



Michael Kent Wilson

March 16, 1947 - September 6, 2015

Michael Kent Wilson, 68, of Greenview died on Sunday, September 6, 2015 at his home. Mike was born on March 16, 1947 in Decatur, Illinois the son of Ethel and Kenneth Wilson of Lake City, Illinois. He attended Lovington High School, received his Bachelor's at Eastern Illinois University and his Masters from Sangamon State University.

Mike served in the National Guard in Decatur for 7 years. He spent 33 years teaching and coaching at Greenview Schools. He served 16 years as the mayor of Greenview while also serving on the IESA track board.

He was just was passionate about his love of horses, having shown barrel racers for many years around central Illinois and the Illinois State Fair. Through his love for kids and sports, the Greenview track was built and is now named "Wilson Field" in his honor.

Mike is survived by his wife Susan, of 47 years; one sister; Cynthia Wierzba (Tom); children Christy Von Talge (Shawn) and Scott Wilson (fiancée Allison), both of Columbia, Mo. He leaves four grandchildren Kayla and Kenzie Von Talge, and Brady and Brendan Wilson. He was preceded in death by his parents. Mike's family will greet relatives, friends and family on Wednesday, September 9 from 10am-1pm at Greenview United Church, with services held at 1pm. Rev. Stephanie McCullough will officiate and burial with military rites

will be at Elmwood Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that you make donations to the Michael J. Fox Parkinson's Research Foundation. (www.michaeljfox.org)

Hurley Funeral Home in Mason City is assisting the family with the arrangements. To leave online condolences please visit www.hurleyfh.com.

Cemetery Details

Elmwood Cemetery

Greenview, IL

Previous Events

Funeral

SEP 9. 1:00 AM (CT)

Greenview United Church
111 S. Blane St.
Greenview, IL

Visitation

SEP 9. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Greenview United Church
111 S. Blane St.
Greenview, IL

Tribute Wall



“ *Michael Kent Wilson*

October 12, 2022 at 03:07 PM

DC

“ Dear Wilson family, it is with heavy heart that I have heard the news of Mike's passing. Coach Wilson was a huge inspiration in my life. I started Greenview elementary and graduated in 1985. Coach Wilson taught me (and many others) Driver's Education. He was my Phys Ed teacher. He was my grade school track and basketball coach and always had a smile and a good nature to him. As a young boy, I always thought Coach Mike had a his face "tattooed" since the man could grow a "5 o'clock shadow" by 9am. As a young basketball player, he gave me the nickname of "short round". He said I was like a small bullet, little but fast. I didn't realize how much confidence that gave me and made me feel as if I fit in. In the next couple of years, he coached me in track and took me all the way to state in the mile! He filled me with confidence, always had a positive thing to say to me, would introduce me to other adults as "this is Dave Church.....this is my miler!" It was huge to be acknowledged in this way as a young man. My parents were very loving and encouraging people, but to have a mentor that you wanted to please, a man that expressed his happiness in the way he treated me was amazing. I remember coming home on leave after a couple of years in the Navy and stopped by the High School to pick up my younger brother. There was Coach Mike with the track team and he turned and said, "well if it isn't my ol' miler! Boys, here is a guy that could run like a jackrabbit!" Even after graduation, he still found ways of making me feel like I was special and always welcome in Greenview. My career in the service took me all over the world and I settled with my family on the East Coast. My parents and older brother are still in the Greenview area and would run into Mike here and there and he never forgot to ask about his "ol miler!" In life there are opportunities that come along, opportunities that will change the way you see people, the world, and even your future. Mike Wilson was one of those opportunities in my life. I left GHS with the belief that there was nothing that I couldn't accomplish. A belief that boosting someone up (even the slightest bit) can bring people out of their shells, change who they hang out with, reset their goals, and change their life. Greenview was, and still is, a very small, tightly knit town where gossip and rumors move faster than the internet. I

couldn't do anything wrong in that town and make it home before my parents already knew about it. In a town like that, you don't want to disappoint your parents, the adults you look up to, and I never wanted to disappoint Coach Mike! I know he is in a much better place and I pray his family and friends will find the courage and strength to move past this grief quickly. His smile, laughter, friendship will be what I take with me for the rest of my life. Rest in Peace Coach!

