



## Michael Matthews Dryden

May 30, 1943 - March 25, 2018

West Lebanon, PA—Michael (“Mike”) Matthews Dryden, age 74, died peacefully at home on Palm Sunday, March 25, under the care of Compassionate Care Hospice. He fought a courageous five-year battle with neuroendocrine cancer, sarcoma, and peripheral neuropathy, all related genetically to his primary disease, neurofibromatosis Type 1 (NF-1), which he bore with grace and dignity.

Born in Troy, NY on May 30, 1943, he was the son of the late Lester Siver Dryden and Elizabeth Matthews Dryden. He is survived by his beloved wife of 38 years, Phylis Campbell Dryden, as well as two stepchildren, Kirk Campbell and wife Joanne of Hanover, PA, and Craig Campbell and wife Ingrid of Catawissa, PA. He was known as “Grandfather” to Craig’s children: Steven, Maurice, Micah, Isabella, Judah, Isla Rose, and Israel. He is also survived by his brother, Lee Dryden and wife Peggy of Amherst, NY, and sister, Suzanne Kelly, of East Nassau, NY. Mike was predeceased by brother-in-law V. Montgomery Kelly, as well as dear friends Ricky Sauer, Bob Laird, and Larry McSwain.

Mike graduated in 1962 from Shaker High School in Newtonville, NY. He was a nearly 20-year veteran of the Verdoy Fire Department in Latham, NY. He spent three years with the Defreestville Fire Department in North Greenbush, NY.

Mike worked in the printing industry for Williams Press, Albany, NY for approximately 10 years. He then worked in the small-package delivery

industry in the Albany area and in south-central PA until his retirement in 2006, having been employed by Purolator Courier Corp., Emery Worldwide, Courier Unlimited, and US Cargo and Courier Corp. In 1988, he worked briefly as an engineer for Conrail.

After retirement, he drove a school van for D. B. Fisher Company in Lebanon, PA and was a porter for Klick-Lewis in Palmyra.

Mike was very active in his Church, St. Mark Lutheran in Annville, having taught the Augsburg Adult Sunday School Class for over 15 years. He also served on Church Council and on several committees. He especially liked working on the church's annual Advent Train Garden, which led to a personal hobby of model train railroading.

A viewing and visitation will be held at St. Mark Lutheran Church, 200 E. Main Street in Annville, on Saturday, March 31, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., followed by a service and committal in Mt. Annville Cemetery. Please omit flowers.

Contributions may be made to his church at the above address or to the Dryden Relief Fund at Fulton Bank, 433 West Penn Avenue, Cleona, PA 17042.

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

MAR 31. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mark Lutheran Church  
200 E. Main Street  
Annville, PA 17003

## Funeral Service

MAR 31. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mark Lutheran Church  
200 E. Main Street  
Annville, PA 17003

# Tribute Wall

BH

“ Mike has been a part of my family for almost 40 years. Since I never had a brother of my own I always thought of him as the next best thing. Mike was one of the sweetest and most genuine people i have ever known. He was an inspiration to all for the courageous way he faced life's challenges with dignity, grace and good humor. I will miss you a lot. Love your sister in law Barb

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**Barbara Hale** - March 31, 2018 at 08:04 AM

KC

“ He was a good stepfather, uncle, grandfather, husband and friend to all who knew him. He will be greatly missed.

Love,

*Kirk and Joanne Campbell*

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**Kirk Campbell** - March 30, 2018 at 07:00 PM

BO

“ Bonnie lit a candle in memory of Michael Matthews Dryden



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**Bonnie** - March 29, 2018 at 01:24 PM

BW

“ ” Phyllis,

*Sorry to hear of your loss. Mike was a wonderful man and a great friend. We will miss him greatly. He was always willing to listen and help when he was able. Ed always enjoyed working with him on the Train Garden. May Jesus Christ wrap His loving arms around you and the family at this difficult time.*

*Ed and Bonnie Wagner"*

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**Bonnie & Ed Wagner** - March 29, 2018 at 01:24 PM

HL

“ ” Phyllis,

*Sorry to hear of your loss. I remember Mike as a kind and gentle soul. My prayers are with you and your family. May you find peace and comfort in God's presence.*

*Helen Lewis*

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**helen lewis** - March 28, 2018 at 06:08 PM



“ ” *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael Matthews Dryden.*



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March 28, 2018 at 02:59 PM

RN

“ Served with Mike for many, many years in the fire service. A good and kind man who will be missed by all. Thoughts and Prayers to the Dryden family.

-Rick Nash  
Verdoy Fire Department

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**Rick Nash** - March 28, 2018 at 12:25 PM

DH

“ I worked with Mike many years ago at Williams Press. I liked Mike, he was a real good guy. So sorry for your loss.

Dick Harple  
Ravena NY

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**Dich Harple** - March 28, 2018 at 10:39 AM

SL

“ Sis Lippy lit a candle in memory of Michael Matthews Dryden



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**Sis Lippy** - March 28, 2018 at 08:02 AM



*Thank-you Sis*

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**Joanne Campbell** - March 28, 2018 at 05:55 PM

BC

“ *Big Mike,*

*You helped inspire my decision to join the fire service. You were my dad's best friend and you always treated us as if we were nephew's and nieces.*

*You are a great man. An angel on Earth, you have not gained your wings, you have released them.*

*Until we meet again Big Mike... Thank you! I love you!*

*Brian*

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**Brian Colling** - March 27, 2018 at 01:29 PM

RC

“ *Dear Phylis,*

*I am so very sorry for your loss. Mike has been my friend for 50 + years. Mike was a brother firefighter and a brother in Christ. Many folks come into our lives and leave again, but Mike came and stayed. He was a friend forever. Michael's earthly treasure is his wife of 38 + years, Phylis, who gave Mike love and comfort. Michael's heavenly treasure is his lord Jesus the Christ. So-long Mike, be seeing you again very soon.*

*Grace, Peace and Mercy,  
Rod*

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**Rodney Colling** - March 27, 2018 at 12:33 PM

KK

“ *Phyllis,*  
*Sorry for your loss. Your husband was a very nice man. I enjoyed my time with him when I took him to the Med Center. My prayers are with you.* 💖🙏  
*Kay*

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**Kay Kerkeslager** - March 26, 2018 at 07:02 PM