



Mike Ward

March 20, 1943 - February 8, 2017

Walter Michael Athanason-Ward, 73, died February 8, 2017 at Greenville Memorial Hospital.

A native of Greenville County, son of the late Bill and Blanche Smith Ward and Mike Athanason, he was the former General Manager of WGGS Broadcasting, a Lt. of Lake Cunningham Fire Department, owner-operator of Fire Protection Specialties, a US Navy Veteran, a member of Taylors First Baptist Church, and a recreational airplane pilot. Mr. Ward was a member of the Pit-Fox-One Patriot Guard Riders.

Surviving are two daughters, Michele Ward Loftis of Taylors and Charrish Ward Schronce of Belton; two sons, Michael Ward of Taylors and Chris Ward of Mauldin; one sister, Judy Duncan of Taylors and two grandsons, Casey Schronce and Kole Sparks.

Mr. Ward was predeceased by one daughter, Kristie Anne Ward.

Graveside services will be held 2:00 p.m. Saturday, February 11, 2017 at Woodlawn Memorial Park conducted by Rev. Lindsay O'Rear and Dr. Jimmie Harley.

Visitation will be held 12:30-1:45 p.m. Saturday at Woodlawn Memorial Park Chapel of Remembrance.

The family is at the home of a son, Michael Ward, 32 E. Main Street, Taylors, SC 29687.

Memorials may be made to American Heart Association, Upstate SC Regional Office, Attention: Memorial Donations, 3535 Pelham Road, Suite 101,

Greenville, SC 29651.

Online condolences may be made at www.thewoodmortuary.com

Cemetery Details

Woodlawn Memorial Park

1 Pine Knoll Drive
Greenville, SC 29609

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 11. 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM (ET)

Woodlawn Memorial Park Chapel of Remembrance
1 Pine Knoll Drive
Greenville, SC 29609

Graveside Service

FEB 11. 2:00 PM (ET)

Woodlawn Memorial Park
1 Pine Knoll Drive
Greenville, SC 29609

Tribute Wall



“ Mike will be honored at our Two Bell Ceremony for our fallen shipmates at our 2017 Reunion in Columbus, Georgia Double Tree Hotel Banquet on Sunday June 25, 2017 Mike will be missed by all his Shipmates. We will pray for Mike and the Ward family.

John Pinto
USS POWER DD 839 ASSOC.

JOHN PINTO - February 12, 2017 at 07:17 PM



“ Tender Tribute was purchased for the family of Mike Ward.



February 10, 2017 at 05:35 PM



“ Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Mike Ward.



February 09, 2017 at 06:41 PM



Carolyn
Reuther

“ Dear Christopher, Michele, Charrish, Michael and family, Mike's passing came as a shock. I really had hope that he would pull through. He was a great supervisor. I worked for him twice which says a lot for him. He understood how to give the right kind of encouragement and confidence to people in order to bring out the best in them. He had a gift to see the funny side of humanity and situations in a way that wasn't mean spirited but, endearing. So many of us were grateful for his mentoring and guidance. He was a great man. My prayers are for your consolation and comfort. May God bless you.

Carolyn Reuther - February 09, 2017 at 10:23 AM



Katie
Gillespie

“ I met Mike only briefly quite a few years ago, but my dad, Norvin Duncan, worked with Mike at channel 16. Daddy thought the world of Mike and spoke very highly of him always and considered him his friend. Please accept my condolences on behalf of my family. God bless you. - Katie Duncan Gillespie

Katie Gillespie - February 09, 2017 at 09:47 AM



BN

“ I am so sorry to hear of the passing of Mike. I worked with him years ago and he became a dear friend. I remember his incredible sense of humor, which made coming to work each day fun. He was one of those rare supervisors that you wanted to do your best because you didn't want to disappoint him. He had that kind of respect from everyone. My sympathy and prayers for his family.

BJ Nash

BJ Nash - February 09, 2017 at 09:37 AM

CC

“ To Mikes family, I am so sorry for your loss, Mike was a great friend to Benson and me, Mike had a good heart, he will be missed. God bless each and everyone of you....

cathy cudd - February 09, 2017 at 05:06 AM

JD

“ I am so sorry for loss of Mike. He was such a fun and caring man. Keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers. Mike will be greatly missed.



Jodie Brissey Dockery - February 08, 2017 at 07:32 PM

LS

“ Michael,
I am saddened to hear about your father. Rejoice in the knowledge that he is with our Savior. The pain of loss you feel is but a blink of an eye but the memories you have of him will endure throughout your life.

My prayers are with you. Remember you are not alone.

Linda Smoke - February 08, 2017 at 03:25 PM

MR

I am so very sorry for the loss of your Daddy. May The Lord help you all now and in the days ahead. Love you. Mary Rumsey, Belton, SC

Mary Rumsey - February 08, 2017 at 03:58 PM

CE

Christopher, Michele, Charrish and Michael: I want you all to know I am so sorry about your Dad. I know this is a very sad & difficult time but I pray you find peace in knowing how much he loved each of you. All of you were his life. If there is anything I can do; please let me know. You are all in my thoughts & prayers.

Cathy Edwards - February 08, 2017 at 09:03 PM

TH

Michael The Lord is your strength and your shield..Nothing is to hard for You ,Oh God. Help Michael right now in spite of Her Hurt..Thank You Dear God for Your opportunity in daily prayer praise ,and worship. .Nothing is to hard for You, O God..Machael..When you are alone with God ,you can bring every need,dream ,hurt,and longing to Someone who hears,cares,and desires to work through every circumstance... You Father believed in giving everyone a chance to be the best Director, Camera person ,Audio Person, Floor Director, He told me one time ..Thomas believe in yourself be what you visualize The Best you can BE....Almost everyone who worked under Mike Ward Still is in Production...I have had so many people say how do you know how to do that...TV 16's Mike Ward gave all of us the opportunity to become the best...No School or College taught US that.. Mike Ward was the Best we will miss Him ..Thomas

thomaswatson - February 09, 2017 at 08:00 AM

TH

Carolinabandstand Thomas

thomaswatson - February 09, 2017 at 08:04 AM

TH

Thomas Watson

thomaswatson - February 09, 2017 at 08:07 AM

TB

Michele & Family, working for your dad was a life changing experience for me. He was someone I looked up to and admired very much. He saw something in me and was the first to give me a chance in TV to use my talents for the Lord at WGGG. I really enjoyed that time and appreciate what he did for me mentoring, encouraging and pushing to do my best. He always had a way to make you feel like "you can do this" when faced with something new and challenging. Now 37 years later and many different ministries I still work in TV for the Kingdom and he was the one who made that possible. Thank you Mike for showing us how to "be" a believer! Well done!

Terry Bishop - February 10, 2017 at 07:30 AM

GB

TO Charrish, Allen, Casey and Family..Sending prayers and much love to you all during this difficult time ..prayers for Peace and Comfort that comes only from our Heavenly Father .. God Bless

Gaile Ball

Gaile Ball - February 10, 2017 at 02:27 PM

NC

To Mike's family : I am so sorry for the loss of your sweet , wonderful daddy ! He was a very precious and dear friend to me whom I will always remember and miss ! I love Mike very much . He was my Bestie always and forever ! You are all in my thoughts and prayers ! God Bless you all ! Love and hugs !

Nancy Cannon

Nancy Cannon - February 16, 2017 at 07:56 PM