*Dave Church
Leonardtown, Md.*

Dave Church - September 13, 2015 at 09:00 PM

CT

*Dave,
Thank You for sharing your stories with us!
I'm so glad My Dad had an impact on your life & many others!
Christy Wilson*

Christy Wilson Von Talge - September 18, 2015 at 08:00 PM

KK

“ Sue and family, I am so sorry for your loss and even sorrier Mike, such a vibrant life loving man, was stricken with Parkinson's disease. He had such a great smile. I was always amazed how he never swallowed a toothpick. :) God Bless you all

Kim Ellen Kirchner - September 12, 2015 at 01:19 AM

CT

*Kim,
Thanks for your prayers! Dad & toothpicks!
Christy Wilson*

Christy Wilson Von Talge - September 18, 2015 at 08:01 PM

NS

I was shocked to have heard this. I hadn't spoken to Mike in probably 15 years. I always remember Mr. Wilson for his progressive teaching techniques. He believed in being fair and nice with the students, rather than treating them with shame and a heavy hand. He refused to treat us as his teachers treated him. The world could use more teachers like him.

Nathan H Skaggs - May 13, 2023 at 05:13 PM

SB

“ *Sending our condolences. Mike was an inspiration he was one of the teachers that influenced me in to joining the military, so when I returned home he was one of the first people I visited. Mike (AKA) (Coach) was more than a teacher or coach he was a friend, He will truly be missed by all.*

Scott Bauser and Family

Scott Bauser - September 10, 2015 at 01:50 PM



CT

*Scott,
Thank You for your thoughts & prayers!
Christy Wilson*

Christy Wilson Von Talge - September 18, 2015 at 08:02 PM

TC

“ *Sending our condolences to Cindy and family!
Josie Rambo and family!*

Tina conder - September 09, 2015 at 05:37 PM



CT

*Thank you for your thoughts & prayers!
Christy Wilson*

Christy Wilson Von Talge - September 18, 2015 at 08:03 PM

CW

Appreciate your thoughts & prayers! Mike was wooooonderful! Cindy.

Cynthia Wierzba - September 21, 2015 at 07:41 AM

JB

“ *Was so sad to hear of Mike's passing. I remember so much about him from our youth. Sitting down at the table in his Grandparents farm house and each of us eating a full pan of her hot cross buns with mounds of butter and apple butter. His first blue Chevy car. His love for hunting. His love for fast horses. His kindness to me as his younger cousin. He was truly a great guy. It is so sad that time and life separates family and friends so much. We were in transit from NC when Aunt Hattie called us and let us know and we are so sorry we couldn't make it to the funeral. Cindy you were blessed with good family and i know from the lack of it that you have been greatly blessed from above. I know you are hurting cause you loved Mike dearly and like you said he was your hero. God be with you and I will always remember you as a gal a lot like Mike. Just what we call here in Indiana JUST GOOD PEOPLE!*

James Brosam - September 09, 2015 at 04:40 PM

CT

*Thank You for your thoughts & prayers!
Christy Wilson*

Christy Wilson Von Talge - September 18, 2015 at 08:03 PM

TC

“ Sending our condolences to Cindy and family! Josie Rambo and family!

Tina conder - September 09, 2015 at 03:04 PM

CT

Thank You for your thoughts & prayers!
Christy Wilson

Christy Wilson Von Talge - September 18, 2015 at 08:04 PM

CW

Thank you, Josie. You know how special & important Mike was to our family. Cindy.

