



## Michael Lake

July 7, 1961 - January 15, 2024

Michael Allen Lake, 62, passed away at his home on January 15, 2024, surrounded by his loving wife and daughters. Our family was blessed to usher him from this life to the next.

Michael was born July 7, 1961, in St. Paul, Minnesota to Harold and Sharon Lake. He spent his youth outdoors, running around the plains of South Dakota. His love of the outdoors was a gift he shared with all those who knew him.

Michael proudly made a career in the military serving his country for 30 years, enlisting in 1981 and retiring 2013, where he followed his passion for adventure and caring for the country he loved so much. Michael graduated from the Sergeants Major Academy 2006. He served in two tours of duty, including Desert Storm, Saudia Arabia 1990-1991, and Enduring Freedom, Afghanistan 2009-2010.

Those who knew Michael would describe him as being a hard man to know. He was a private man: quiet, calm, and stoic. He never complained, even as his illness progressed and his discomfort increased. If you were lucky, you got to see Michael's playful, sensitive and creative sides. He loved dogs and would often be found at home with both dogs on his lap. His daughter jokingly called him Doctor Doolittle in these moments. Michael was also gifted at

woodworking and created several pieces of beautiful furniture for his family to treasure.

Michael was passionate about reading (there was always a book in his hand), adventure, the outdoors, woodworking, fishing, his dogs, his country, and his family. While he did not always know what to say, he always found a way to show his love. He was a strong and proud man who had gentleness in his spirit, kindness in his eyes, and the patience of a saint. For these qualities, and so many others, Michael was loved and appreciated by many, human and dog alike.

Michael is survived by his wife, Michelle (Wallen) Lake, married June 15, 1991, his daughter Jasmine Rae Lake, born May 1, 1987, and Brittany Renee Lake, born August 1, 1991, his parents Harold and Sharon Lake, and brother and sister-in-law Brian and Sossia Lake.

Celebration of Life Services will be held February 3, 2024, at Hope Community Church, 665 West 375 North, in Lebanon, Indiana at 11:00 a.m. Visitation will be held February 2, 2024, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. and again February 3, 2024, from 10:00-11:00 a.m. at Hope Community Church. Myers Mortuary and Boone County Crematory have been entrusted with his cremation arrangements.

Our family asks for memorials be made in his memory to his favorite charities - the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758516, Topeka, Kansas 66675-8516, Humane Society for Boone County, P. O. Box 708 Lebanon, Indiana 46052 or to Tunnel to Towers Foundation, 2361 Hylan Boulevard, Staten Island, NY 10306.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 2. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Hope Community Church  
665 West 375 North  
Lebanon, IN 46052

## Visitation

FEB 3. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Hope Community Church  
665 West 375 North  
Lebanon, IN 46052

## Celebration of Life

FEB 3. 11:00 AM (ET)

Hope Community Church  
665 West 375 North  
Lebanon, IN 46052

# Tribute Wall

KG

“ Kendall G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael Lake.

Kendall G. - February 03, 2024 at 07:30 AM

LB

“ I was a very lucky person to have called Michael my friend. I am so thankful we had a final opportunity to sit together and talk, laugh and cry and tell old stories. I am so glad I was able to tell him of the profound impact he had and will continue to have in my life. He was a mentor, friend and Soldier and he would always tell me exactly how it was, no if, ands, or buts. I am sure I drove him crazy talking out loud asking him questions I didn't wait on the answer for, but he showed me that is ok and how to take that and use it to my advantage to be successful. I am so glad I listened and no doubt he was 100% right. Michael was truly like a Big Brother to me. He is probably saying, ok enough Lisa. lol I am gonna miss him, sounds inadequate and I struggle to find the words, but this is what I have. Michelle, Jasmine and Brittany, I love you and I am here for you today and always. Lisa

Lisa Baldwin - February 01, 2024 at 04:16 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael Lake.



February 01, 2024 at 09:14 AM

DC

“ Douglas C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael Lake.

