The citizens of Maryland, as well as the District of Columbia and parts of Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia and Delaware owe a sincere debt of gratitude to Mike for his hard work and dedication that brought the AW-139 to the Maryland State Police Aviation Command.

As the current Chief Pilot of the Maryland State Police, I had the privilege and honor of working alongside Mike for over 6 years, as well as being the benefactor of his guidance, mentorship and friendship. Fair Winds and Following Seas my friend...You will be missed!



Tim McMahon - July 29, 2022 at 04:31 PM

TS

“ NaNa, My thoughts are with you and your family in this time of grief and sorrow, Know your dad is with God and they both are with you at all times, I love you cousin, and will be praying for you and your family.

Teddy Sknerski - July 29, 2022 at 01:21 PM

CM

“ Casey and Jackie McDevitt purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Michael Sheridan Gartland.



Casey and Jackie McDevitt - July 29, 2022 at 01:00 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Michael Sheridan Gartland.



July 28, 2022 at 11:37 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Michael Sheridan Gartland.



July 28, 2022 at 04:34 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of *Michael Sheridan Gartland*.



July 27, 2022 at 06:21 PM



“ *Grace Schofield* lit a candle in memory of *Michael Sheridan Gartland*



Grace Schofield - July 27, 2022 at 04:41 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray* was purchased for the family of *Michael Sheridan Gartland*.



July 27, 2022 at 11:40 AM

DW

“ Mike was always smiling and was a pleasure to be around. I was honored to have attended the police academy with Mike on 1980. Gone from here way too soon. Rest easy #116!

Dave Williams #119



Dave Williams - July 27, 2022 at 10:38 AM

PB

“ I knew and worked with Mike for roughly 20 years. The last six years I've had the pleasure of working with Mike directly in his capacity as a Designated Pilot Examiner and always enjoyed our talks about our days in law enforcement and flying helicopters. Mike will truly be missed in our aviation community, but most importantly he will be missed as a friend. Fair winds Mike!

Perry Benshoof - July 27, 2022 at 10:37 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michael Sheridan Gartland.



July 26, 2022 at 09:37 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Michael Sheridan Gartland.*



July 26, 2022 at 08:19 PM