



Michael Barkhurst

April 16, 1944 - March 7, 2025

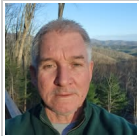
BARKHURST – Michael Barkhurst, age 80 of Monroe, GA, passed away on Friday, March 7, 2025. No services are scheduled at this time. Michael loved sports and was a huge UGA fan. He enjoyed riding his bike and long distance running. Michael had a lengthy career in law enforcement where he was a city police officer, county sheriff, a detective, and an instructor. He retired as a Deputy Warden from county corrections as with 50 years under his duty belt. Michael was preceded in death by his loving wife, Deborah Barkhurst; parents, Ed and Penny Barkhurst. He is survived by his former spouse, Pat Barkhurst; children and their spouses, Alethia Barkhurst, Jason and Carla Barkhurst, Brigitte and Sam Hunt, Brian and Amber Allen; grandchildren, Brooke Bowen, Brandon Bowen, Kaya Brown, Vaughn Barkhurst, and Alora Barkhurst; great granddaughters, Lucy Mae Barkhurst and Kinley Stanfield; numerous family and friends. Arrangements by Tim Stewart Funeral Home, 670 Tom Brewer Road, Loganville, GA 30052. 770-466-1544. Please sign the online guest registry at www.stewartfh.com.

Tribute Wall

GJ

“ A stand up guy who was always there whenever there was a difficult or dangerous situation that needed to be attended to. RIP Partner.

George J. Donaldson Jr. - April 22, 2025 at 07:05 AM



“ I served with Mike when he was a Major in the Broward County Sheriff's Office Department of Detention in about 2003-2005. Mike was smart and innovative. We were kinda kindred spirits professionally. I was a lieutenant/shift commander of a facility that housed a large population of mental health inmates. It was challenging. Mike was a couple of levels of management above me. He always had an open mind and was a good listener. I always appreciated his professionalism and good humor. Rest easy Mike. God bless.



John Callaghan - April 16, 2025 at 06:31 PM

KS

“ Praying for comfort for Mike's family. I worked with him for several years at the Broward Sheriff's Office . He was very good to me and I always liked him. I loved his sense of humor and his big smile. He was always an absolute pleasure to work with. He will surely be missed. Thank you for your many years of service Mike. You are truly appreciated.

Kim Spadaro - April 16, 2025 at 06:21 PM

MK

“ Condolences to Mike's family. I worked with Mike at BSO for several years and I loved his sense of humor. May he RIP.

Mary Kopp - April 16, 2025 at 11:19 AM

RG

“ Michael and I were best of friends in our Jr. & Sr. years in high school. He spend many hours at my house as i did with him at his grandfathers house on York St. in Napa, Ca. We do a llot of crazy things together. One friday night Mike had a slumber party at his grandfathers. We stayed in the bunk house. We went out around mid-night with some firecrackers, fired them off in the street drains. Thought that was cool hearing the echo from under the street. Well we wake up around 2:30 in the morning to sirens blaring through the night air, got uo to see whats going on. Street filled with smoke from dry leaves burning in the drainlines under the street. Three fire trucks and about a dozen firemen attending to our deed. Boys will be Boys!! Many fond memories of Michale. We lost track of one another, Michale did give me a call about 5 years ago. It was great hearing from him, the deep connection was there after 50 years had passed. Thank you Michale for being a great buddy of mine. With loving memories, Robert Gunn

Robert Gunn - April 15, 2025 at 12:02 AM

JG

“ Michael and I were classmates in Napa, CA, from the 7th grade through high school. His grandfather took us to my very first professional football game when the San Francisco 49ers played at the old Kezar Stadium. We kept track of each other over the years and my wife and I stayed with Mike and his wife in Georgia, on one of our vacations, when he was a deputy warden. During these last few years when Mike had health challenges, he still had a great sense of humor and we would reminisce about our younger days. I can still hear his laugh. I'll miss our calls.

Jerry Gabriel - April 09, 2025 at 10:11 PM

JH

“ I met Mike while working at Athens-Clarke County. He was a singular man and a bit larger than life. After he retired we went to lunch at Longhorns and I got to listen to his great stories and thoughts. A tough guy but so cerebral, well read, and a true professional. I learned a lot from Mike and laughed a good bit with him too. I will miss him and very much wish all his family and friends my deepest sympathies, prayers for comfort and peace.

