



Michael Robert Owen

January 5, 1944 - March 5, 2025

Following a courageous battle with cancer, Michael Robert Owen, 81, departed this life on March 5, 2025, with his wife of 50 years by his side. A celebration of his life will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, March 10, at Peace Lutheran Church in Grand Island. Visitation will take place from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Sunday at the church. Inurnment will be delayed to accommodate the opening of the new veterans' cemetery in Grand Island. Pastor Carl Eliason will be officiating. All Faiths Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Suggested donations are to Peace Lutheran Church or Trinity Lutheran School/Heartland Lutheran High School (the future Grand Island Lutheran Schools). Online condolences may be left at www.gjallfaiths.com.

Mike was born on January 5th, 1944, in Grand Island, Nebraska, to Cecil and Vivian (Thompson) Owen. He was raised in Grand Island and was a member of the Central Catholic High School class of 1962. Following high school, Mike joined the Air Force "to see the world". The military had other plans for him, however, as he was stationed at Offutt Air Force Base in Omaha for the entirety of his four years of service. Regardless, Mike was a proud veteran and humbly took his place on an Honor Flight trip to Washington, D.C. Upon returning to Grand Island from Offutt, Mike was employed by New Holland. After approximately 35 years, including a transfer to and from Leola, Pennsylvania, he retired from the purchasing department and enjoyed a variety of jobs until his complete retirement from the work force.

Mike married the late Laurel Julius on December 3, 1966. They were blessed with a son (Kenny) and a daughter (Kimberly). On April 27, 1974, Mike and Carol were married and were blessed with one daughter (Amber).

Mike was a very kind and gentle man with a subtle (but funny) sense of humor. He didn't like to miss a church service. He and Carol were charter members of Peace Lutheran and remained active through the years. He also loved a good family reunion and playing cards with friends. His faith, family and friends were of primary importance in his life.

As the biggest fan of his grandkids, Mike and Carol enjoyed every sporting and musical event they could take in, near and far. Mike could always be seen in the stands keeping stats. The family would have loved to see him in the stands watching Cross County at the state boys' basketball tournament this year, but that was not to be.

In his spare time, Mike enjoyed reading and yardwork. He was also a railroad (real and model) enthusiast. He loved the history of trains. A favorite memory was watching the BIG BOY (Union Pacific steam engine) with Kenny, as it pulled through Kearney. He delighted in watching his grandkids enjoy the extensive rail set up in his basement train room.

Those left to mourn his passing are his wife, Carol (Katzberg); son, Kenny (Carla) Owen of Kearney; daughters, Kimberly (Steve) Stebbing of Henderson and Amber (Danny) Seim of Stromsburg; 14 grandchildren - Jarod Owen and Sydney Owen of Kearney, Alexandra (Aaron) McClellan of Cleveland, OH, Annalee (Will) Bamesberger of Phillips, Brennan (Miranda) Stebbing of Tampa Bay, FL, Jackson Stebbing of Lincoln, Abigail, Ava, Andilyn and Ryker Stebbing of Henderson, and Carter, Ashton, Benson and Graham Seim of Stromsburg; two great-grandchildren - Weston Bamesberger and Hadley McClellan; brothers John Owen, Bill Owen, Bob Owen and Dr. David (Amy) Owen; sisters Barbara Schirkofsky, Janet (Clem) Ward and Marilyn (Tim) Hiller; numerous in-laws, nieces, nephews and extended family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Cecil and Vivian Owen; and two brothers-in-law, Jim Schirkofsky and Dan Hulitt.

1 Corinthians 15:54

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **9**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Peace Lutheran
1710 N. North Rd
Grand Island, NE 68803

Celebration of Life Service

MAR **10**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Peace Lutheran
1710 N. North Rd
Grand Island, NE 68803

Tribute Wall

DM

“ Carol and family, thinking of all of you. I remember I had purchased a dog kennel from you, Mike loaded it up and took to our house and unloaded it. So kind. Also worked with Mike at the bus. Always enjoyed visiting with Mike when we had 2 minutes to spare. Sending hugs. Diana McKoski

Diana Mckoski - March 19, 2025 at 05:50 PM

KY

“ My sincere sympathies to all the Owen Family for their loss. Both Mike and Carol were two of the nicest Grand Island employees who worked at the New Holland, PA site. May you be comforted by your loving memories.

Kathi Yeager - March 12, 2025 at 05:38 PM

RA

“ Oh Carol, Amber and family,
I am so sorry to hear of Mike's passing and his battle with cancer! I saw the photo of the two of you on-line and thought how great you both looked, not realizing that he had just passed away!! May happy memories comfort you as you grieve the loss of your husband.
with love,
Robin Ardinger

Robin Ardinger - March 11, 2025 at 08:45 PM

JT

“ Carol Owen Family, Sorry to Hear Mike Passed away. Will miss him. Mike thanks for all the good memories as being part of my Advocate. Prayers at this difficult time. Janet Tibbs

Janet Tibbs - March 10, 2025 at 02:27 AM

FS

“ I was a salesman for a metal company in York Pa in the 190's and worked with Mike I just thought about him today .He was a pleasure to work with and we saw the Baltimore O's play their third to their last game at memorial stadum with him Sorry for your loss .

fred smith - March 09, 2025 at 01:03 PM

SM

“ Susan & Jerry Milner purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Michael Robert Owen.



Susan & Jerry Milner - March 09, 2025 at 09:29 AM

SM

“ Susan & Jerry Milner planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael Robert Owen.

Susan & Jerry Milner - March 09, 2025 at 09:29 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Michael Robert Owen.



March 08, 2025 at 01:39 PM

JL

“ Joe and Wendy Law purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Michael Robert Owen.



Joe and Wendy Law - March 08, 2025 at 10:35 AM

JL

“ Joe and Wendy Law planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael Robert Owen.

Joe and Wendy Law - March 08, 2025 at 10:35 AM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Michael Robert Owen.



March 07, 2025 at 09:19 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Michael Robert Owen.

March 07, 2025 at 09:19 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael Robert Owen.*



March 07, 2025 at 08:17 PM



“ *Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael Robert Owen.*



March 07, 2025 at 12:54 PM