



Michael E. McDonald

January 19, 1953 - September 20, 2025

NORFOLK – Memorial service for Michael E. McDonald, 72, of Norfolk, will be held on Thursday, October 16, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. at Stonacek Funeral Chapel in Norfolk. Officiating the services will be Pastor Brian High. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the services. Inurnment will be at Hillcrest Memorial Park Cemetery in Norfolk. Military rites will be conducted by the American Legion Post 16, V.F.W. Post 1644, American Legion Riders, and the United States Air Force. The service will be live-streamed on the Stonacek Funeral Chapel website at <https://www.stonacekfuneralchapel.com/obituaries/michael-mcdonald-27/#!/PhotosVideos>. Mike passed away on Saturday, September 20, 2025 with Betty Morrison at his side at their residence in Norfolk after losing his long-fought battle with Pancreatic Cancer. Stonacek Funeral Chapel is in charge of the arrangements.

Mike was born on January 19, 1953 to Avery (Mike) and Geraldine (Jones) McDonald in Norfolk, NE. He grew up in Randolph and was confirmed May 14, 1967 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Randolph. He attended grade school and high school in Randolph. Mike's family moved to Norfolk prior to his senior year and he graduated in 1971 from Norfolk Senior High School.

After high school Mike joined the United States Air Force, stationed w/the Army and served for 24 years. He served in Vietnam, Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, and Iraq or OIF. He also had tours in Bosnia, Korea and 3 tours

in Desert Storm/Shield and logged over 800 jumps. During his career in the service Mike was awarded many accommodations and distinguished awards. His awards included Meritorious Service Medal w/4 Oak Leaf Clusters (OLC), AF Commendation Medal w/3 OLC, Distinguished Presidential Unit Citation w/1 OLC, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, AF Outstanding Unit Award w/Valor and 6 OLC, AF Organizational Excellence Award w/1 OLC, Combat Readiness Medal w/1 OLC, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Vietnam Service Medal w/2 Bronze Service Stars (BSS), Southwest Asia Service Medal w/2 BSS, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross w/1 BSS, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, AF Overseas Ribbon-Short w/5 OLC, USAF NCO PME Graduate Ribbon w/1 OLC, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon w/1 OLC, Korean Presidential Unit Citation, Kuwait Liberation Medal, AF Longevity Service Award Ribbon w/1 Silver OLC, AF Good Conduct Medal w/1 Silver and 2 Bronze OLC's, AF Training Ribbon and National Defense Service Medal w/1 Bronze Service Star. Mike retired as Master Sergeant with also 4 years of inactive duty.

Mike belonged to the LA Société Des 40 Hommes ET8 Cheraux, (Forty & Eight), VFW Post 1644, and the American Legion Post 16.

After Mike's honorable discharge in 1995, he moved to Norfolk, where he served his country proudly and continued to keep the country moving as an Over the Road truck driver for Sunflower/Shaffer/Crete Trucking out of York, NE and Signor Trucking out of Norfolk, NE. He drove a million miles all over the U.S. and 4 Providences of Canada during his trucking career of 25 years before retiring. Being an OTR trucker he knew where all the good Mom & Pop Cafés were located and loved to eat and try out other foods.

Mike will be remembered for his kindness and ability to strike up a conversation anytime with anyone. He had a heart of gold and never said "No" when someone was in need. Mike loved to read in his spare time.

Mike is survived by his son Shawn McDonald of Carrollton, TX, significant

other, Betty Morrison of Norfolk, NE, 2 stepsons Tim (Shannon) Morrison of Atkinson, NE and his sons Wyatt and Keagan of Kearney, Jo-E (Jenny) Morrison of Angleton, TX and their daughters, Jo-C and Ainsley, brother, Orville McDonald, several nieces and nephews, and a wide circle of friends. He was preceded in death by his parents Avery (Mike) and Geraldine McDonald, sister Frances, brothers, Robert, Richard and Roger.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the family for later designation.

Condolences can be expressed to the family on-line at www.stonacekfuneralchapel.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **16.** 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Stonacek Funeral Chapel - Norfolk
1200 N.13th St.
Norfolk, NE 68701
(402) 371-7676
info@stonacekfuneralchapel.com
<https://stonacekfuneralchapel.com/>

Memorial Service

OCT **16.** 10:30 AM (CT)

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Tribute Wall



“ Stonacek Funeral Chapel created a Webcast in memory of Michael E. McDonald



Stonacek Funeral Chapel - October 16, 2025 at 09:35 AM



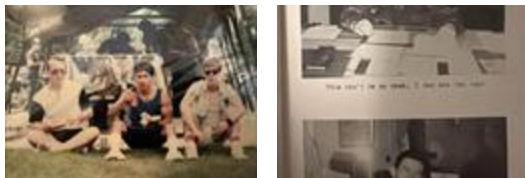
“ Stonacek Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Michael E. McDonald



Stonacek Funeral Chapel - October 06, 2025 at 10:13 AM



“ Mike and I in Camp Red Cloud Korea he was my first supervisor



Ruben Rey Negrette - January 05 at 06:25 PM



“ I met Mac backin 1983 at Osan AB, he was my dormitory room mate & we both worked in the personal arena for a year -- we became friends fast & moved wound up renting a house together downtown Osan. He became my best man, and my boys godfather! We were both station in SKorea a 2nd time, Mac being stations at Camp Red Cloud, and me & the family at Wanju AB from 1986-1988. MAC was like a brother from another mother!! MAC & Shawn made a trip in 1990 to Plattsmouth NE (Offutt AFB area) & visited us when ever he was passing through. The boys always enjoyed there godfather being around. He was one special guy. We will miss you buddy!!!! TJ, Chong, Timmy, & DJ.



Tj Aaron - October 16, 2025 at 09:11 PM



“ My deepest condolences to the entire extended family and friends. I did not know this individual. Reading his Obituary, WOW-SERs! Thank you for your service to the nation. And then as an OTR Truck Driver!



Brian Schlote - October 10, 2025 at 10:30 PM

JH

“ I was in the Norfolk High School class of 1971 with Mike. I remember him as being a very kind person to everyone. What a life of service he lived. My sympathy to his friends and family.

Judy Hilkemann - October 10, 2025 at 02:22 PM



“ 163 files added to the album LifeTributes



Stonacek Funeral Chapel - October 02, 2025 at 10:56 AM

D(

“ MAC was simply the very best person this world has ever seen. He was my brother from another mother. We were two peas in a pod! We worked many hours together at two different Air Force bases over the years. He always put others ahead of himself. He was his brothers keeper! The Kingdom of Heaven awaits him. He will be missed by everyone who crossed paths with him. He followed Christ teaching of loving your fellow man. He loves his family and friends. I was closer to him than my own blood brothers. He is irreplaceable. The world has lost a great man. May he rest in peace! I love you brother.

Daryl Price (DP) - September 25, 2025 at 06:21 AM

RS

“ Use run to east coast and west coast with Mike . RIP old road dog , we will miss you !

Russell Shehorn - September 23, 2025 at 02:39 PM

RN

“ Went to school with Mike, he's always been a good man.

Randy Noffke - September 23, 2025 at 10:22 AM

JK

going to miss our FB chats 😭 cousin Jean

Jean Kelley - September 23, 2025 at 07:47 PM

RS

Mike and I would run together in semis to East Coast together. If I needed help to find a place Mike would always help , he would help any truck driver with sliding trailer axles to get the weight right . I tried to stay in touch with Mike after the years of driving.

Russell Shehorn - September 24, 2025 at 05:36 AM