



Michael Joe Fulghum

September 1, 1941 - March 8, 2023

Michael Joe Fulghum, age 81 of Fredonia, KS, passed away on Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at Neosho Memorial Regional Medical Center in Chanute, KS.

Mike was born September 1, 1941 to Joseph and Fayne (Brindle) Fulghum, in Fredonia, KS. He grew up and attended high school in Fredonia, graduating from FHS in the class of 1959. He continued his education at Coffeyville Junior College, then graduated from Kansas University with a bachelor degree in education. Throughout his school years, Mike was a star athlete, especially as a distance runner, and in track. This could be seen by all of his awards and trophies he won.

After graduating college, Mike went right to teaching and coaching. He began his career in Troy, Kansas, then Leon, Kansas and Eureka, Kansas, before settling in as teacher and athletics coach in Neodesha, Kansas. He loved his job and especially enjoyed coaching track. He retired in 1991.

In 1990, Mike married Billie Graff at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Fredonia, Kansas. They have spent the last 33 wonderful years together, taking many trips across the United States and Canada with Billie and her boys. He was known as a coon hunter extraordinaire, and was well known for his 42 self-organized fishing trips to Canada, taking along family and friends.

Mike helped mold and influence many kids into the adults they are today, and made a positive impact on many lives. He will be missed by all that knew him.

He is survived by his wife, Billie of the home

Step-sons

Brian (Kathi Bolton) Graff of Neodesha

Darin (Kathy) Graff of Neodesha

Siblings:

Jack (Joyce) Fulghum of Fredonia

Jola Charles of Ft. Collins, CO

George (Judy) Fulghum of Wichita

Richard (Rita) Fulghum of Fredonia

Bob Fulghum of Fredonia

Many nieces and nephews

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Patrick Fulghum; brother-in-law, Joe Charles; and sister-in-law, Patsy Fulghum

The family will receive friends at visitation from 5:00 to 7:00 PM on Monday, March 13, 2023 at Countryside Funeral Home, 420 S. 20th, Fredonia, Kansas

Rosary will be recited on Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 9:30 AM, followed by Mass at 10:00 AM at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 1224 Madison St., Fredonia, Kansas

Memorial contributions are suggested to Fredonia Flag Fund or Sacred Heart Catholic Church, and can be mailed to or left with the funeral home.

Services entrusted to Countryside Funeral Home, 420 S. 20th, PO Box 247,
Fredonia, KS 66736

Cemetery Details

Sacred Heart Cemetery

Fredonia, KS 66736

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 13. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Countryside Funeral Home - Fredonia
420 S. 20th St.
P.O. Box 247
Fredonia, KS 66736
(620) 378-2882

Rosary

MAR 14. 9:30 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
1224 Madison St
Fredonia, KS 66736

Mass of Christian Burial

MAR 14. 10:00 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
1224 Madison St
Fredonia, KS 66736

Tribute Wall

MA

“By far my favorite teacher! He is the only person that called me “Louise”. So many great memories!! So much personality! I remember him asking students if they needed a warm bottle of milk if they started whining. He taught me everything from how to draw using perspective to how to draw hair in the epidermis. He gave me a life long love for all sports. He had a tremendous impact on my choice to get into teaching and coaching. He will always hold a special place in my heart. Thank you, Mr. Fulghum....I wish I'd said this to you sooner. 🥹 Condolences to his family.
Rest In Peace.
Mary “Louise” (Sullivan) DeZeeuw

Mary - March 14, 2023 at 05:31 PM

U4

“Thinking of you and your family. USD 461

USD 461 - March 14, 2023 at 09:17 AM

MW

“A really great guy! Thanks for inviting me to tag along with the family to Canada last summer fishing. Mike enjoyed taking folks on these many years of Canadian fishing.

Marvin Whitehead - March 14, 2023 at 09:03 AM

DP

“Billie and family,
Our memories of Mike is his winning smile and kindness. We are saddened to hear of his passing. Please know you will be in our thoughts and prayers. May God's Spirit comfort you during this time.
Dewayne and Harriet Powell, Amarillo, TX

Dewayne Powell - March 11, 2023 at 11:58 AM

JT

“ One of my closest friends while we were students at KU. Along with his roommate, Bill Thornton, the 3 of us had some great times. I miss them. RIP.

Jack Thomas - March 11, 2023 at 12:49 AM

RK

“ My Cross Country Coach 1967-1971. Started the program at Neodesha. Great coach and person. Rest In Peace Mike. Richard Kiblinger

Richard Kiblinger - March 10, 2023 at 07:07 PM

JC

“ I am most saddened to hear of my special partner/peer's passing. . We spent so much time trying to make a difference in the lives of all the kids we had in Heller School. Mike was a man of great character. He was so special. May our God comfort you as you continue to cherish Mike's memory. I wish you peace and strength as you move forward. Sincerely, Judy Clifton

Judyth Clifton - March 10, 2023 at 05:26 PM

ML

“ Mr. Fulghum was my favorite teacher in grade school at Heller in Neodesha. Sure going to miss him. Praying for him and his family.

Marc Livingston - March 10, 2023 at 02:47 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of Michael Joe Fulghum.



March 10, 2023 at 01:22 PM