



## Michael Joseph Ferchak

July 10, 1949 - July 31, 2021

Michael J. Ferchak, Greensburg, went to his eternal home on July 31, 2021, after a long, courageous battle with Multiple System Atrophy (MSA), a rare degenerative neurological disease.

Born July 10, 1949 in McKeesport, PA, son of the late Michael and Ann (Kubes) Ferchak, Michael is survived by his beloved wife of 36 years, Helene (Mlinarich); son, Michael Ferchak III of (Squirrel Hill) Pittsburgh; daughter, Rachel (Ryan) Geckle of Orlando, FL; brother Damian (Patricia) Ferchak; sister Carol Ann (the late Michael) Ferchak-Anater; nieces and nephews.

Michael received a Bachelor of Arts Degree cum laude from Duquesne University in 1971 and a Master of Arts Degree in History from the University of Pittsburgh in 1972. He had wanted to be a history professor. Instead, he worked for more than 35 years for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Bureau of Disability Determination in Greensburg, where he met his wonderful wife Helene, who would become his nurse and full-time caregiver. He liked to reference the New Testament book of Romans 8:28: "And we know that all things work together for the best for those who love God, to those who are called according to his purpose."

Besides reading history, Michael enjoyed world travel, classic movies, collecting books and maps, and spending time with his family. With Helene's

patient encouragement and invaluable assistance, they completed his memoir as a legacy for their children. He wanted to give heartfelt thanks to a group of special friends, who visited regularly and offered their help to Helene in many ways. He also wanted to thank Donna, Lexi, Cassie, Stacy, Helene's brother, Ray and Heartland Hospice (Charlotte, Lisa, Shari) for their loving and caring assistance.

In memory of Mike, and in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The MSA Coalition at [www.multiplesystematrophy.org/donate/](http://www.multiplesystematrophy.org/donate/) or to 7918 Jones Branch Drive, Suite 300, McClean, VA 22102.

A Celebration of Life will be on Saturday, August 14 at 11:00 a.m. at New Stanton Assembly of God. 135 Assembly of God Lane, New Stanton PA 15672

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

AUG **14**. 11:00 AM (ET)

New Stanton Assembly of God  
135 Assembly of God Lane  
New Stanton, PA 15672

# Tribute Wall



“ *Michael Joseph Ferchak*

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October 09, 2023 at 09:55 AM



“ *Michael Joseph Ferchak*

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October 06, 2023 at 11:36 AM



“ *While I never met your beloved Michael, I am sending you all my deepest sympathy. I lost my precious father to MSA in March 2020, so I deeply understand what Michael and you-- his family and caregivers--endured as he bravely faced and battled this rare, terrible illness. I will pray for you all as you grieve and find ways of healing and moving forward. I believe your beloved and my father have finally found joy and peace. May love, faith and precious memories carry you through. -- Karen Pavlic*

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**Karen Pavlic** - August 11, 2021 at 12:26 PM



“ *Thank you for allowing us the honor of caring for Michael. The loss of a loved one is never easy, but know our care remains here for you and your family through your grief. We hope we can offer comfort and strength during this difficult time of loss. With heartfelt sympathy, Your Heartland Hospice Team.*

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**Your Heartland Hospice Team** - August 02, 2021 at 05:26 PM