



## Michael R. Evans

June 11, 1955 - November 21, 2024

Michael Robert Evans, 69, of Bourbonnais, passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, November 21st, 2024.

He was born June 11th, 1955, in Lafayette, Indiana, the son of Robert and Lucille Evans. Mike graduated in 1973 from Lafayette Jefferson High School, then graduated from Ball State University, Muncie Indiana with undergraduate and graduate degrees in Special Education. He taught from 1977 until 2024 at multiple schools; Winchester Elementary School, Winchester, Indiana, Herscher High School, Bradley Bourbonnais Community High School, and Indian Oaks Academy.

Mike was involved in coaching Cross Country, Track, and Basketball. He took special pride in developing the Special Olympics basketball program at BBCHS. He enjoyed the support of his teams by students, staff, and the community. Special memories related to the basketball days were trips to the state tournaments and playing at the half-time at a Chicago Bulls game. Mike was also a co-sponsor and trainer for the Natural Helpers Program at BBCHS, a peer support program. Most recently, he was a teacher at Indian Oaks Academy, culminating a 47 year teaching career still arriving to work way earlier than what was required. He will be missed by many.

He also enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren, Star Wars, Indiana

Jones, Old Westerns, 70's Rock Music, and Jimmy Buffett. He was also a known fan of the Chicago White Sox and Chicago Bears. He loved Purdue, college basketball, and Bobby Knight / IU. He was known to order the same thing every time he went to Arni's Pizza in Lafayette, Indiana where he grew up. During the holidays he couldn't keep gifts a secret and loved the movies A Christmas Story and National Lampoons Christmas Vacation. Mike also liked fishing trips and the Renaissance Fairs.

Mike is survived by two children, Valerie (Christopher) Cuddy and Vincent Evans; grandsons, Kieran Robert Cuddy and Kellen Richard Cuddy; former wife and mother of his children, Lara "Lolly" Evans, brother, Greg (Sherry) Evans; niece, Samantha Evans; stepsiblings, Kimberly Roebuck and Leslie Snyder.

Preceding him in death are his parents.

A celebration of life will be held Sunday, December 8, 2024, from 1 p.m. to 4p.m. at Jensen Funeral Home, Kankakee.

Memorials may be made to the wishes of the family.

# Previous Events

## **Celebration of Life**

DEC 8. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Jensen Funeral Home  
3639 EAST State Route 17  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
jensenfuneralhomes@yahoo.com

# Tribute Wall

CN

“ So sorry I did not make it today. Cousin, will have good memory of all of us going to Grandpa an Grandma house for Sunday dinners. We had lots of fun on the farm. ❤️

Cheri Noerenberg - December 08, 2024 at 05:17 PM

CW

“ Mr. Evans, Nexus Indian Oaks will never be the same without you! My prayer goes out to the Evans Family! Gods' peace and love to you now and always!



Carla A. Wright - December 04, 2024 at 09:08 AM

BF

So sorry to hear this. Mr. Evans would keep the Youth up to date with current events at NIO. You will be greatly missed. May the good Lord surround your family with peace and strength. R.I.P. my friend. 😊

Barb De Filippo - December 04, 2024 at 01:18 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael R. Evans.



December 04, 2024 at 08:59 AM

DB

“ I was sorry to o hear of Mike’s passing. My sincere condolences to Valerie, Vince, and the rest of his family  
Debi Barrone  
BBCHS (Ret.)

Debi Barrone - December 02, 2024 at 02:18 PM

JS

“ Judy Stork purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Michael R. Evans.



Judy Stork - December 02, 2024 at 01:13 PM

JS

“ Judy Stork lit a candle in memory of Michael R. Evans



Judy Stork - December 02, 2024 at 01:05 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Michael R. Evans.

December 01, 2024 at 10:26 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michael R. Evans.



December 01, 2024 at 10:26 AM



“ Tim And Connie Eaker lit a candle in memory of Michael R. Evans



Tim and Connie Eaker - November 29, 2024 at 11:11 PM



So sorry to hear about Mike 😞 I cleaned his classroom for 27 yrs at BBCHS. We became good friends always had great conversations while I cleaned. I'm sure he will be greatly missed by all who knew him 🌹😞 my heartfelt condolences to his family.

Deborah Tofte - December 07, 2024 at 04:52 PM



man im sorry man i really miss u and really hoped that u was still here bc u made a change in nexus especially in our classroom

Nate Watkins - March 09 at 05:47 PM