



Michael Francis Ahrens

September 24, 1963 - June 14, 2017

Michael “Mike” Francis Ahrens, 53, of Bourbonnais, and formerly of Watseka, passed away unexpectedly at his home Wednesday, June 14, following a recent illness.

He was born Sept. 24, 1963, in Watseka, the son of the late Francis and Karen Feller Ahrens. He married Tina (Immormino) Wojciechowski on July 11, 2001, in Kankakee. She survives, as does his mother, of Watseka.

Also surviving are three sons and daughters-in-law, Nicholas (Melissa) Nink, of Dunwoody, Ga., Bobby (Megan) Wojciechowski, of Bourbonnais, and Steven (fiancee Brianna) Wojciechowski, of Roodhouse; two daughters, Marilyn Cebulski (Anthony “Booter” West), of Shorewood, and Samantha Nink (fiance Will Smith), of Mooresville, N.C.; one brother and sister-in-law, Timothy (Angelique), of Kankakee; as well as several nieces and nephews and a host of cousins.

His seven grandchildren knew him as “Papa,” and he loved them all dearly, from Robby and Peyton, to James and Kathryn, to Liam and Syllas, and his newest granddaughter Elloise. Papa lived to hold them and to love on them. He now looks down from above with a broad smile on his face.

He also liked Harley Davidson motorcycles, gun shows, the Cubs and the Bears. His home could be seen from blocks away at Christmas, thanks to his exterior illumination

skills. He enjoyed tending to his wife's flowers, yard work and TV, but all those could easily be put on hold for his family, the people he always put first.

He was employed for over 25 years at the Kmart Distribution Center in Manteno in a variety of positions, including the last several years as the traffic manager.

History will show Mike passed away from a bad heart, but nothing could be further from the truth. His heart was anything but bad. Instead, it was extraordinarily good. He would drop everything to do something to help, even when his health was not the best.

Preceding him in death were his father; one brother, Jeffery; both paternal and maternal grandparents; and his father and mother-in-law, Chuck and Millie Immormino. Several aunts and uncles and other family members also preceded him in death.

Visitation will be from 3-7 p.m. Monday at the Brown Funeral Home in Manteno and one hour before Tuesday's 11 a.m. funeral service at the Westbrook Church of the Nazarene in Kankakee. The Rev. Gary Salm, one of Mike's many cousins, will officiate. Burial will be in All Saints Cemetery in Bourbonnais.

Memorials may be made to the family to help defray the funeral expenses.

Cemetery

Events

All Saints Cemetery

Bourbonnais, IL,

JUN **Visitation** 03:00PM - 07:00PM

19

Brown Funeral Home

21 N. Main St., Manteno, IL, US, 60950

JUN **Service** 11:00AM

20

Westbrook Church of the Nazarene

900 West Jeffery St, Kankakee, IL, US, 60901

Comments



“ Theresa Dmitrasz lit a candle in memory of Michael Francis Ahrens



Theresa Dmitrasz - June 21, 2017 at 10:19 AM



“ Melanie Boehm lit a candle in memory of Michael Francis Ahrens



Melanie Boehm - June 19, 2017 at 07:00 PM



“ 212 files added to the album LifeTributes



Brown Funeral Home - June 19, 2017 at 02:48 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Michael Francis Ahrens.



June 19, 2017 at 11:26 AM



“ Working with Mike for so many years.....always a pleasure!

Shari - June 19, 2017 at 10:07 AM



“ Memories of Mike from my childhood are too numerous to count. He and I were inseparable from ages 5-20. I last saw Mike at my own father's funeral and always thought that I would see him again. I'm sorry now that I won't. Condolences to Karen, Tim, and the extended families. Rest in peace, Mike, my dear friend, and the greatest wiffle ball home run hitter of all time.
David Bergstrom

David Bergstrom - June 18, 2017 at 07:43 PM



“ Sheryl, Anita & Darrell, and Kay & Jim purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Michael Francis Ahrens.



Sheryl, Anita & Darrell, and Kay & Jim - June 18, 2017 at 10:46 AM



“ Mike was always helpful and encouraging in so many ways. Prayers and sympathy to his family....



Carl Gerdovich - June 17, 2017 at 02:56 PM



“ What a beautiful tribute to Mike! He was the first one to give me an engagement ring. Okay, it was out of a gumball machine in second grade, but all the same, memorable. May you find strength in remembering him and all the incredible times you had together with him on this Earth. Prayers sent to the family.

Mary Bien - June 17, 2017 at 12:04 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to the Ahrens family. Mike and I would occasionally talk on the phone and would communicate thru email and I being a Sox fan and he a Cubs fan well say no more we would give each other a hard time. But whenever I needed something from the warehouse Mike was always glad to help! It is truly a shock and Mike will be missed as he touched many associates as everyone that I shared this with has said the same thing. We all know he will be in control from above for now and will continue to support his Cubbies! Go Sox! This is how we would sign our emails. Of course his would be Go Cubs or Go Bears!

vern Miller - June 17, 2017 at 08:30 AM



“ Words can't express how wonderful of a person Mike Ahrens is. He was always there to help and listen a friend and boss. God has been blessed with a wonderful Angel. Prayers to the Ahren family . Mike will be missed for a long time .
Terri Hood

terri hood - June 16, 2017 at 09:51 PM



“ I have to say that getting my beautiful grandsons was a blessing but getting the privilege to become friends with their other grandparents was a plus. Mike always made me laugh and you couldn't help but be happy when he was around. Liam and Syllas adored him and I am heartbroken that they will not get to grow up with him in their lives. We will keep his memory alive though. He will forever live in our hearts and I am sure he will be watching over everyone and being his silly self. Heaven gained a great guy and we are all blessed to have had him in our lives for this too short of time. I am praying for all of you to find strength in the legacy he left behind. May God bless you all and be with you in this difficult time.

Tracy Wells - June 16, 2017 at 03:42 PM



“ Nick, we are so sorry to hear of your great loss. May God comfort you during this time. Prayers for the family. Joyce Newton Davis -N.C.

Joyce Davis - June 16, 2017 at 01:50 PM



“ Patti Kuykendall sent a virtual gift in memory of Michael Francis Ahrens



Patti Kuykendall - June 16, 2017 at 01:00 PM



“ Patti Kuykendall lit a candle in memory of Michael Francis Ahrens



Patti Kuykendall - June 16, 2017 at 12:59 PM



“ Your friends at Aon purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Michael Francis Ahrens.



Your friends at Aon - June 16, 2017 at 09:54 AM



“ Steve Phillips lit a candle in memory of Michael Francis Ahrens



Steve Phillips - June 16, 2017 at 07:44 AM



“ I remember when robby was born as we called him our lol rue bear and mike was gone on business he made sure he called my daughter megan to see how his grandson was doing. Mike was a gentler person I knew and even though I only knew him for a short time he always treated my daughter megan like his own he is truely going to be missed . my condolences go out to the sheen family and the wojochowski family we are all going to miss him.

Elizabeth Ward - June 16, 2017 at 12:17 AM



“ Sorry misspelled ahrens family

Elizabeth Ward - June 16, 2017 at 12:19 AM



“ Dennis Dunlavey Sr lit a candle in memory of Michael Francis Ahrens



Dennis Dunlavey Sr - June 15, 2017 at 11:04 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Michael Francis Ahrens.



June 15, 2017 at 10:26 PM



“ Kim Stueck lit a candle in memory of Michael Francis Ahrens



Kim Stueck - June 15, 2017 at 08:09 PM