



Michael Bruce Kennedy Sr.

January 5, 1947 - April 19, 2024

Mike Kennedy Sr., born in January 1947, passed away on Friday, April 19th, 2024. He is survived by his devoted wife, Jean Kennedy, his son Michael Kennedy Jr. (Angela), and his cherished grandchildren, David, Drew, Whitney, and great granddaughters Iris and Leilani. Included are his sisters Sharon Lyster, Nancy Scheltes (Bob), and numerous nieces and nephews.

Raised as an only son among four sisters by his single mother, Mike's industrious demeanor shone from a young age when he began delivering newspapers at the age of 8. In 1965, Mike exchanged vows with his beloved Jean, embarking on a journey that would see them owning a gas and service station together. Their entrepreneurial spirit led them to acquire A1A Auto Parts in November 1972, to run it ever since with Mike being a fixture front and center to all coming into the business. Mike led a group association of central Florida salvage yards and was instrumental in the forming of a statewide action group for salvage yards. Mike was always interested in fishing, even opening a bait and tackle store called The Fishin Shed and designing and manufacturing fishing lures. Mike preferred to not sit at home, he'd rather be out and about, even just to have a look around and get a good meal. He enjoyed a good game of solitaire and hated visiting a doctor. Mike leaves behind a legacy of love and camaraderie, deeply felt by his family, friends, and the employees he considered as part of his extended family.

A viewing to celebrate Mike's life will be held on Tuesday, April 23rd, from 6pm to 8pm at Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes - Southside Chapel, located at 1727 Bartow Road, Lakeland, FL 33801. A graveside service will take place April 24th at 10am at Oak Hill Cemetery, situated at 4620 U.S. Highway 98 S, Lakeland, FL 33812.

Cemetery Details

Oak Hill Burial Park

4620 US Highway 98 S
Lakeland, FL 33812

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **23**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes - Southside Chapel
1727 Bartow Road
Lakeland, FL 33801
(863) 688-7679
t.hall@gentry-morrison.com
<https://www.gentry-morrison.com/>

Graveside Service

APR **24**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Oak Hill Burial Park
4620 US Highway 98 S
Lakeland, FL 33812

Tribute Wall



“ Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Michael Bruce Kennedy Sr.



Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes - April 22, 2024 at 04:02 PM

VY

I'm so sorry for your loss. No one never contacted the family in SC about the passing or funeral. I'm so sorry it's been a year ago and I'm just finding this out. The Johnson family in SC

Vickie Johnson Young - February 27, 2025 at 01:43 PM

NS

“ Mike, I still can't believe you are gone. I know you are in a better place. You were ready for the Lord. I can rest knowing this. You were always by my side as we grew up. You were the best brother anyone could ask for. You and I had time to reminisce about our good time and that we didn't have alot but that we all had each other..Mike you will always be in my heart. One day we will all be together again. Your little sister.
Nancy



Nancy Scheltes - December 05, 2025 at 01:17 AM

JD

“ Played football with Mike in DeLand. He was a damn good team mate. My sympathies to his family.

Jimmy Doyle - April 23, 2024 at 07:10 PM

FP

“ From Walkers Produce planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael Bruce Kennedy Sr..

From Walkers Produce - April 22, 2024 at 06:25 PM

FP

“ From Walkers Produce purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Michael Bruce Kennedy Sr..



From Walkers Produce - April 22, 2024 at 06:25 PM

TR

“ The Robinsons purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Michael Bruce Kennedy Sr..



The Robinsons - April 21, 2024 at 08:59 AM

MB

“ 15 files added to the album Mike Kennedy with family and freinds



Melissa Bernhauser - April 20, 2024 at 09:53 PM

MB

“ 10 files added to the album Mike Kennedy with family and freinds



Melissa Bernhauser - April 20, 2024 at 09:34 PM