



## Michael J. Warner

May 5, 1941 - February 13, 2021

Mike's life, 79 years from 05/05/41 – 02/13/2021, was lived on his own terms. He was born in Wilmot, SD, but spent the majority of the first half of his life living in Sheldon, IA where his love for the railroad and travel began. At 14 years old, he and a buddy decided to go on an adventure and jumped a ride on a rail car. After traveling several miles, they left the train, and to their chagrin, were shortly after picked up by the police. After spending a night in jail, they were picked up by a family member and unceremoniously returned home.

Mike had quite a few careers, but the two most outstanding were owning his own trucking company for a few years, and the job that fulfilled his restless need to travel and his love of the railroad, L.B. Foster. He traveled throughout the country inspecting and grading defunct rail lines Foster had purchased. Mid life, one such job brought him to Huntington, IN, where he quickly made many great friends, decided to move to, and where he spent the remainder of his life. Another location Foster sent him to work was Brent, Ontario, Canada, a tiny rail yard/town, in the middle of Algonquin National Park. During the four summers he worked that job, he fell in love with the people and place, and buying a cottage there. Every summer he waited with ill concealed anticipation for his time spent there, his "little piece of heaven".

Mike was a proud Navy veteran, serving on the USS Saint Paul from 1959 –

1962. He was a member in good standing of the American Legion Post #85 and a long time member of the Moose Lodge #837, both of Huntington.

Mike enjoyed sitting by a campfire with friends, of course with a Budweiser in hand, time on the lake in his pontoon, fishing, mowing the 2 ½ acres of lawn at his Huntington home, and riding around in his golf cart “surveying his kingdom”. Mike was extremely kind, honest, a good friend, funny and generous. He was a classic country music encyclopedia, and a crossword champion, tackling them in record time.

He loved, and was so proud of his daughters, Michelle Simmons (Roland) and Shana Johnson (Kirk), both of Des Moines, IA, as well as his son, Scott of Eugene, OR.

Mike’s grandchildren, Jessica Cezar, Cassidy Simmons, and Ashton, Pryce and Sage Johnson will always carry fond memories of him. He also leaves his brother, Dave Harn of Sheldon, and two great-grandchildren, Ava and Eli Cezar. Mike will be remembered by many nieces, nephews and friends. He was predeceased by 3 sisters and a brother.

Mike passed at home with his hand in that of his best friend, and wife, Joan.

Cremation has taken place. A celebration of Mike’s life will take place in the spring.

Memorial donations can be made to Jamie’s Legacy, Inc., a non-profit stray/feral cat rescue, that he and Joan founded, in care of Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 West Park Drive, Huntington, IN 46750.

Please sign the online guest book at [www.baileylove.com](http://www.baileylove.com).

Bailey-Love Mortuary is honored to serve the family of Michael J. Warner.

# Tribute Wall

DG

“ *My heart is aching, I had the privilege of having Mike for 60 years, there were times we would not be in contact for a year or so, but when we reconnected, we did not skip a beat, I will miss him forever, I truly do not think we had a cross word between us due more to Mike's great dispassion not mine. We fished and hunted together I have many pictures that I Treasure, I also want to mention Joan, who I have never met personally, but in conversation with Mike I know he was eternally grateful that she had come into his life. I also had the opportunity to visit with her on the telephone often GOD BLEES YOU JOAN, and my sincere sympathy to His entire Family as well. Duane*

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**Duane Gulker** - February 21, 2021 at 11:27 AM

MS

“ *3 files added to the tribute wall*



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**Michelle (Warner) Simmons** - February 20, 2021 at 05:27 PM

MS

“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



Michelle (Warner) Simmons - February 20, 2021 at 05:24 PM

BS

“ Thoughts and prayers for you and yours may your living memories be stored in your hearts forever 💙💛💛

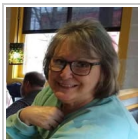
Betty Schott - February 18, 2021 at 11:12 AM

RS

“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Rick Steininger - February 18, 2021 at 09:52 AM



“ Carla Rock lit a candle in memory of Michael J. Warner



Carla Rock - February 18, 2021 at 09:08 AM

CP

“ Cheryl Pasko lit a candle in memory of Michael J. Warner



Cheryl Pasko - February 17, 2021 at 11:49 PM

CP

“ Mike was a very nice man and really enjoyed conversations with him and to see his love caring for he and his wife, Joan, and their furbabies at Jaimie's Legacy. He will be missed. ♡♡

Cheryl Pasko - February 17, 2021 at 11:48 PM

CP

“ Mike, you will be missed by many. It was endearing to see the love you had for Joan and all of your guys furbabies by mowing, mowing, mowing and your helping hand you always have to keep things running smoothly at Jamie's Legacy. Will miss seeing you and talking to you. Love, Joe and Cheryl



Cheryl Pasko - February 17, 2021 at 11:34 PM

VS

“ Vicki Smith lit a candle in memory of Michael J. Warner



vicki smith - February 17, 2021 at 05:24 PM

VS

“ Mike was always smiling, sharing a funny story and always friendly and full of life. I can't begin to say how many ways he has touched my life. I have fond memories that I will have forever, my only regret is I wish I had known him longer....he is truly a dear friend that I will never forget and will miss. His obituary tells it all, a lot of things that I did not know about him. Joan shares stories that are so touching. He is truly in my heart for always!!!

vicki smith - February 17, 2021 at 05:22 PM

DS

“ He was the best, I use to hang out at the truck with Him and Brent when they were Driving Trucks together and we would eat at Bonnie's Cafe. The one thing I really messed up on was I was invited to go fishing to Canada with Mike, Brent, Scotty and another young Warner and maybe one more. They had so much fun and caught some awesome fish and their Guide would pull over on a Island start a fire fry some fish and they said it was so fresh it didn't even taste like fish. Memories He was such a lovable great guy. He will be missed R.I.P.

Douglas Schouten - February 17, 2021 at 03:11 PM

MS

Great memories at the Truck Stop in Sheldon and Bonnie's Cafe.

Michelle (Warner) Simmons - February 20, 2021 at 05:20 PM

 Dot Williams

“ Condolences to Joan and family.



Dot Williams - February 17, 2021 at 02:26 PM

SH

“ *Such a great guy he will be missed. He was a true friend and we have so many great memories. Joan you have my deepest sympathy.*

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**Shirley** - February 17, 2021 at 02:22 PM

DW

“ *Such a kind and gentle man. Always greeted me with a smile and a cat or 4 lol.... Mike I will miss you but I'm glad your suffering is through. My love and prayers go up for Joan and your family. Until we meet again.*



**Danielle Waters** - February 17, 2021 at 01:36 PM

BH

“ *Billie Harris lit a candle in memory of Michael J. Warner*



**Billie Harris** - February 17, 2021 at 01:03 PM