



Michael Allen James Russell

December 10, 1953 - April 26, 2026

Michael Allen James Russell, 72, of Poneto, went to be with the Lord Sunday, April 26, 2026, at home with his wife and sons.

Mike was born on December 10, 1953, in Bluffton, Indiana to William and Maxine Russell. He married Laurie A. Garrett on May 25, 1974, in Bluffton, Indiana.

Mike graduated from Bluffton High School in 1972. Mike was a member of the First Church of the Nazarene in Bluffton.

Mike is survived by his wife Laurie A Russell, sons, Anthony (Brittani) Russell of Huntertown, Drew (April) Russell of Glasgow, Kentucky, Adam (Malari) Russell of Canton, Michigan, Nick (Britney) Russell of Fort Wayne, twelve grandchildren Jentry Bowles, Ellah Russell, Gunner Russell, Lynnlee Russell, Gavin Russell, Andi Kate Russell, Ada Mae Russell, Monroe Russell, Archer Russell, Selah Russell, Ireland Russell, Maverik Russell, Sisters Julie (John) Drake, Jane Russell, Twin Brother Pat (Donita) Russell and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother John Russell, a niece Abbey M. Drake, a nephew Stephen Drake.

Calling hours are 11:00 to 3:00 p.m. Saturday, May 02, 2026, at First Church of the Nazarene with the service celebrating Mike's life at 3:00 p.m. Saturday, May 02, 2026, with Pastor Tim Miller officiating. Memorials may be made to the First Church of the Nazarene Illumin8 Outreach and directed through the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Lemler family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home. Friends may share online condolences with the family at www.thomarich.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 2. 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Bluffton First Church of the Nazarene
1515 Clark Avenue
Bluffton, IN 46714

Funeral Service

MAY 2. 3:00 PM (ET)

Bluffton First Church of the Nazarene
1515 Clark Avenue
Bluffton, IN 46714

Tribute Wall



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael Allen James Russell.*



May 02 at 07:13 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Michael Allen James Russell.

May 02 at 07:13 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Michael Allen James Russell.*



May 01 at 01:39 PM



“ *First Merchants North Monroe Branch purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Michael Allen James Russell.*



First Merchants North Monroe Branch - April 30 at 02:13 PM

TF

“ *The Grant Families and The Garcia Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Michael Allen James Russell.*



The Grant Families and The Garcia Family - April 30 at 11:56 AM

TC

“ *The Pitties Dog House Crew purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Michael Allen James Russell.*



The Pitties Dog House Crew - April 30 at 09:29 AM

DT

“ *D&W Fine Pack Engineering Team purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Michael Allen James Russell.*



D&W Fine Pack Engineering Team - April 28 at 08:20 AM

SB

“ *Stephanie & Andy Banker purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Michael Allen James Russell.*



Stephanie & Andy Banker - April 27 at 09:25 PM

BC

“ Dear Laurie, Russell Family, Julie, Pat and Jane so very Sorry and Sad to hear about my Good Friend Michael! Michael was a Good Loving Husband, Father, Grandfather, and Friend! Laurie it's hard to sympathize with u because I have not lost my Spouse yet I can't imagine how hard that would be? Michael was a very Good Friend and Good Classmate all the way thru school! I have alot of Good memories thru are childhood days, middle school days, and high school days with Michael and Patrick with my Twin brother Garry and !! It seemed like Pat and I were in all the same classes and Mike and Garry were in all the same classes! I can remember all the memories staying over at the Russell 's house on 116 when we were in school and always having Aunt Mary watching over all us ornery boys! The sleepovers and campfires and campouts! Our Prayers are with all the Family as they Grieve Michael's passing! 🙏🙏
🙏🙏 May our Heavenly Father Grant u all Peace, Grace, and Comfort in the days, weeks, months, and years to come! We know that Michael is in a better place with his Lord and Savior Jesus in Heaven! Being able to see all his Family members and all his Friends that have went on before him! God Bless the Russell Family! Love, Barry and JoEllen! 💔💔



Barry Crosbie - April 27 at 09:19 PM

ST

“ So sorry to see Mike's passing. I worked with Mike for several years as my sales representative. Always very dedicated to both his job and family. Was a great guy to work with. Always talked about his camping at Bluffton. Could tell how much he enjoyed life.

Steve Thomas - April 27 at 09:01 PM

TS

“ Mike was my supervisor for a lot of years, was a great person to work for, and a great friend. He will missed . Prayers to the family .

Terry Smith - April 27 at 06:27 PM

RW

“ My condolences to Laurie and family. My association with Mike was mostly professional in a manufacturing facility and then when he was a sales rep. We had many lunches together and it was obvious he was not only dedicated to his work but his family of which he was not shy to talk about. Mike was not a guy who asked for respect but earned it. He will be missed by those who knew him professionally and as a friend.

Ron Westfall - April 27 at 04:59 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michael Allen James Russell.



April 27 at 04:27 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Michael Allen James Russell.

April 27 at 04:27 PM

SD

“ Sandra Davis lit a candle in memory of Michael Russell



Sandra Davis - April 27 at 03:20 PM

SD

“ Laurie & Family

I am so very sorry to hear of Mike's Passing. He was a wonderful Man & will be so missed.. Thoughts & Prayers for You & Your Family in the days ahead. RIP Mike. ❤️

Sandra Davis - April 27 at 03:19 PM

DM

Mike will be missed deeply by all that know him. I knew Mike throughout our childhood and all the years we attended school together. He is a remarkable friend and I always enjoy our time that we shared at school activities together, the class of "72" has lost a valuable classmate.

Doug Myers - April 27 at 08:54 PM

CD

To Laura and family, You have our deepest sympathy on your loss. Mike was a wonderful person to have known. He has no more pain, no more sorrow, and no more tears. He is completely healed. We will keep you all in our prayers. Ed &Celia Dunmoyer

Celia K Dunmoyer - April 28 at 12:38 PM

PB

Jane my sympathy for the loss of your brother. So hard to let go of the ones we love. Have peace in knowing your brother is Home with Jesus Amen !!

Thank you for the kind words and thoughts you sent me on my parents recent passing.

Pam Bermudez

Pam Bermudez - April 28 at 03:29 PM