

Michael Joseph Callanan - Obituary

Michael John Callanan, St. Johnsbury, Vermont, native and adopted son of Hanover, New Hampshire, passed away July 30, 2015, at home in his sleep. He was born Jan. 29, 1943, son of Theodora Laughlin Callanan and Joseph Callanan of St. Johnsbury, Vermont.

Mike graduated from St. Johnsbury Academy in 1961. He received a teaching degree from Lyndon State in Lyndonville, Vermont in 1967. He taught history, psychology and sociology, at Bradford Academy. It was at Bradford that his coaching career began.

In his five-decade long coaching career, Coach Mike totaled 300+ wins. 200+ wins in his 30+ years of coaching Varsity Soccer at Oxbow High School. 142+ wins were totaled while coaching Junior Varsity Soccer with the Hanover High School JV team. Coach Mike was considered "The Dean" of NH and VT soccer coaches. Mike won the VT Coach of the Year award three times and was recognized in 2010 in 2015 as the NH JV Boys Soccer coach of the year by NH Interscholastic Athletic Association. Mike also coached track for many years, six years as an assistant outdoors coach and eight years as head indoors coach.

Mike volunteered 39 years with the Green Mountain Boys State Program, sponsored by the Vermont American Legion. "Coach" served as a County and Town Counselor to thousands of future leaders of the state and country during his tenure at Boys State. He could always be found on the soccer field during athletic activities at the weeklong event, or spending time teaching young men about the ideals behind state and local politics. He would often act as Moderator during nightly public speeches leading up to the General Elections for the State Offices of Boys State.

Mike was a talented musician and it was not uncommon to see "Elvis" in the building and on stage during weekly talent shows at Boys State. "Coach" was an inspiration to every life he came in contact with. He was always quick with a joke to lighten a heavy mood, or able to provide wisdom in a learning environment to an impressionable mind.

Mike also managed to squeeze in a second career in Hotel Management having worked multiple years for Howard Johnson in both White River Jct. and South Burlington, as well as the Fairbanks Motor Lodge in St Johnsbury, Vermont.

Mike was known by many different nick names to different people; Coach Mike, Bash, Michael "McCoach" Callanan, Mr. Callanan, friend, mentor, brother, uncle, son.... By any name, Mike was recognized for having a profound impact on the lives of many people he touched. His legacy through his actions and integrity will not be forgotten but live on through those who had the joy of knowing him. Long live the "Coach"!



Michael John Callanan

Mike's other loves (in his own words), were Alpine Skiing, passing time at North Beach in Burlington, visiting tropical islands, many concerts, touring Europe, good friends and fun times.

Mike is predeceased by his parents, his father in 1980 and mother in 2010. He is survived by his three sisters, Carol Callanan, Debra Callanan Clark and her significant other, Mike Frisbie, Nancy Bourbon and her husband John. Mike was very fond of his nieces and nephews, Christopher Tetreault, Mary Tryhorne and her husband Matt, Tucker and Sara Bourbon. Mike is also a Great Uncle to Javon Tetreault, Adeline and Laurel Tryhorne.

To view an online memorial and or send a message of condolence to the family, please visit, www.rand-wilson.com.

Visiting hours will be 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Aug 15 at the Rand-Wilson Funeral Home at 11 1/2 School Street Hanover N.H. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. on Aug 16 at Church of Christ at Dartmouth College with reception to follow.

Anyone wishing to make a donation in Mike's memory may do so by contacting:

Green Mountain Boys State, Dave Cobb GMBS Director, 164 Calista Ave., Lyndonville VT 05851.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Rand-Wilson Funeral Home of Hanover, N.H.

