



## Michael Kent

November 7, 1956 - May 22, 2022

Altamont-Michael Kent, 65, of Altamont, NY departed for his next journey on May 22 after a seven-year battle with lung cancer. Born in Albany, NY to Evelyn Ridner Kent and William Kent, Michael grew up rabble-rousing in the Bleeker Stadium neighborhood with his extended family and friends. Michael attended Albany High School before joining the Iron Workers Local 12, fearlessly connecting iron at great heights for many years before his retirement.

His early years found him working on cars as a self-taught mechanic, avid bowler and lover of bad behavior. We will leave these stories for the after-party.

He knew a lot about everything aside from how to actually use his cell phone, GPS, or automatic bill pay; he was late to every single event in his adult life but could also talk you through an overheating car while you were driving it with his eyes closed.

Wherever he went, he knew someone and would lighten their day with acts of kindness or a terrible joke. He would be the first person to stop and help a

stranger change a flat tire on the side of the road in the middle of winter or show up to surprise you for dinner.

Later in life, Michael found joy in the simple things; a cup of coffee from Stewarts, sitting at a picnic table on a sunny day, a walk on the beach, and most of all a ride on his Harley. He was grateful every day for the serenity he found through these moments, and he extended this serenity to others around him. His greatest accomplishment by his estimation was his 17 years of sobriety and the community he established within Alcoholics Anonymous; he believed deeply in helping others and worked his program every day until the end. He credits his support from the team at Albany County Drug Court, and specifically Mike Young, for helping him to begin his journey of sobriety, and even after his own graduation from the Drug Court program, he would return to tell his story and support others struggling with their addictions. He created a Drug Court annual picnic that he was incredibly proud to hand off to others to keep alive. He leaves a legacy for his AA community to continue in his physical absence. He knew he was not perfect but tried to do as much good as he could.

Michael was a fighter and was affectionately known as Iron Mike. When he was diagnosed with stage four lung cancer in 2015, the odds were not in his favor. However, his determination, or more accurately stubbornness, coupled with the brilliance of his team at Dana Farber, and the endless support of his caregivers, Bill and Donna who drove him weekly and sometimes daily to appointments, he was able to enjoy seven more years of riding his bike, telling terrible jokes that no one laughed at but him, and meeting his two grandchildren before his time was up. He credits his deep faith in helping to keep him grounded during his challenges and allowed him to fearlessly pass into God's hands when it was his time and on his own terms.

Mike is survived by his life partner and best friend Donna Charlebois, who has been his angel, taking the best care of him in his final chapter of life; his human children Jaenna and Hassan Babajane, Anthony and Jamie Sainte, Ashley and Devin Reese; his fur babies Baron and Noble; his beloved and adored grandchildren Estelle and Cyrus Babajane, who will miss having breakfast with him every morning over FaceTime; His father William Kent and his lady Joyce Lamb; siblings Timmy Kent, Tammy and Mark Carnevale, and Billy and Cheryl Kent. Goddaughter Lynn Graham, Godson Marc Kent; and supportive co-grandparents Margaret and Brian Dalton. He also leaves behind an extensive and loving extended family including many loving aunts, uncles, cousins, great nieces and nephews; his dear friends Paulie and Mary Koren, Lorraine Nelson, Joe McNally, Shawn Haley, and so many other friends from his time with the Iron Workers and AA and beyond. Michael is predeceased by his mother Evelyn Kent, sister-in-law Gerri Kent, dear friend Rodger Jolly and previous partner Sharie Normandin.

A tremendous thank you to the team at Dana Farber, the dream team of Drs. David Jackman and David Kozono; Community Hospice and Sue Stewart, and Dr. Duncan Savage at St. Peters for checking on all of us even after treatment ended. To Mary and Paulie Koren, Lynn Marie and Tessa Kent for all of the food and goodies, he appreciated it so much.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Michael's family Thursday, May 26, 2022 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Dreis Funeral Home, 208 North Allen Street, Albany, NY 12206. Please enter the funeral home from the rear parking lot entrance only.

