



Michael William "Mike" Thomas

January 24, 1969 - September 4, 2007

MICHAEL WILLIAM "MIKE" THOMAS, 38, of Bluffton, died Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2007, of a long-term illness, Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma, at his residence. Born on Jan. 24, 1969, in Marion, Ind., he was a 1987 graduate of Snider High School, Fort Wayne. He attended Indiana University, Purdue University, as well as Ivy Tech, in Fort Wayne. He participated as a player of Georgetown Little League/Senior League from 1979 to 1985. He was unanimously awarded the league's Sportsmanship Award from his peers in the organization. He formerly was a member of Faith Baptist Church in Fort Wayne, and member of J.O.Y. Explosion-youth group. After moving to Bluffton, he attended First United Methodist Church. He is survived by his daughters, Haylee Thomas, and Kaylee Thomas; parents, William "Bill" Thomas and Karen (Phillippe) Thomas of Murrells Inlet, S.C.; brothers, Jeff (Jessica) Thomas of Fort Wayne, and Scott (Melissa) Thomas of Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany; six nieces and nephews; and maternal grandmother, Geraldine Phillippe of Arizona. Memorial service is 11 a.m. Friday at First United Methodist Church, 325 W. Washington St., Bluffton, with calling one half hour prior. The Rev. Cindy Osgood officiating. Arrangements by Thoma/Rich, Hewitt & Chaney Funeral Home, Bluffton. Burial in Gardens of Memory Cemetery, Marion. Memorials to First United Methodist Church program for children in need of assistance "First We Care Program." To send online condolences, please visit www.thomarich.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 7. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

First United Methodist Church
325 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN

Service

SEP 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

First United Methodist Church
325 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN

Tribute Wall



“ *Michael William "Mike" Thomas*

September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *Merry Christmas Michael. I imagine that your celebration is among the angels and family who have gone before us here .. and, most of all being with- Jesus.*

We here miss you, and we always will. The four of us visited your gravesite.. you are not really there, but by spirit we know that you knew we were in that place. My love for you will never cease... I miss you terribly. I love you, MOM###imported-begin###Mom###imported-end##

December 26, 2009 at 09:21 PM



“ *When im at my farm i allways go to his(my dads)room.I allways try to stay strong for my sister and my grandparents!!Its hard to go every day without seeing his face and not hearing his voice!! Most people say they understand but they really dont. How could anyone understand what i feel!!When my daddy passed away i felt the world was coming to an end.But my family was there for me and they still are!!!!###imported-begin###Haylee###imported-end##*

December 26, 2009 at 09:14 PM



“ I love my daddy!!Im sad to wake up in the mornings and see that he not there to say to Haylee and I what he said to us.I wonder what it whould be like if he was still here with us today. i know that it would not be the same.i do miss him and what he whould say to me when i was sad, he was there with me every time.My daddy was the person that i could trust,love,come close to,and every thing eles in the world.There is no other daddy i could ask for!!!##imported-begin##Kaylee##imported-end##

December 26, 2009 at 09:00 PM



“ I am deeply saddened to hear of Michael's passing. Michael was such an amazing man - one who I still hold the highest admiration for. His selflessness, kindness and compassion served as a model to which I (and many) aspire to obtain. Such a beautiful smile. He touched my heart deeply and will always hold a special place in my memories. God Bless you Thomas family as you keep his memory alive.##imported-begin##Brook Guy##imported-end##

December 25, 2009 at 10:48 PM



“ Michael, on this day of your birthday. 2008, we continued to celebrate you. Haylee, Kaylee, Dad and Mom. Around the table we shared in memories, around the table we knew you were there in spirit. We even had your favorite Dairy Queen-- ice cream cake in celebration of memories with you on your last birthday. We miss you so much, and always will. My love for my son lives on. MOM##imported-begin##MOM##imported-end##

January 24, 2008 at 08:49 PM



“ As we approach your birthday 24 January-- we are reflecting. We hold you dear in our hearts: we carry memories of your smile, your hugs, your laughter and your love for each of us in your family: we are grateful for our years with you. Everyday your spirit lives..walks with us and as we approach your birthday, we continue to celebrate you-- son, daddy, brother and child of our Lord God. Our lit candle for you will be a celebration of your life on your birthday. We love you, MOM###imported-begin###MOM###imported-end###

January 11, 2008 at 08:16 AM



“ I Love My Family!!!! Uncle Mike knows that we have the best and as much as we all miss you Uncle we know that your better off now...I Love You All Very Much!!!!###imported-begin###Macie Alan###imported-end###

September 20, 2007 at 12:56 PM



“ Dear Karen and family...I received a message from Marcia Koegel Salvatore about the death of your son. Jay and I will keep you and your family in our prayers. There are so many good memories from high school. We certainly didn't know then the pathes our lives would follow. May God keep you in his tender care.
Roberta###imported-begin###Roberta Bragg Gates###imported-end###

September 10, 2007 at 10:42 AM



“ So dear to my heart, always deep in my heart...a Father who is remembered as loving his daughters beyond what could be imagined, a son who gave so much of himself to his parents' lives..all wrapped in unconditional love, a brother who was always more. We will forever miss you, yet always know you are with the angels in family. I love you MOM###imported-begin###MOM###imported-end###

