



Myra Lane "Mike" Juhnke

June 11, 1942 - May 2, 2019

Myra Lane "Mike" Juhnke, age 76, passed away peacefully May 2, 2019 for reasons known only to her. An aficionado of natural health and clean living, she refused medical intervention of any kind her entire life, excepting the very end where she briefly embraced the wonders of modern-day illicit drugs. She was a career smoker until nearly the last day, and as she predicted, retained remarkably perfect lungs, heart and mind. She is now shouting "I told you so" from somewhere in the 4th dimension through a cloud of American Spirits.

She was born June 11, 1942 in Detroit, Michigan to Myron and Dorothy Scott. Born as Myra Lane Scott but known to all as "Mike," she touched many lives with her challenging zest for debate, esoterica, and controversy. She raised brothers Randy & Jeff Scott and sister Tracey (Scott) Benoit until at age 20, she married her one and only love David Willard Juhnke after picking him out of the choir and predicting their entire life while only 17. Mike was a woman who always knew who she was and what she wanted.

She is survived by her husband David Juhnke of Plymouth & Luzerne, Michigan, her daughters Elizabeth Gatt (Jeffrey) of Tampa, Florida, Jennifer Thimm (David) of Plymouth, Michigan, and Stephanie Dougherty (Michael) of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. She is also incredibly missed by the grandchildren who loved her as "Mimi": Stefan Gatt (Suzanne) of Deerfield Beach, Florida, Joshua Gatt (Melissa) of Altag, Austria, Aidan Thimm of Grand Rapids, Michigan, Elana Thimm of Savannah, Georgia, Rowan and Daphne Dougherty of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, and Great-Grandson Austin Gatt (age 1) of Deerfield Beach, Florida. This large and boisterous brood were all present at her wake, which she attended a few weeks before her passing, where she enjoyed wine and tomahawk steaks (even if just a little...), and a spring sky listening to Johnny Mathis and Elvis.

She is eagerly greeted with kisses and eggs benedict at the Rainbow Bridge by her beloved Belgian Malinois, Samantha.

Mike was a friend and mentor, and always made the time for anyone wanting a

challenging discussion, a golf lesson, fly-fishing pointers, or just some personal confessions of which she famously had no memory. She helmed J&J Machine Products, Co., Inc. of Redford, Michigan for 30 years – one of the first women owned businesses of the area. Every employee or vendor in the area will attest to the life-changing conversations had at J&J. A student of life, she studied the works of Edgar Cayce, A Course in Miracles and Adele Davis (Let's Have Healthy Children). Mike read every book known to mankind, favoriting Atlas Shrugged, Beauty's Daughter and her favorite: Diana Gabaldon's Outlander series. Many of us have needed dictionaries to piece together both the complements and insults from her.

We will forever miss her Chicken and Dumplings, Pizza on the green egg upnorth, peach cobbler, apple pies, shrimp salad, Texas sheet cakes, and Toad-In-The-Holes. Brownies & lemon bars, Onion & Mushroom canapés, fried chicken, chicken pot pie, strawberry salad, and Poached Lobster. We will forever value her love of salt and butter. We will all try to live up to her pound cake recipe that she passed on from her Grandmother Inez "Nannie" Chandler.

In the last months we have enjoyed sharing the memories of her life that touched so many with laughs, travels, rounds of golf and LOVE.

"If ever there is a tomorrow when we're not together... there is something you must always remember. You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think. But the most important thing is, even if we're apart... I'll always be with you." -A.A. Milne.

In lieu of flowers, we ask that tributes be made in her memory to the Eton Academy Scholarship Fund. <https://www.etonacademy.org/giving/invest-in-eton>

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Comments



“ Dear David and family, I am so sorry to learn of "Mikes" passing-just on the other side. Penny Schrader -a friend from her youth -much love and lovely memories. Thanks Mike

Penny Schrader - July 15, 2019 at 03:34 PM



“ I am a total stranger to your family but had to let you know that Myra's Obituary was one of the most refreshing and inspiring death notices I've ever read. I'm sure you will be missing one great lady.

