



Michael W. Becker

July 21, 1943 - November 19, 2025

Michael W. Becker, age 82, of Clare, passed away peacefully at his home on Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2025, surrounded by his loved ones. Michael's life was one of service, dedication, and deep love for his family and community. He was born on July 21, 1943, in Detroit and was adopted by Wilson and Margaret M. (Bailey) Becker. As a child he developed polio and the family moved to the Clare/Harrison area where he graduated in 1962 from Harrison High School. Michael married the former Sheila Kay King on March 5, 1966, and Sheila preceded him in death on March 7, 2011. Michael served in the US Air Force during the mid-1960's. Upon returning to Mid-Michigan, Mike worked a brief career in manufacturing but soon felt the calling to serve in law enforcement. He was hired by Chief Elry Tice as a police officer with the Clare City Police Department and served as Sergeant for two prior Chiefs of Police before being appointed to the position of Chief of Police, where his leadership was marked by deep commitment to his community for many years and he humbly and faithfully served until Multiple Sclerosis and post polio forced his retirement in June 1986. He then developed heart issues and could only transfer himself. He supported the Amish community for over 20 years and truly enjoyed being a driver for them. Mike was also extremely civic-minded and felt having these health challenges enabled him to help others overcome their own life challenges. He had been a member of the Clare Optimist Club, The Free and Accepted Masonic Lodge, The Knights Templar, had been instrumental in founding the annual Police Olympics receiving the Vince

Lombardi Award for Excellence Beyond the Norm as well as becoming a registered Girl Scout where he supported his daughters achievements and earned the Michigan Appreciation Award for organizing the Girl Scout Olympics across 16 Michigan counties. In addition, he was a huge supporter of the Big Brothers-Big Sisters Program. Mike and Sheila had also Foster Parented and were International Foreign Exchange Program Parents. His faith as a devout Christian was a cornerstone of his Life and he was a proud, longtime member of the Clare Christ Fellowship Church. Michael was unafraid to speak the sacred names of Jehovah and His son, Jesus, always proclaiming his love for them and for those he encountered. A gifted writer, Michael had published a collection of poetry "Words Not Bullets" that he had written sharing his wisdom, philosophy of peace for the world. Michael loved to oil paint and sketch in pencil and charcoal.

Michael is survived by his daughter, Cheylene and husband Robert Varto of Novi, and his two grandchildren, Kira and Cole. He had met his birth family later in his life and formed strong bonds with them. He was preceded in death by his birth mother, Dorothy Hemminger and survived by his birth sibling, Cherrill Hemminger, Daniel Hemminger, Randal Hemminger, Brenda Goss and Richard Hemminger. His devoted girlfriend, Carole with an "E" and his best friend, Sam Sellers, remained by his side through his final days.

Along with his wife, Sheila, Michael preceded in death by his parents.

Michael's legacy of love, service, and unwavering faith will continue to inspire all who knew him. His parting words are "God loves you and so do I".

A Celebration of his Life will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 25, at 1:00PM at the Clare Christ Fellowship, 3260 Colonville Rd. (near the corner of Grant Ave. and Colonville). Friends are invited to meet with his family at the Clare Chapel of Stephenson-Wyman Funeral Home on Monday, Nov. 24, from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8PM. Masonic Lodge rites will be held on Monday at 7:30. There will also be a time of visiting at the Church on Tuesday from Noon until 1:00. Memorial gifts in lieu of flowers may be made to: St. Jude's Hospital, the Joshua House or Clare Christ Fellowship. For those unable to attend services, online

condolences may be shared at www.stephenson-wyman.com

Cemetery Details

Cherry Grove Cemetery

1000 Cedar St.
Clare, MI 48617

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **24**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Stephenson - Wyman Funeral Home (Clare)
1005 North McEwan St.
Clare, MI 48617
(989) 386-7451
wymanhf@chartermi.net
<https://www.stephenson-wyman.com/>

Visitation

NOV **24**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Stephenson - Wyman Funeral Home (Clare)
1005 North McEwan St.
Clare, MI 48617
(989) 386-7451
wymanhf@chartermi.net
<https://www.stephenson-wyman.com/>

Funeral Service

NOV **25**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Clare Christ Fellowship
3260 E. Colonville Road
Clare, MI 48617

Tribute Wall

CH

“ I owed you more than you knew. And, one more fried green tomato dinner... Thankful always!

