

Michael Jay Davis



A Tribute to Michael Jay Davis

May 18, 1957 to January 8, 2019

Mike Davis was born on May 18, 1957, in Van Nuys, California, to Dee and Larry Davis. He was the oldest of three children, and was the teacher, protector and leader of the pack to his younger siblings Dee Dee and Dan. Growing up, Mike's leadership skills and fun-loving personality gained him lots of love from his brother and sister. He also had a close group of friends, some of whom he has known since the age of two. Mike has always been a friend to everyone. He joined every club, such as scouts, had a paper route, and never gave up in sports, despite facing numerous challenges. He was determined and persistent in everything he did. He maintained close friendships to his siblings throughout his life, and enjoyed many memorable times at football games, family vacations and concerts with them. He also talked to his mother daily and shared a special bond with her always.

Mike married Abbe Bateman in 1979 and became the proud father of three children, Chris, Tori and Katie, and later a beloved Grandpa to four grandchildren. He was a natural caretaker, which led him to a nursing career of over thirty years, where he excelled and made such a profound difference in people's lives. As a hospice nurse, he received many notes of appreciation from patients' family members. Mike was even entrusted with the beloved cat of one of his patients, and Tippy became a true family member throughout his life. While he accomplished so much in his nursing career, earning many prestigious awards such as the March of Dimes Excellence in Nursing and Nurse of the Year Award Nomination, his proudest accomplishment was his children.

He cherished the infant stage in each of his children's lives, and would hold and sing to them for hours on end, introducing them to his love of music at an early age. He had special traditions and hobbies he enjoyed with each of his children. He shared a lot of the same interests as his son, Chris, such as going to concerts, listening to records, hiking and water sports. They spent countless hours working in the yard and on house projects together. Mike had a special tradition with his middle daughter, Tori, and always gave her a Cherished Teddy for gifts, which she truly treasured. He was involved with coaching Tori's youth sports, and later enjoyed sharing his favorite recipes with her. His youngest daughter, Katie, shared his

sense of humor and loved going roller-skating just the two of them. Katie was a swimmer throughout school, and Mike became very involved in her swim team as an Executive Board Member for Nebraska Aquatics and a Stroke and Turn Judge for USA Swimming. He and his family enjoyed cheering on the Huskers every game day. There were so many trips to the mountains where they would hike, camp and ski, and many special trips to the beach.

Mike absolutely loved the beach and would disappear for hours collecting seashells. He always wanted to be in the sun and would happily spend the day in the backyard sitting in a lawn chair or inflatable pool. Taking care of the garden was another one of his favorite hobbies, and he would garden with his kids when they were young and later with his grandkids. He really enjoyed picking flowers for them, running through the sprinklers and making them laugh with his dancing and playfulness.

He also spent lots of time making stain glass windows, which he gifted to each of his children. They are truly beautiful works of art, which Mike spent so much time planning and designing. He proudly displayed them in his house, next to the antiques he collected and cherished. He loved finding antiques and treasures at garage sales and auctions, which is where he found some of his children and grandchildren's favorite toys.

Mike meant so much to his family, his beloved companion and dog Evie, the friends that he has made throughout his life, his patients, and to so many people he met along his journey. Mike will be remembered most for the memories and laughter he brought to his family, his compassion for helping others, his fun-loving nature and humor, and for his passion for the outdoors and music. He was very loved by his family and lifelong friends and has impacted so many people's lives. Mike fought two courageous battles of cancer. When he was diagnosed for the first time, his coworkers in hospice formed a team of angels. Many of those angels visited him during his final months. He was surrounded by family, friends and so much love when he passed on January 8, 2019. His favorite song Layla by Eric Clapton was playing, and he is resting peacefully now, eternally in the sunshine.

Please join us in celebrating the life of Mike Davis

February 2, 2019

4:00-7:00

The Jasmine Room by Venue at The Grand Manse

129 North 10th St

Lincoln, NE 68508

*****Please RSVP by clicking the following link*****

https://www.evite.com/event/0072RVLMYQBNGEHLWEPJCRXWSE3UPA/rsvp?gid=00626W752AHY3EAT6EPJCSHWAUSNWM&utm_campaign=view_invitation_bt&utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_source=GUEST_CONFIRM_RSVP

Thank you for contributing to one or more of the following in memory of Mike:

Nebraska Cancer Research Center

4600 Valley Rd
Lincoln, NE 68510

In memory of Michael J. Davis

Tabitha Hospice and Home Health Care

c/o Tabitha Foundation
4720 Randolph St.

Lincoln, NE 68510

In memory of Michael J. Davis

The Monarch

c/o Eastmont Foundation
6315 O St.

Lincoln, NE 68510

In memory of Michael J. Davis

"The measure of a man comes down to moments, spread out like dots of paint on the canvas of a life. Everything you were, everything you'll someday be, resides in the small, seemingly ordinary choices of everyday life. Each decision seems as insignificant as a left turn on an unfamiliar road when you have no destination in mind. But the decisions accumulate until you realize one day that they've made you the man you are." -excerpt from the novel Angel Falls, written by Kristin Hannah

Funeral Home assisting is Aspen Mortuary, 4822 Cleveland Avenue, Lincoln, NE 68504. To view an on-line obituary or email condolences please visit Aspen Mortuary's website at www.aspenaftercare.com.

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