Jeff Hale - March 23, 2025 at 09:17 PM

AL

Thank you for sharing your thoughts, memories and condolences. He was a larger than life person with a lot of incredible stories to tell. He is deeply missed...❤️

Alethia - March 24, 2025 at 03:41 PM

DS

“ Mike and I became friends nearly two decades ago, and we enjoyed many thoughtful discussions about wide ranging topics over the years--often over a Waffle House lunch, for which he would kindly drive to Athens, even after he retired. I enjoyed his thoughtful and insightful commentary on just about any subject, but we especially enjoyed talking about work and vintage cars. He always made it clear that he valued our friendship, and his ability to express genuine interest and care when we spoke was so deeply appreciated. I will dearly miss him, our enjoyable phone calls over the last few years, and his guidance, support, and friendship.

Dan Silk - March 21, 2025 at 08:10 AM

GD

“ Mike, the right words just don't come easy to describe how you impacted me. We had some close calls over the weeks, months, and years together and some fun times as well. Remember Minnie Lu's, the only white cops who dared to stop and eat there or when you in uniform played a game of pool while I jaw boned the working girls. We did it all and still got the job done. Save a place for me partner.



Geo. Donaldson - March 18, 2025 at 06:37 PM

MF

I thought of you often Mike, and the great times we had working as partners both off and on duty. RIP Pard.....

Mike Ferguson - April 22, 2025 at 01:22 PM

JB

“*My father is my hero. He provided me the temporal foundation of understanding right from wrong. He showed me unconditional, fatherly love and was always more interested in how I was doing than what I was doing.*

Our relationship strengthened over the years as we both aged and became wiser. The similarities between he and I became more pronounced as time went on; we learned from each other.

I miss the hours long conversations with him on the phone and in person. We shared victories and struggles, good times and bad times. He never lost faith in me. He defended me from myself when necessary. He showed me love, relentlessly.

As my life changed when I was drawn into a close personal relationship with Jesus Christ, Dad was not only open but completely receptive to ecumenical conversation. We had difficult, meaningful discussions about where we go when we die and "worked out our salvation with fear and trembling" (Philippians 2:12). Together, we realized how God's sovereignty and providence played out in our lives, how we were beneficiaries of God's grace and mercy, how time after time after time we were spared our very lives so that we may live another day and be drawn closer to Him. Dad understood that "No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6). I have great hope for his eternal soul and look forward to seeing him again in glory.

Professionally, few things animated Dad more than his career experience. He was literally "Tough as Woodpecker Lips", which was printed on a t-shirt he got from an FBI self-defense training when he was with Contra Costa County SO. I will miss the stories he shared with accompanying full details. He remembered things that happened 50 years ago (or longer) as if they happened just yesterday. His cognitive acuity was all but unmatched. His professionalism a model for everyone in his orbit.

He grew up a fighter in the true sense - he understood how to assess threats and respond in a reasonable manner. He never backed away from a challenge, and met every one of them with courage and wisdom. He - like his father and grandfather before him - embodied the real and true spirit of America; Resilient, tough, kind, compassionate, principled, law abiding, honest, unwavering in love of country.

I'm proud to have him as a father and friend. Rest in peace, Dad. I love you more than words can describe.

Jason Barkhurst - March 18, 2025 at 01:28 PM

DS

Hi Jason. You're father was a great man. He inspired many to be their best. His cerebral paradigm towards the corrections profession and life is rare and impacted my life greatly. I know he loved you, your sister, all the stepchildren and grandchildren. He will be sorely missed.....

Darren Sieger - March 18, 2025 at 08:21 PM

MR

*“ I am fortunate to be able to call Mike a friend. A friend for 25 plus years. We met in south Florida, where we both worked for Broward Sheriff. On retiring we both moved to Georgia and lived close to each other.
Several years ago when Mike got sick, we would call each other 2-3 times a week. Never did Mike complain about his illness. He handled his sickness with grace..
A strong believer in God and a love for his wife Deb. He is with both now and no longer suffering . I will miss my friend .*

marty and elizabeth rahinsky - March 13, 2025 at 07:55 PM

JB

Marty - Thank you very much for being such a good friend to Dad over the years, for inviting him to your home to enjoy holiday meals, and everything else you provided in terms of brotherhood and comfort. I know how much he respected you! I also am grateful to have met you on several occasions, and thank you for your kind words and sentiment. God bless you and your family.

Jason Barkhurst - March 20, 2025 at 03:55 PM

LM

“ *Lark Moore lit a candle in memory of Michael Barkhurst*



Lark Moore - March 13, 2025 at 07:51 PM

AL

Thank you Sis. I love you ❤️

Alethia - March 24, 2025 at 04:12 PM