Mark Papcun - May 15, 2019 at 10:16 AM



“ My deepest condolences!!! You couldn't know her & not love her!!! I loved going to her house & having special chats throughout the time I was cleaning for her!!! She was someone who could sense a person's mood, & lift their spirits!!! She taught me how to do this for others!!! I loved each & every day I spent with her!!! My heart goes out to her family & all will be in my prayers!!! I take comfort...knowing that she sits in the presence of the Father!!! God speed!!! Much love, Rev. Victoria Kowaleski

Victoria Kowaleski - May 12, 2019 at 09:36 PM



“ so sorry to hear, such a beautiful lady, met in school and plotted to get a meeting with David, then she married him, thought of you alot , never got together liked we said we would , my memories of you will keep me smiling , love to your family , and knowing you are at peace



Barb Bates - May 12, 2019 at 11:40 AM



“ My husband, Tom, handed me the Free Press this morning saying, "Pat, I want you to read this one." I knew it had to be an exceptional obituary, because Tom is an inveterate reader of them. He was right. How I wish I had known "Mike." I don't know who wrote the beautiful words capturing her essence, but they did an outstanding job describing an amazingly strong, secure and wise woman. It is clear that the unconventional Myra Lane Juhnke wasted little time during her 76 years, because she seemed to be perpetually inspired and energized by doing things "her way."

The wonderful thing is that "Mike" left an indelible blue print for everyone she loved by consistently listening to her "inner voice." Those waves she made during her lifetime are probably the reasons she never lost her spark. My guess is that she touched countless lives but none more closely than those of her children. From that perspective, you might consider compiling a book of all the things that made her uniquely "Mike", and to the writer... just a short message...keep writing!

Very sincerely, Juhnke Family!!

Pat Hardy, Bloomfield Hills

Patricia Hardy - May 12, 2019 at 11:18 AM



“ We just read the paper too and also found the beautiful memory of Mike inspiring. To the Juhnke Family, please know there are people out there who share your loss even though we may have never met Mike. That is our loss. God bless and prayers.

O'Banions of Clinton Township

Sue O'Banion - May 12, 2019 at 05:39 PM



“ To the Juhnke Family,

Where to even begin. I have a million memories with Mike at J&J! How many conversations we had about the books we've read! It was Mike who actually started my love of reading. I was just 18 years old, and she loaned me a book called "In silence they return". I don't remember the authors name, but after reading that book, I haven't been without one since!

I remember being outside by the pool with her in the summer and talking with her about anything and everything.

Then of course, all the golf they played with my parents!

I just found out today through my mother. Thank you Stephanie for letting her know!

RIP Mike. Have fun with Samantha at the rainbow bridge!

My condolences Dave and family.

Love,

Cory McLaren-Aldouby

Cory McLaren Aldouby - May 11, 2019 at 04:54 PM



“ To our bestest friends up on the Au Sable River in Luzerne Michigan. We can't begin to add up all the great times together, the four of us and also with Dave and Jenny with the Bloody Marys. What an awesome woman Mike is, and we are celebrating her life constantly. Stubborn, but what a huge heart!! And what a beautiful family The Juhnke's are....many memories for all of us and hats off to our lady!!!
Mike and Carol

carol and mike reese - May 10, 2019 at 05:10 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss
Beautiful Mike would babysit for us we were so lucky

sending love thought prayers to you all

Ellen Burnie

e burnie - May 08, 2019 at 09:40 AM



“ So sorry for your loss. Sending lot of love and prayers to your family.
Love always, Megan Abraham-Wentz

Megan - May 08, 2019 at 08:50 AM



“ Dear Juhnke family, May the thought of others caring and the sympathy they feel be a source of consolation that is very deep and real. May your happy memories bring help and comfort too. Our hearts go out to you Dave, Stephanie, and family. From all your friends @ J & J Machine Products.

karen wertman - May 08, 2019 at 07:34 AM



“ The Prucha's send their condolences, thoughts, and prayers to Mike's family. We all remember her fondly. She left us all with our own memories of her. I remember showing up at Mullet Lake and when I walked in with my new wife, she greeted me as "Dinky" She used to babysit for my brother Frank and I, and called us Finky and Dinky!

Don Prucha - May 07, 2019 at 10:26 AM



“ In memory of my wonderful, loving Sister I will always remember learning while LISTENING to the "discussion" between Dad and Mike during the marathon monopoly games up in Indian River that went into the wee hours of the morning! Randy and I listened because we were not armed for intellectual combat in those younger years :) while Mom and Tracey watched TV and slept. Randy was always the banker and for some strange reason NEVER ran out of money no matter how many times he hit high price properties :) Mike was always my protector and teacher and even when we disagreed, which happened occasionally as I got older, never got mad but did correct me! :) I always lover her and I always will!! Rest in peace Mike.....see you soon!!

Jeffrey Scott - May 07, 2019 at 09:42 AM