



Michael O. VanValkenburg

February 2, 1957 - April 23, 2019

Michael O. Van Valkenburg, 62, passed away peacefully at home on April 23, 2019. Born February 2, 1957, he was predeceased by his parents, Rosemarie (Ro) O'Connell and Robert O. Van Valkenburg. He is survived by a daughter, Zoe Quinn of Los Angeles, CA and four siblings, Robert (Laura) of Coxsackie, Timothy (Lisa) of Atlanta, GA, Lisa (Rick) Donovan of Lee, MA and Kim (Lek) Nazi of Coxsackie, along with many nieces and nephews and his Twin Tech family.

A lifelong resident of Athens, Mike, better known as Mikie V, was always a fun-loving free spirit and a natural mechanic who as a child, enjoyed taking things apart and figuring out how to put them back together. He could fix anything. He was the founder and owner of Twin Tech Motorcycle Shop where he pursued his passion for working on and building bikes every single day. He had an encyclopedic knowledge of Harley Davidson Motorcycles and could tune or diagnose a motor problem just by its sound. Mikie was known professionally in the motorcycle community as a master mechanic, expert welder, creative fabricator and gifted bike and engine builder. He had friends and customers from one end of the county to the other and was amazing to watch, whether he be riding his bike or working on it.

In addition to all things motorcycles, Mikie loved his many true and loyal friends, and working in his shop. He treasured his family and especially loved his daughter, Zoe. He lived his life on his own terms and will always be remembered for his fun loving nature, sense of humor and fearless approach

to whatever challenge he was facing. He lived his life courageously.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend calling hours at Richards Funeral Home, 28 North Vernon Street, Athens NY 12015 on Friday, April 26th, 2019 from 2:30 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

Condolences may be made at www.richardsfuneralhomeinc.net.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **26**. 2:30 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Richards Funeral Home - Athens
28 North Vernon Street
Athens, NY 12015
(518) 945-1065
info@richardsbradysfh.com

Funeral

APR **26**. 6:45 PM (ET)

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28 North Vernon Street
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Tribute Wall

AN

“ Zoe Quinn murdered Alec Holowka.

Anonymous - November 09, 2019 at 01:38 PM

AT

“ All the Ganci kids have great memories with the VanValkenburg family and kids from way back. 5 and 5 Playing in the pool, picnics, board games, boat rides on the Hudson and yes, motorcycle rides. Michael is missed. He was a talented guy who loved his work and the people in his life. And his family was and still is very special. Praying for you all. Glad you were able to be with him and to share in the special bike tribute. You are on our hearts. Antoinette Turner

Antoinette Turner - May 04, 2019 at 09:14 PM

CM

“ Our deepest condolences to the whole VanVolkenburg family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this very difficult time. Sincerely, Cathie-Rose (Ganci) and Brian Michaud

Cathie-Rose Michaud - May 03, 2019 at 06:13 PM

BS

“ Bob And Dawn Suttmeier lit a candle in memory of Michael O. VanValkenburg



Bob and Dawn Suttmeier - April 27, 2019 at 10:51 AM

DF

“ Sending my deepest sympathies on Michael's passing to the entire Van Valkenburg family. It always especially sad to lose a part of the family of Athens. May you all be comforted by wonderful memories shared together.

Delsie Favicchio

DF - April 27, 2019 at 09:20 AM

BJ

“ Life should not be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a pretty and well preserved body, but rather to skid in broadside, in a cloud of smoke, thoroughly used up, totally worn out, and loudly proclaiming, 'Wow! What a Ride!

Quote by Hunter S. Thompson

Mikey to a tee, ride on!

Bob Litchko Jr - April 26, 2019 at 05:21 PM

PL

“ Mikie V we've been friends for 43 years. We went from hot rods to motorcycles and you made a great life building on that passion for bikes. Even though the world is a little darker and colder without your shining presence the heavens are shining brighter tonight. We love you and miss you brother. See you on the other side.

Paul and Melana Lampman Deepest sympathies to Chelsea and the Van Valkenburg family.

Paul Lampman - April 26, 2019 at 05:00 PM

MF

“ My heartfelt sympathies goes out to his family and all his friends. He will dearly be missed. His legacy will live on for many years to come. The memories I have will never be forgotten. Fly free my friend until we meet again.

Missy Fitzpatrick - April 26, 2019 at 02:08 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Michael O. VanValkenburg.



April 26, 2019 at 10:48 AM

BJ

“ We never rode a 🏍️ together but we did ride the school bus 🚌 together. RIP Mike party hardy!

Bernice Jordan - April 26, 2019 at 09:47 AM

MS

“ It's pretty easy to sum up mike, he was an “awesome” person. He lived his life his way, and I've always admired that about him,.....

Cheers to you Mike and ride on. We will miss you

Mary Romagnano spooner & Joseph p Spooner

mary romagnano spooner & joseph spooner - April 26, 2019 at 07:48 AM

JJ

“ Mike was my stepfather. Mike and his family accepted me and made me feel like I was family even though I didn't actually become part of his life until I was in 6th grade. I am heartbroken to hear of his passing, we spoke not too long ago and I will always hold him dear to my heart. I am unable to attend his funeral as I have just tonight learned of this sad news- my heart is there however. God speed pop pop.

