



Michael A. "Mike" Miller

June 19, 1951 - May 18, 2019

Michael A. "Mike" Miller, 67, of Wapakoneta, died 6:22 p.m., Sat. May 18, 2019, at Lima Memorial Health System, following a sudden illness. He was born in Lima, June 19, 1951 to Robert "Bob" and L. Jean "Jeanie" Miller, who preceded him in death. He has one brother, Robert "Bo" (Rosalie) Miller surviving. In 1973, he married Laura Johnston and three children: Jamie, Nicky, and Angie (Scott) Dickman, all of Wapakoneta. He also has 3 grandchildren Brayden, Kaylee and Avery, who were his pride and joy. Mike graduated from Wapakoneta High School in 1969 and after offers to play football and baseball at multiple colleges, decided to attend and play baseball at the University of Toledo. After an accident to his pitching hand his senior year in college, he hung up his cleats and left school. Mike worked at Emerson Climate Technologies (Copeland Corporation) for 36 years. Mike was passionate about, and lived his life for, his faith, his family and his community. After getting married and returning to Wapakoneta, he joined his father and brother coaching the Wapakoneta Warriors midget football team that his father has started in 1968. In 1978, Mike started the Wapakoneta Cherokees midget football team and coached the team for 19 years. He took great pride in teaching the kids the fundamentals of football and making sure that every kid that was on his team was able to play every game. Winning was not the goal, learning the basics for the future Redskins was. In the early 90's he also helped start the junior high softball club team that is now the school team. In order to keep himself busy after retiring, he volunteered to be an

announcer at the Wapak Redskin 7th - JV football, varsity baseball and softball games. This past year he also returned to midget football coaching for his grandson's team and was involved with the newly created Wapak Midget Football Association. Mike had an absolute passion for teaching kids the fundamentals and basics of many sports even up to the last hour he was alive. In addition to sports, Mike had a passion for singing and serving others. He entertained the residents of multiple area nursing homes several times a month, singing and playing songs that he had written or from cd tracks. Mike's faith was also extremely important to him. He and his family have attended Only Believe Ministries Christian Center for over 34 years where Mike was heavily involved with the kids and nursing home ministry. Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m., Thurs. May 23, 2019, at the Only Believe Ministries Christian Center, Botkins, with Pastor Peter Doseck officiating. Burial will be at a later date. The family will receive family and friends 2-8 p.m., Wed. May 22, at the Eley Funeral Home & Crematory, 1102 Lincoln Ave. (St. Rt. 501) Wapakoneta, and 1 hr. prior to the service, Thurs. at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to the family to be used for a charity to be named later.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY **22**. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Eley Funeral Home & Crematory
1102 Lincoln Ave.
Wapakoneta, OH 45895
eleyfuneralhome@gmail.com
<http://www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com>

Visitation

MAY **23**. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Only Believe Ministries Christian Center
13815 Botkins Rd.
Botkins, , OH 45306

Service

MAY **23**. 10:30 AM (ET)

Only Believe Ministries Christian Center
13815 Botkins Rd.
Botkins, , OH 45306

Tribute Wall

CL

“ So sorry for your loss he was a good man we did not always agree but we was always friends love to talk to him about the bible and listen to him sing

Connie Lewis - May 23, 2019 at 01:50 PM

KM

“ so sorry for your loss can remember golfing with mike he hit it a little left by a house a dog shot out of bushes got his ball went back to house prayers are with you and girls kevin moots dewey

kevin moots - May 22, 2019 at 07:19 PM

BB

“ Sorry to hear about Mike's passing. I worked with Mike at Emerson and he always had a smile on his face. My sympathies to his family.