Char - November 26, 2025 at 09:37 PM

LR

“ Linda R. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael W. Becker.

Linda R. - November 26, 2025 at 02:21 PM

FW

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Frederick Woods - November 24, 2025 at 12:29 PM

FW

thanks Mike you were a wonderful Clare citizen Sir

Frederick Woods - November 24, 2025 at 12:40 PM

JH

Thank-you Mike, for all of your Wonderful Poems, and Songs. They are all so Beautiful. Thank-you for all of your kind words in your Poems . I know that Jesus was their to take you home. You were a wonderful Friend, to us and I'll cherish the time I got too know you. Rest In Peace Michael

Jean Hidey - November 24, 2025 at 05:23 PM

FW

“ Mr. Becker you certainly helped me & my brothers to avoid the bad crowd we briefly mingled with in teen years. You lent us correct thinking despite our own Dad's many faulty ways & misguided paths.

Me & my brothers & Mom loved that you were Clare Chief just a few years after our Grampa Bill Cook was also 1956 Clare Police Chief. We were told Grampa pressed heavy for Clare funding to get city police vehicle radios capable to finally radio with Mt. Pleasant State Police car radios. Hope you liked the radio system Grampa pressed Clare to get funded.

Thank you Mike in 1990 or so for reminding me of that neat song :
In The Year 2525, If Man Is Still Alive"...

Mike your dog Ming was so fun. Thanks Mike for letting me ride in your elect. golf cart down the Amish Auction around the time my wife died. I hope it's ok Mike to post the fun pic here of your Amish buddy Joe towing us back with his horse-drawn work buggy (not the black carriage), after your golf cart batt. died at the auction. It was amazing Joe himself asked us to pause in front of Herrick swim park for me to take a pic with my newfangled android ph. & get a nice shot of your cart being towed by the horse buggy...Joe let me ride up front with him & let me steer the horse a minute. Thank you Mike for that event which led me to drive an Amish buggy, it was a lifelong dream, it felt like being on Bonanza & I told God it was one of the best things I ever did in my life while I sat next to Joe towing your golf cart...thanks Mike vaya con Diòs mi amigo...Frederick Woods II



Frederick Woods - November 24, 2025 at 12:16 PM

JH

“ Jennifer Hopp lit a candle in memory of Michael W. Becker



Jennifer Hopp - November 24, 2025 at 08:49 AM

JH

*A wonderful man with a huge heart. You made such an impact on so many lives and will be greatly missed.
Love ~ The Hopp Family*

Jennifer Hopp - November 24, 2025 at 08:58 AM

GW

“ *I remember Mike as a gentle guy, never witnessed a harsh word....he accompanied me when I bought my first car....a 1980 Buick Skylark....lol....my heart goes out to Cheylene and family. I'm sure he will be missed.*

Gregory Warner - November 23, 2025 at 03:12 PM

BG

“ Michael will always be a treasure in my heart. In 2015 (when Father and Mother graduated and walked into eternity) early in that year we got to bring joy to our lives in meeting Mom's son and our brother Michael. We could see the radiance cross our mothers face when she knew he was coming to see her. He was a dream, born in her sorrow, that brought her joy. Yet mother, was a child, and forced to give him up. But by God's blessing, at 72 , he became my oldest/ youngest brother as he was just born in my life. He had Mom's twinkle in his eyes, her passion for God, family and friends and her gift of writing poetry. When Mom was young she wanted to become an author and Michael was one. He led a life of impact and great personal connection. He imprinted the message of love on anyone's life he engaged with. He left many with the feeling "You are important and I am so glad to get to know you". Life hit him from the beginning with challenges but he would turn each one into a new opportunity. He kept going, living, smiling and contributing to the world. He impacted so many. I love you Michael! We will meet on those beautiful shores. Until we meet again I will keep serving Jesus on this side of heaven. John (your brother in law) and I will donate to Joshua House Maternity Home in your memory. I know supporting those who choose life met so much to you.