Funeral services Friday, May 27, 2022 at 9:00 am at Blessed Sacrament Church, 607 Central Ave (Father John Bradley Way), Albany, NY 12206 where his Funeral Mass will be celebrated. You can view the Mass at <https://www.facebook.com/BlessedSacramentCatholicChurch>

In lieu of flowers please consider a donation in Michael's name at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, or to his beloved puppies Baron and Noble.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 26.** 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc.  
208 N Allen St  
Albany, NY 12206  
(518) 489-0188  
info@mcveighfuneralhome.com  
<http://www.McveighFuneralHome.com>

## Service

**MAY 27.** 9:00 AM (ET)

Blessed Sacrament Church  
607 Central Ave (Father John Bradley Way)  
Albany, NY 12206  
(518) 489-0188  
info@mcveighfuneralhome.com

# Tribute Wall



“ *McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Michael Kent*



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**McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc.** - May 25, 2022 at 11:52 AM



“ *Michael Kent*

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October 08, 2023 at 09:24 PM



“ *To Mike's family, I am so very sorry to hear that Mike has passed. I have very fun memories of all of us when we were all much younger. Time seems to have passed so quickly, but Mike did stop in the glass shop within the past few years. It was really nice to talk and catch up. The obituary was a beautiful tribute to Mike's life. My thoughts and prayers are with you as you go through this difficult time. With Sincere Sympathy,*

*Donna (Nedeau) Hatfield*

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**Donna Hatfield (Nedeau)** - May 26, 2022 at 02:22 PM

CB

“ My condolences to the Kent family didn't no Mike real well got to no him a little more when he would come into work to visit Donna c .  
Saw him at rivers casino a few times a very nice guy. May he rest in peace Claire beaudet

Claire beaudet - May 26, 2022 at 01:56 PM

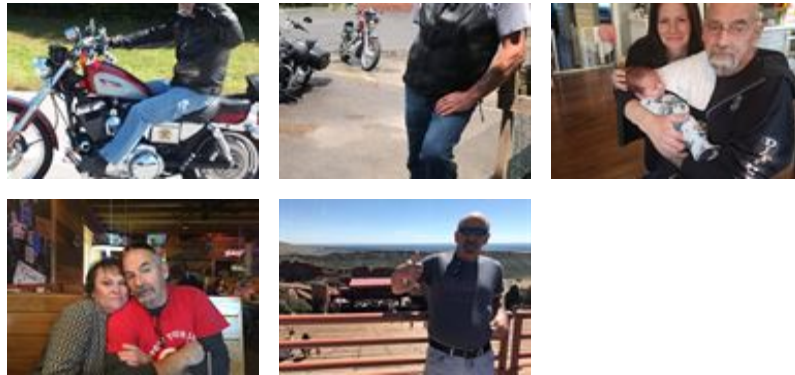
MH

“ I am fortunate that I got know Mike. His strength, experience and hope  
And, by the grace of his sharing it with those who listened and heard his messages. We wil pl all miss him💛  
Melissa and George.

Melissa Hanerfeld - May 25, 2022 at 07:09 PM

MCVEIGH  
FUNERAL HOME, INC.  
(518) 489-0188

“ 50 files added to the album LifeTributes



McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc. - May 25, 2022 at 11:51 AM

JW

To Timmy - Mimi Oliver said to tell you what a beautiful and touching obituary. It touched on all aspects of Mikey Kent, and his loved ones. .

joan wegman - May 25, 2022 at 01:27 PM

JO

*I think anyone who had Mike in their life for even a fleeting moment received a rare blessing. To his beloved family and friends - my condolences. I'm so very sorry. Joanie Oliver-Wegman*

joan oliver-wegman - May 25, 2022 at 01:33 PM

KR

“ TK:

*I know first hand the pain of loosing a brother. My heart breaks for you. Wish there was something I could say to ease the pain. Be grateful for having the time you have had. My heart is with you.*

*Lovin' you always*

*Karla*

Karla Roll - May 25, 2022 at 10:15 AM



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



May 25, 2022 at 05:52 AM



“ [https://www.mcveighfuneralhome.com/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518"; target="\\_blank">Memorial Trees</a> was purchased for the family of Michael Kent.](https://www.mcveighfuneralhome.com/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518)

May 25, 2022 at 05:34 AM

CP

“ *Saddened to hear that Mike had passed. My thoughts are with you and your family.*

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**Cindy Pullman** - May 24, 2022 at 11:10 PM

TB

“ *We are so sorry for your loss. May Mike Rest In Peace.  
Ted and JoAnna Baldwin*

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**Ted Baldwin** - May 24, 2022 at 10:44 PM



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



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May 24, 2022 at 08:33 PM