Barbara Brown

Barbara Brown - May 22, 2019 at 01:02 PM

JT

“ I had the privilege to play for the Wapak Cherokees with Mike as my coach. I will always remember my first practice. It was a simple blocking drill where I got knocked down multiple times. Coach Miller came up to me after a few times of getting knocked down and said Joel its ok to hit him back with a little bit of a chuckle. The next round I hit back and stayed on my feet against the hardest hitter on our team. I learned to love football thanks to Mike and was able to play all the way through college and have it help pay for my education. Mike inspired so many with his passion for life and Christ. Thank you and may God shower your family with blessings of amazing memories like mine during this tough time.

Joel Tangeman - May 22, 2019 at 10:20 AM

Lori Sale

“ Thank you for sharing Mike with all of us in children's church at OBM. He was so passionate for Jesus! He was gentle and kind to the kids, and he knew how to have great fun with them while teaching them important life lessons. We loved to hear him laugh, and watching the kids interact with him was amazing. Mike always lit up the room, and he will be missed by so many. We are sorry for your sudden loss, and we are praying for God's comforting hand to be upon all of you. ~ Jesse & Lori Sale

Lori Sale - May 21, 2019 at 01:46 PM

Kelly Diener

“ Thoughts and prayers to the family. I had the opportunity to work with Mike at Emerson Climate Technologies. he was a wonderful person. He was always smiling and happy. He was a wonderful person. Rest in Paradise my friend.



Kelly Diener - May 20, 2019 at 07:23 PM

JW

“ I had the privilege of working with Mike daily, he shared so much of his life with me from the love he had for his wife and girls, to his ideas he about His Christmas Decorations he took such pride in, his music, he would write a new song and then many times he would sing them for me, his love for his church, so many things he did with love and joy for others. To his wife and girls please know as I do Heaven got a little brighter when our father took Mike home.

Jodie Wildermuth - May 20, 2019 at 11:52 AM

DK

So sorry for your loss. I also enjoyed working with Mike. His faith in Jesus Christ and his love for people were shown daily. His laugh was infectious! He talked about his family and expressed his love for them. I was inspired by his faith in God! RIP Mike.

Dave Kohnen - May 21, 2019 at 03:46 PM

GU

“ Mike and I worked together at Emerson for years. He was truly a wonderful person. The folks that worked for Mike respected him and I always respected his thoughts and opinions. He was truly a coach and a teacher in all aspects of his life. Our prayers go out to his family.

Gerry Ulrich

Gerry Ulrich - May 20, 2019 at 08:24 AM

RW

“ Mike was the real deal! He loved kids and was a great energetic teacher in kids church for years! It was awesome to work with him in the nursing homes during Christmas and Easter! He has left a huge hole in our hearts!



Randy Waters - May 19, 2019 at 11:01 PM



“ So sorry for your loss.



Carol Meeks - May 19, 2019 at 10:57 PM

JC

“ I'm so sorry Laura for your great loss. May you and your family feel God's arms of comfort surrounding you.

Joyce Elkins Cavanaugh



Joyce Cavanaugh - May 19, 2019 at 10:13 PM

PH

“ I loved serving the kids at OBMCC alongside Mike when I would come into town, he was always a blessing and encouragement! I can hear him singing and playing now! He will leave a huge hole!!!

Pastor Eric Hamp - May 19, 2019 at 08:47 PM

JT

“ Prayers and condolences.....Mike was more than just a brother-in-law to me....he was a great friend and even a greater person....we did a lot of things together for a lot of years....he will be sadly missed.

Jim Troyer

Jim Troyer - May 19, 2019 at 08:39 PM



Brianna Boggs

“ I remember plenty of Mike and his family. I think one of my oldest memories is of him and his wife working on running the cameras at OBM. I have always seen Mike as a great man thirsting after God's word! Thank you for giving to the Lord and providing a Godly influence in all our lives. Theres no doubt where you are now.

Brianna Boggs - May 19, 2019 at 06:05 PM

LL

“ I knew Mike for a quite a few years i have work with him A Copelands now Emerson for 8 or more years He was a great man . Sorry for your loss he will be truly miss Prayer for the family



LaVern Lawson - May 19, 2019 at 05:17 PM