Bre Goss - November 23, 2025 at 08:34 AM



Cynthia
Jacobs-
Kehlbeck

“ Mike was such a beautiful soul, he will be dearly missed.

Cynthia Jacobs-Kehlbeck - November 23, 2025 at 12:25 AM

MG

“ *Marlaina Comer Garcia purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Michael W. Becker.*



Marlaina Comer Garcia - November 22, 2025 at 07:03 PM

JM

“ *Sending my condolences to your family. My husband Rob Miller worked under Chief Becker many years ago. I have many memories of spending time with Mike and Shelia!!! Rob passed away in 2022 so Mike and Rob will be our one of many guardian angels!!! Until we meet again !!!!*

Jody Miller - November 22, 2025 at 06:16 PM

Jl

“ *Jody Miller and Jane Miller Iutzi planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael W. Becker.*

Jody Miller and Jane Miller Iutzi - November 22, 2025 at 06:02 PM

Jl

“ *Jody Miller and Jane Miller Iutzi purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Michael W. Becker.*



Jody Miller and Jane Miller Iutzi - November 22, 2025 at 06:02 PM

BH

“ *Such an amazing life in this small town. His energy, his poetry and his smile will be greatly missed but never forgotten.*

BRUCE HALES - November 22, 2025 at 02:38 PM



I have known Mike for many years, when I was in the Clare County Sheriff's Cadet program, I went to see Mike about starting a cadet program in Clare through the Police Dept and Fire Dept doing a combined explorers program.

Mike always had a kind word, even a smile on his face. Mike was a great Police Chief.

RIP my dear friend you will be deeply missed.

I gained a Angel from Mike the lady that was taking care of Mike until his death is now my main caregiver. So even after his passing he was doing amazing things.

I will miss not seeing you at the concerts in the park. No more suffering for you my friend.

Scott Giles - November 24, 2025 at 07:26 AM

SS

“ *This is a beautiful tribute to Mike the words of love and respect fit him perfectly, he was a great help to my family at the time of great sorrow for us all. He was a great leader in our little town and will always be remembered. God bless him and his family*

Sharon M Simons - November 22, 2025 at 01:33 PM

TF

“ Tom Drury & Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Michael W. Becker.



Tom Drury & Family - November 22, 2025 at 12:58 PM



“ Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Michael W. Becker.



November 21, 2025 at 06:58 PM

SW

“ I got to know Michael thru friends, Phil & Char Smock with our Goldwing Group. Mike joined us for dinners. I am so sorry to see his passing. Mike was a great guy to get to know. And learned he knew one of my uinckle's, John Councell. So we had some nice talks. I hadn't seen him in a while and missed chatting with him. May you rest in peace, Mike.

Sandy Wentz - November 21, 2025 at 04:38 PM

PS

I was a lucky girl living next door to Mike.. He was a wonderful neighbor. Mike was so thankful for anything an everything. Mike gave me one of his books he had published... He wrote alot of poetry and wow could he sketch a picture.. Mike will be remembered in our family forever.. He told me the other day before he passed his time on earth was coming to an end.. but he had a good life with lots of wonderful family and friends. I went to visit Michael a few days before he passed and Mike told me God loved me and so did he. Rest in peace Michael Becker. God Bless ...

Peggy Stephen - November 23, 2025 at 10:33 PM

BW

Mike was a good friend and loved to write poetry. When my wife passed away last year he wrote two beautiful poems about her which I have on a wall next to her picture. Thank you again Mike.

Bruce Wood

Bruce Wood - November 24, 2025 at 10:24 AM

NA

“Nanners purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Michael W. Becker.



Nanners - November 21, 2025 at 01:42 PM