September 09, 2007 at 06:40 PM



“ Please accept our sympathies. Your family is in our prayers.###imported-begin###Bill and Julee Baysinger###imported-end###

September 08, 2007 at 11:40 AM



“ Thomas', What a beautiful service to honor Michael. Your families faith and love showed through so strong. What a beautiful reminder you all have of Michael in Haylee and Kaylee they are precious girls. You are a very special family, and have always had a special place in my heart. My thoughts and prayers will continue to be with you. Love, Vickie###imported-begin###Vickie (Warford) Pettyjohn###imported-end###

September 08, 2007 at 08:11 AM



“ Scott and Melissa, So sorry to hear about your brother. My prayers are with you. Sincerly, Kay (We all miss you here at UUMC.)###imported-begin###Kay MacIntire###imported-end###

September 07, 2007 at 09:59 PM



“ I can't begin to tell you how shocked and saddened I was to read about the passing of your precious child, Mike. I know that your hearts are heavy with grief. May God comfort you and give you strength. My thoughts are with you and I will keep you in my prayers.##imported-begin##Nancy Givens##imported-end##

September 07, 2007 at 09:56 AM



“ My sincere condolences to the entire Thomas family. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Michael was a good man and a great friend from our childhood to our adult years. As Rob Burns says, his smile will never be forgotten. He will be greatly missed and thought of often. God bless you Mike! God bless you all!##imported-begin##Tracy Peden-Hoefl##imported-end##

September 07, 2007 at 09:43 AM



“ I am very sorry for your loss. I will always cherish my memories of Mike and your family. He was one of my adopted brothers looking out for "little Burns"
He will be greatly missed.

Angie & Steve Hilker##imported-begin##Angie (Burns)
Hilker##imported-end##

September 07, 2007 at 08:58 AM



“ I will always cherish the years I spent with your family. Each one of you meant so much to me as family and friends. I'm sorry to hear of Michael's passing. He was very dear to me and has always held a special place in my heart. I will be praying for all of the Thomas family and may God give you the comfort and strength you need during this time. God bless you all, Cindy##imported-begin##Cindy Everly (Ladig)##imported-end##

September 07, 2007 at 06:33 AM



“ Your family is in my thoughts and prayers as you go through this difficult time. I will always remember him by his award winning smile.##imported-begin##Kathy(Heidenreich) Williams##imported-end##

September 07, 2007 at 06:17 AM



“ God Bless you all.. Take care..##imported-begin##Marty & Vicky Harvey##imported-end##

September 06, 2007 at 08:59 PM



“ Dear Karen and Bill,

My thoughts and prayers are with you as you go through this very challenging time. I am so sorry to learn of the loss of your son after he death with such a difficult illness.

Do take good care of yourselves. Please know you are in my thoughts.

All the very best,

*Carolyn##imported-begin##Carolyn (Watson) Kruger, Marion H.S.
'59##imported-end##*

September 06, 2007 at 07:24 PM



“ Dear Karen & Bill:

I was saddened to read of Michael's passing. I still remember the sweet little boy with the dark eyes and long lashes. Please know that you are in my prayers and have my deepest sympathy.##imported-begin##Lois (Wright) Kistler##imported-end##

September 06, 2007 at 07:09 PM



“ I JUST WANT TO SAY THAT MY UNCLE MIKE IS A VERY GOOD MAN!! WE ALL LOVE HIM DEARLY! HE HAS BEEN SICK AND FIGHTING IT FOR A LONG TIME AND DOING A GOOD JOB AT IT!!!

UNCLE MIKE I JUST WANT TO TELL YOU I LOVE YOU VERY MUCH WITH ALL MY HEART!!

LOVE ALWAYS YOU NIECE TAYLOR THOMAS###imported-begin##Taylor Thomas (niece)###imported-end##

September 06, 2007 at 06:32 PM



“ Karen and Bill,

My father sent me this tragic news. I am extremely sorry for your loss. It has been many years since we've spoken but I still have terrific memories of spending time with your beautiful family. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.

Cregg Baumbaugh###imported-begin##Cregg Baumbaugh###imported-end##

September 06, 2007 at 06:29 PM



“ We are so sorry, guys! Lets talk soon!###imported-begin##Gary & Nancy Tuberty###imported-end##

September 06, 2007 at 06:20 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you. May your cherished memories bring you peace and comfort through this difficult time.##imported-begin##Mike, Ning, Zack, Alex & Nicholas Sanderson##imported-end##

September 06, 2007 at 06:07 PM



“ Bill and Karen,
I am so deeply sorry for your loss. I know it has been a long struggle for all of you. Michael was lucky to have such great supporting parents. Always remember the good times you had with him. The memories will keep him in your hearts forever. God bless all of you at this difficult time.
Love, Mae##imported-begin##Mae Rahter##imported-end##

September 06, 2007 at 05:08 PM



“ Im just glad that most of our family could be there to help My Favorite Uncle in his time of need.....he knows that he is loved very very much!!!
I LOVE YOU UNCLE MIKE!!!!##imported-begin##Macie Thomas (neice)##imported-end##

September 06, 2007 at 05:07 PM



“ *Bill, Karen, Jeff & Scott*

We were so sorry to read about the loss of Mike. Many memorable play times were shared in Rolling Hills by our children. Our thoughts and prayers are with your entire family during this very difficult time and in the years to come.

