



Michael Gene Riggs

March 10, 1944 - June 5, 2017

After a lifetime of helping others, retired firefighter, Michael G. Riggs, passed away on June 5, 2017, in Manheim, Texas.

Mike was born March 10, 1944, in Anderson, Indiana, and graduated from Anderson High School. He married his high school sweetheart, Karen (Redic) Riggs, in 1965 and raised 4 children.

Mike served as an aircraft electrician in the United States Air Force, including a tour in Vietnam at the Biên Hòa air base (1965-66) and was honorably discharged (E-4) October 13, 1967.

Mike joined the Anderson Fire Department in February, 1969, and had a 34-Year career as a rescue firefighter. Mike was in AFD's first Emergency Medical Technician class, and was on the scene with Rescue 1, and later, Rescue 2 for many years until his retirement. Although he helped many people in emergency situations and was a recipient of American Legion awards for heroism, Mike thought little of these, telling his kids, "I don't think I should get awards for just doing my job."

Outside the fire department, Mike also was well known in Central Indiana for his work as owner of Riggs Service Company, specializing in commercial kitchen equipment installation and repair.

Mike was a member of St. Margaret Catholic Church of Giddings, TX, and was a 4th Degree Knight of Columbus. He was previously a parishioner at St. Ambrose Church in Anderson, IN, and St. Mary's in Alexandria, IN. He was also a member of American Legion Post 127 and the 40&8.

Mike is survived by his loving wife Karen, daughter Penny and her husband Karl Rehn, daughter Betsy and her husband Cliff Tilbury, his little buddy and grandson Dusty Michael Tilbury, sister Sharon Rule, his nieces and nephews, and his fellow fire fighters.

He was preceded in death by his children, Terry and Cheriti Riggs, his father Woodrow Riggs, mother Barbara Hoover, and brothers, Larry Riggs and Denny Riggs

Mike was one who never met a stranger and was always quick to help anyone in need. He enjoyed volunteering, fishing, NASCAR, being outdoors, and spending time with his grandson. Mike is sadly missed by his family and numerous friends across Indiana and Texas.

Visitation will be at Brown-Butz-Deidring funeral home in Indiana. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Ambrose Catholic Church, Anderson, IN, with burial in Alexandria, IN. A memorial will be held at St. Margaret Church in Giddings at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the St. Margaret's Knights of Columbus (Giddings, TX), or other recipient.

Tribute Wall

AW

“ *Angie And Alton Wiederhold lit a candle in memory of Michael Gene Riggs*



Angie and Alton Wiederhold - June 13, 2017 at 04:50 PM

CI

“ *Karen and family....we are so sorry for your loss. Mike was one of the finest gentlemen I have ever met. He was so kind and willing to help. Terry knew he could always count on him to help the KC's...often at the drop of a hat....and he appreciated that so much. And, he showed up with a smile...always!!! 😊 What a kind and gentle and beautiful soul. We already miss him so much. And I promise, he will never be forgotten. May God bless and be with you especially during this difficult time.*



Terry and Cindy and Dustin

Cindy - June 13, 2017 at 08:20 AM

DN

“*“Manheim Mike” you always infected us with your contagious smile every Sunday at church. You lead by example, you helped everywhere and anywhere. It didn't matter if anyone was looking or not, your acts were never selfish and your humble works will always be remembered. You always made us smile even when you didn't feel good. May God welcome you with open arms. Gone but not forgotten.*

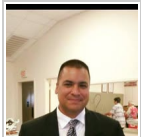
*You and your family will remain in our prayers,
Dennis Nunes and family*

Dennis Nunes - June 05, 2017 at 10:18 PM

BE

“*I did not know Mike well, but found him to be a kind and gentle spirit. Always cheerful and willing to help when needed. He will be greatly missed by all of the St. Margaret's family.*

Barbara Englade. - June 05, 2017 at 06:22 PM



“*Mike my Brother Knight, you will be missed. You left an everlasting impression on me & were just a great soul! I know you are in a better place & are probably hearing those words of "Well Done My Son!" God Bless your family during this time, May your soul rest in peace. Joel & Sandra Lopez*



Joel Lopez - June 05, 2017 at 02:56 PM

RL

Our Brother Knight, Thank you for your friendship and your offer of wanting to help replace Little Rock's wheelchair when it fell out the back of the truck. Our HERO, MAY GOD WATCH OVER YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.

roque lira - June 05, 2017 at 08:52 PM