Douglas C. - February 01, 2024 at 02:25 AM

KS

“ SGM Michael Lake honorably served our country and state, and I was proud to serve alongside him in Afghanistan as part of Task Force Cyclone. I remember him for the intelligent mindset, calm demeanor, humble spirit, and servant leadership that he provided during our deployment. He will be greatly missed, and I offer my deepest condolences to the Lake family.  
COL Kevin Stephenson

Kevin Stephenson - January 30, 2024 at 08:20 AM

JR

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

Jim R. - January 28, 2024 at 10:48 AM

SG

“ SGM Mike Lake proved to me once again that you "can't judge a book by it's cover". He was an amazing Division Operations Sergeant Major and a great person. I thought that he was an "admin" type of guy but his skill at organizing operations tasks and assigning/motivating people to accomplish them was among the very best that I've seen. I also learned that he was a student of the world around him and cared about important things besides his profession. Certainly his family was at the top of the list but then there were the unspoken needs of others that he went to work on without being told nor being asked. The world is less because Mike Lake is not here in his earthly form. I'll see you again some day in glory.

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**Steven H Goodroad** - January 27, 2024 at 01:59 PM

AC

“ Aunt Donna & The Hoffmann Cousins purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Michael Lake.



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**Aunt Donna & The Hoffmann Cousins** - January 27, 2024 at 11:22 AM

RS

“ Rik & Erica Stillson purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Michael Lake.



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**Rik & Erica Stillson** - January 26, 2024 at 01:22 PM

DS

“ I will treasure the memories and friendship we had. RIP Mike and love/prayers to you Michelle, jasmine and Brittney.

Dave Serafin - January 25, 2024 at 10:42 AM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Michael Lake.



January 25, 2024 at 10:24 AM

JR

“ Jimmy and Andrea Rogers planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael Lake.

Jimmy and Andrea Rogers - January 23, 2024 at 04:20 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michael Lake.



January 23, 2024 at 04:20 PM

BW

“ Another unfortunate early departure. Mike and I did not always see eye to eye but at least you know his stance and why. Beth and I send our condolences to the family and the loss of another great warrior. Thanks, Mike, for everything you did for this great nation.

Bob & Beth Winters - January 22, 2024 at 02:09 PM

LB

“ Mike Lake was a great soldier. I enjoyed working with him and he always was on top of everything. Thank you Mike for everything you did for me & the G1.

Laurie Bowman - January 22, 2024 at 10:44 AM

MR

“ SGM Mike Lake was a good man and great soldier. I am still thankful for him filling in for me in Afghanistan while I was temporarily sent stateside. We all will miss his gentle spirit. CSM Mike Lucas (retired).

Michael Lucas, CSM retired. - January 22, 2024 at 10:09 AM



“ Mike was my friend outside of the military and my Sergeant Major while in uniform. He was a brilliant soldier and I was lucky to have him as a mentor from 2007 till we retired together in 2013. I will always remember our times together and will be forever grateful for everything I learned from him and for all the fun we had together.

Bayson Joykin - January 20, 2024 at 10:33 PM



Jason Boykin

Bayson Joykin - January 20, 2024 at 10:33 PM

JS

SGM and I worked together through many war fighting training events and he was always encouraging, driven and a true professional soldier. I too am very grateful having the opportunity to work with him and solving some very complex problems the generals :) would come up with. He taught me how to persevere through some tough challenges.

Jeffrey Schaekel - January 24, 2024 at 01:32 PM



“ Mike was definitely a fighter. Extremely strong, and didn't want to leave his loved ones. I admire his strength and devotion to family, and am saddened that God needed him right now. Prayers for the family.



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**Renee Wallen** - January 20, 2024 at 04:53 PM

KW

“ Kathy Weiss lit a candle in memory of Michael Lake



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**Kathy Weiss** - January 20, 2024 at 04:13 PM

KW

“ I met Michelle Lake several months ago. We have developed a good friendship. My heart has hurt so deeply for Michelle , Michael and the girls. I know how they love him. The memories shared in his obituary, will help each of them as they continue on this earthly journey. Michael has received his rewards. He is now in the presence of the divine creator, God, who made all the beautiful nature Michael loved.

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**Kathy Weiss** - January 20, 2024 at 04:09 PM