God's Blessings to you all.

*Bill and Marilyn##imported-begin##Bill and Marilyn
Hendricks##imported-end##*

September 06, 2007 at 04:22 PM



“ *"And I will raise you up on eagle's wings.....Make you to shine like the sun and hold you in the palm of My hand." Our sincere sympathy, love and prayers are with you and your family, Scott and Melissa. We do miss you so very much.##imported-begin##Myrtle West and Sue Davis##imported-end##*

September 06, 2007 at 03:46 PM



“ Words cannot describe the darkness we feel in some of the moments of life and Michaels death is one of those moments. I can not begin to feel the loss that each of you must feel right now. I long to be with each of you; Haylee, Kaylee, Karen (My Sister), Bill, Jeff and Scott. I reach across the miles that seperate us and can only wish to hold each of you, to hugg you and to cry with you. I am comforted by one thought: "For God has said, 'I will never leave you; I will never abandon you'" Heb. 13:5. At the darkest moments God reaches out to us! As Michael's Youth Minister & brother in Christ, I cherish his love, his joy for life, his excitment and most of all his radiant smile. The years we shared together hold so many great memories. Like youth retreats and his broom band. His laughter as we threw snow balls. His excellence in baseball and receiving the sportsmanship award. His love for his family and most of all his love for his girls, Haylee and Kaylee. I hold each memory close to my heart. I know each of you know that love him...always will and my tears are only my longing to be with him and with each of you. I love you all..... BO##imported-begin##Bo Simms - Minister of Youth & Brother in Christ##imported-end##

September 06, 2007 at 03:08 PM



“ Thomas Family,
You are in my thoughts and prayers. Mike was a wonderful person; kind and good hearted. I cherish the memories of our childhood together.

Andrea "Andi" Robinson##imported-begin##Andrea Robinson##imported-end##

September 06, 2007 at 02:12 PM



“ As we grow older and build our own lives we lose track of the people of our childhood. We are fortunate that the memories will always be alive in our hearts. My sympathies to the entire Thomas family. Love and God Bless Jason###imported-begin##Jason Brunson###imported-end##

September 06, 2007 at 01:43 PM



“ My DEEPEST SINCEREST sympathies to your family. Am sending thoughts and prayers to you and to Michael during this most greivous time.###imported-begin##Mykul Johnson###imported-end##

September 06, 2007 at 01:10 PM



“ Bill & Karen, My thoughts and prayers have been going out to you. I'm glad that you were able to be with Michael so much. The girls are so lucky to have you in their lives.
Love,
Cathy###imported-begin##Cathy Oates###imported-end##

September 06, 2007 at 12:22 PM



“ Thomas family,

You are in my thoughts and prayers at this extremely difficult time. I will always remember the good times Mike and I had from G-town little league through our high school days and our time as housemates. In addition, I am truly grateful for all the wonderful times I was able to spend with your entire family while growing up. I know the Thomas family faith is strong and it is this faith that will get you through this tough time. We will all see Mike again someday and I'm sure he will have that signature smile of his on his face when we all meet again.

God Bless all of you,

Rob Burns###imported-begin##Rob Burns###imported-end##

September 06, 2007 at 12:20 PM



“ Karen and Bill:

You and your family are in my prayers to assist you through this difficult time. God had relieved Mike of all his pain. We sometimes don't understand why God does what he does but there is a reason. Just know that I am thinking about all of you and wish I could be there to offer support, but living in Florida makes that impossible. God Bless All of You!###imported-begin##Marcia Koegel Salvatore###imported-end##

September 06, 2007 at 11:41 AM



“ *Bill & Karen,*

Barbara and I would like to express our sympathy in the loss of your son.##imported-begin##Howard & Barbara Mundt##imported-end##

September 06, 2007 at 08:59 AM



“ *I love you and will miss you very much my brother. Rest in peace with God till our reunion. I will see you again then. Jeff##imported-begin##Jeff Thomas##imported-end##*

September 05, 2007 at 11:40 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family, may the Lord continue to guide you through this difficult time. God Bless.##imported-begin##Dan, Tamie, Linsi and Chelsie Crabbs##imported-end##*

September 05, 2007 at 09:30 PM



“ *We are very sorry for your loss. The whole Thomas family is in our thoughts and prayers. We pray the love of God enfolds you during your journey through grief. We send you thoughts of comfort.##imported-begin##Tom and Patti Sizemore##imported-end##*

September 05, 2007 at 07:56 PM



“ *Union United Methodist has been praying for Mike during the last 3 + years. Melissa & Scott and the boys were a vital part of our church family while they were in Belleville, IL. We miss them and will continue to pray for your family.##imported-begin##Rev. Holly Wood##imported-end##*

September 05, 2007 at 06:00 PM