Jenny Jones - April 26, 2019 at 01:16 AM

DM

“ We extend our deepest sympathies to the Van Valkenburg family as you support each other at this difficult time. May God give you all the comfort and strength you need and bless you with many fond memories of Mike.
Dana and John Masselli

Dana Masselli - April 25, 2019 at 09:59 PM

BS

“ Remembering all of the good times that we shared. Love you Mikie.....Our sincerest sympathy to the family during this difficult time....Beth and Jerry Simpkins

Beth and Jerry Simpkins - April 25, 2019 at 08:25 PM

 Lori Girard

“ You will always be part of the "Three Musketeers"! We will miss you!!! Dan and Lori G. (Cocoa, FL) Our deepest sympathies to the family.

Lori Girard - April 25, 2019 at 06:03 PM

FR

“ A great lose of a great guy. Marilyn and Mike had a special friendship. She will be waiting for his arrival to lead him to his new shop. Rest easy.

Frank Ripperger - April 25, 2019 at 05:51 PM

RS

“ Sorry to hear of Mikes passing, Rest in peace my friend.

Robert F. Litchko Sr. - April 25, 2019 at 08:40 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michael O. VanValkenburg.



April 25, 2019 at 08:22 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael O. VanValkenburg.



April 25, 2019 at 07:46 AM

BV

“ Dear Zoe and the Van Valkenburg family, You have our deepest sympathy in the loss of your beloved father and brother. Mike and I have been friends for decades and always enjoyed Mike's company sense of humor. Mike made many friends over his lifetime, and he will be missed by us all. Rest in peace, Mike. With love, sympathy and respect, Bob (and Joanne) Van Valkenburgh

Bob Van Valkenburgh - April 25, 2019 at 07:15 AM

MF

“ Michael and Christa Dedrick and Family purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Michael O. VanValkenburg.



Michael and Christa Dedrick and Family - April 24, 2019 at 11:41 PM

JB

“ Jane Boyles lit a candle in memory of Michael O. VanValkenburg



Jane Boyles - April 24, 2019 at 09:35 PM

DO

“ It has been great to call Mike a friend for decades and I know he is and will be missed by many of us. Ride forever Mike my Brother



Dan & Wanda Oakes - April 24, 2019 at 08:34 PM

RW

“ I am honored to have known Mike for many years. Rest in peace Mike. Our thoughts and prayers to all of you.

Robin Welsch - April 24, 2019 at 08:02 PM

PF

“ Bob & Laura My deepest condolences to you and yours. Pam, Gr. Cty. HR

Pamela Fancher-Brent - April 24, 2019 at 07:06 PM

JM

“ 45 years of knowing you mike I will never forget you .you helped me many many times .and always was there for me .God bless you brother till we meet again .

james k meade - April 24, 2019 at 07:05 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Michael O. VanValkenburg.



April 24, 2019 at 06:18 PM

CH

“ the heavy hearts of many is the sign of a Great Man. Until we meet again , i will shed a tear every day. Chach



Chach - April 24, 2019 at 05:28 PM

MP

“ My very first memory of Mike was at one of his infamous Mikie Bashes...I was a young pregnant teen being introduced to who within moments went from this very very tall biker guy I was shy of to a boisterous, laughing gentle giant of a man. Forever will I never forget his kindness, his laughter and always supporting our Ride for Audrey with his signature 'Elvis' panhead being the very first logo on our tee along with gifting me my first and only 'legal' helmet that always protected this blonde head of mine.

The spark plug story is one a few know and will always make me laugh for Mikie definitely always knew how to charm and make fun in the shop.

I will forever miss this man of legendary talent, his huge heart and all of everything that he gave to both me, the community and the numerous friends he selflessly gave of himself to.

It's true what they say about him, he lived life his way in a big way left his mark on many including me.

Thoughts and prayers to the entire Vanvalkenburgh Family & friends.

As he told me, remember him with a smile, good thoughts and know we shall see each other again.

Fondly, Marie ~ Minnie Mouse

Marie Parker - April 24, 2019 at 04:49 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michael O. VanValkenburg.



April 24, 2019 at 03:54 PM



“ *Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael O. VanValkenburg.*



April 24, 2019 at 03:06 PM



“ *Our deepest sympathies go out to the family. Mikie was one of a kind. A man with a heart of gold. Will always remember them “build” talks he would have with my husband. Until we meet again mikie ride free! Rest In paradise! He may be gone but will never be forgotten!*

Robin Keeler - April 24, 2019 at 02:43 PM



“ *Dear Van Valkenburg family,
May you find some comfort and peace in the days ahead knowing that he lived his life doing what he loved with passion and joy. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.
Rest In Peace Mikie 🙏
Wendi & Mike Carroll*



Wendi Carroll - April 24, 2019 at 02:00 PM