Cynthia Wierzba - September 21, 2015 at 07:43 AM

TC

“ Tina Conder lit a candle in memory of Michael Kent Wilson



Tina conder - September 09, 2015 at 03:02 PM

TC

“ Sending our condolences to Cindy and family!
Josie Rambo and family



tina conder - September 09, 2015 at 02:37 PM

TC

“ Sending our condolence to Cindy and family.
Josie Rambo and family



tina conder - September 09, 2015 at 02:15 PM

MV

“ Dear Wilson Family,

I am so saddened by the passing of Mr. Wilson. He made such an impact on so many lives. I have countless memories from the track, driving (I will forever remember a slow moving vehicle sign) and riding/showing horses. Thinking of you all during this tough time. Many hugs from Texas.

*Love, Melissa (Cramer) Vandorp
Greenview Class of '88*

Melissa Vandorp - September 09, 2015 at 01:14 PM

CT

*Melissa,
Thank You for your thoughts & prayers! It definitely has been a tough week & a half~
The Cramers have been amazing family friends for as long as I can remember! Dad truly cared about all of the Cramer girls & I'm sure has stories about all of you!
Christy Wilson*

Christy Wilson Von Talge - September 18, 2015 at 08:07 PM

JS

“ Mrs. Wilson, Christy, Scotty.....we are sorry to hear of Mr. Wilson's passing. We will always remember your friendship and hospitality during our time in Greenview. You are all in our prayers...once a Bulldog, always a Bulldog...Jim Simmons, Amanda Clark, and Alan Simmons

Jim Simmons - September 09, 2015 at 11:37 AM

CT

Mr. Simmons,
Thank You for your thoughts & prayers!
Always a Bulldog:-)
Christy Wilson

Christy Wilson Von Talge - September 18, 2015 at 08:08 PM

DT

“ Susan and family/Cyndi and Tom and family:
I was so sorry to hear about Mr. Wilson's passing. He was a great guy. He actually gave me my first secretarial job when I was in high school, typing up the sports stats for the local newspaper. He was great driver's ed teacher. The one thing I remember most about him was he always called me "Donny" and could get away with it. He will be sadly missed by all who new him.

Randy and Donna (Bless) Tibbs

Donna (Bless) Tibbs - September 08, 2015 at 08:53 PM

CT

Donna,
Thank You for your thoughts & prayers!
Christy Wilson

Christy Wilson Von Talge - September 18, 2015 at 08:09 PM



“ *I will miss making him raisin pies. He called me Betty Crocker.
Always left us all smiling
Mary Power*

Mary Power - September 08, 2015 at 07:30 PM

CT

*Mary,
He loved his raisin pies! Thank You for your thoughts & prayers!
Christy Wilson*

Christy Wilson Von Talge - September 18, 2015 at 08:10 PM

JA

“ *I was so sorry to read Bout Mike's passing. I taught with him at
Greenview. My prayers go out to his family.*

Jan Sescleifer, the Villages, Florids

jan - September 08, 2015 at 06:59 PM

CT

*Jan,
Thank You for your thoughts & prayers!
Christy Wilson*

Christy Wilson Von Talge - September 18, 2015 at 08:11 PM



“ *Secret Garden Basket was purchased for the
family of Michael Kent Wilson.*



September 08, 2015 at 06:44 PM

DC

“ Sue, Christy, Scott and Families,

We were so sorry to hear about Mike. We have so many fond memories, too many to name. We are unable to be there with you but we love you all and we will be thinking of you. Please give our sincere sympathy to Cindy and her family.

Love, David and Dolores

David & Dolores Cramer - September 08, 2015 at 06:42 PM

CT

*Dave & Dolores,
Gosh....Our families have been such great friends for so long! Thank You for your thoughts & prayers! I know Dad is in Heaven riding his horses & having fun:-)
Christy Wilson*

Christy Wilson Von Talge - September 18, 2015 at 08:14 PM



“ Dear Sue and Family,

I was so saddened to hear the news about Mike's passing. "Mr. Wilson" as he will always be known by his former students was beloved for his sense of humor, enthusiasm and passion for helping students be the best they could be. I will personally not forget riding his barrel horses for him- it was one of the thrills of my life! I will also never forget driver's ed and all of the embarrassing moments he made us endure. Somehow we all succeeded in life in spite of ourselves! Our thoughts are with you at this time- Mike was a great friend to my Mom and Dad and helped our family out many times. He leaves behind a great legacy for the Village of Greenview!

*Lori (Cramer) Hahm
Greenview High School Class of 1977*

Lori Jean - September 08, 2015 at 04:36 PM

CT

*Lori,
Thanks for sharing your stories! We appreciate your thoughts & prayers! Our families will always be great friends:-)
Christy Wilson*

Christy Wilson Von Talge - September 18, 2015 at 08:15 PM

PM

“ *I was very sad to hear the news of Mike's passing. He was great teacher and person. He left a wonderful mark on the community. Blessings to the family!*

Pam Tuttle Mathes - September 08, 2015 at 01:07 PM

CT

*Pam,
Thank You for your thoughts & prayers!
Christy Wilson*

Christy Wilson Von Talge - September 18, 2015 at 08:16 PM

JG

“ my thoughts and prayers go out to the family!! I will always remember this man he had patients in teaching me to drive even though I almost wrecked the bus!! He's a good man with lots of patients!! He will be missed!!



Jackie Crenshaw Green - September 08, 2015 at 12:41 PM

PB

My heart goes out to his loving sister. Mike was her hero and always will be. He was admired by all who met him and he always had a wonderful smile and a twinkle in his eye no matter to whom he met. Great man of great faith!

Patty Bailey - September 08, 2015 at 02:02 PM

CT

*Jackie,
Thank You for your thoughts & prayers!
Christy Wilson*

Christy Wilson Von Talge - September 18, 2015 at 08:17 PM

 Teresa Severns

“ Although I only knew him for a brief time, the sheer determination in him was impossible to miss. So sorry for your loss.

Teresa Severns - September 08, 2015 at 06:58 AM

CT

*Teresa,
Thank You for your thoughts & prayers!
Christy Wilson*

Christy Wilson Von Talge - September 18, 2015 at 08:17 PM

RS

“ *Thoughts and prayers with the family at this time. I have many fond memories of all the time we spent together over the years, Mike was a great friend and a special person who will be greatly missed, but never forgotten. We had the opportunity to visit recently and will always cherish that time as well as the many other memories, rest in peace old friend, I will miss you, but you will always be a valued part of my life...*

*Ron Schwabe
Athens, Il...*

ron schwabe - September 08, 2015 at 06:49 AM

CT

*Ron,
It was so nice to meet you at the visitation~I've seen many pictures of you & Dad in his scrapbooks & yearbooks~
He always thought highly of you & I could tell you two had fun together!
Thank You for your thoughts & prayers!
Christy Wilson*

Christy Wilson Von Talge - September 18, 2015 at 08:20 PM

CS

“ *It was an honor to get to know Mike. He was a strong, stubborn man. I have many great memories with him at S.A. Prayers for your family at this time Susan.*

Charity Smith - September 08, 2015 at 06:45 AM

CT

*Charity,
Thank You for taking care of my Dad! We appreciate what you do at
S.A.
Thank You for your thoughts & prayers!
Christy Wilson*

Christy Wilson Von Talge - September 18, 2015 at 08:21 PM

 Haley
Schmidt

“ *Mike was the nicest guy and so funny. Always knew how to make
me smile. You will be missed Mike.*

Haley Schmidt - September 07, 2015 at 10:30 PM

CT

*Haley,
Thank You for your thoughts & prayers!
Christy Wilson*

Christy Wilson Von Talge - September 18, 2015 at 08:22 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the
family of Michael Kent Wilson.*



September 07, 2015 at 09:14 PM

DE

“ *Cindy And Family,*

*We are so sorry to hear about Michael's death. Our thoughts and
prayers are with you and the family. The Elliott's and the Wilson's
have very good memories.*

Carroll Elliott, and Darlene Elliott Lake City-Lovington IL.

Darlene Elliott - September 07, 2015 at 07:16 PM



*Darlene,
Thank You for your thoughts & prayers!
Christy Wilson*

Christy Wilson Von Talge - September 18, 2015 at 08:23 PM