



## Michael Louis Higgins

April 5, 1944 - March 3, 2026

Michael Louis Higgins, age 81, of Crown Point, IN, passed away on March 3, 2026. He was born in Gary, Indiana on April 5, 1944, to Hayden Louis Higgins and Olga (nee Chasten) Higgins. Mike proudly served our country in the U.S. Army for over 30 years and retired as a Master Sergeant. He was a retired Reservist and participated in Desert Shield. Mike also was a Lake County Sheriff Commander and Public Information Officer for over 30 years. He dedicated many years of service to Lake County and was awarded Policeman of the Year. He enjoyed spending time with his family, his Miller breakfast classmates and his Indiana and Florida buddies. Mike is survived by his loving wife, Marie (nee Dusich) Higgins; son, Terry (Nan) Higgins; sister-in-law, Betty Higgins; numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Hayden and Olga Higgins; son, Michael Higgins and brother, Tom Higgins. A memorial visitation will be held on Monday, April 6, 2026, from 4 p.m. until the time of the memorial service at 6 p.m. at Burns Funeral Home & Crematory, 10101 Broadway, Crown Point, IN. Please wear something green or any Notre Dame attire. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to DAV <https://help.dav.org>. Please visit Michael's online obituary and guestbook at [www.burnsfuneral.com](http://www.burnsfuneral.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Calvary Cemetery

2701 Willowdale Road  
Portage, IN 46368

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

APR 6. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (cst)

Burns Funeral Home & Crematory - Crown Point  
10101 Broadway  
Crown Point, IN 46307  
(219) 769-0044  
info@burnsfuneral.com  
<https://www.burnsfuneral.com/>

## Memorial Service

APR 6. 6:00 PM (cst)

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# Tribute Wall

LD

“ Today I want to celebrate the life of Mike Higgins—a truly remarkable man who was not just a friend but more like a brother to me. As I reflect on our years together, I am grateful for all the laughter, adventures, and unforgettable moments we shared.

*I remember the times we spent together at Calvin’s drive-in, where a simple conversation about our ‘64 Fords turned into a hilarious memory. I can still see Mike rolling down his window, laughing as he pretended to have a power seat. Mike brought laughter into every situation, no matter how ordinary.*

*Our experiences in the reserves were filled with camaraderie, often turning into hilarious moments. The time we set up camp in the wild, hiding under trucks during drills, and paying the price for our shenanigans. These adventures taught me the value of friendship, loyalty, and the importance of living life to the fullest.*

*Through the years, we made so many memories—from golf outings and chicken wings to weekend getaways. We navigated the complexities of life, including seeing our parents age and losing friends along the way. Mike was a source of strength and humor, and I’ll forever cherish his friendship.*

*Mike has touched so many lives with his kindness, humor, and unwavering support. I am fortunate that we never lost touch over the years, and he will always have a special place in my heart.*

*Rest in peace, my friend. Your laughter will echo in our memories forever. Luke Dallis & family*

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**Luke Dallis** - April 02 at 12:33 PM

RS

“ CORRECTED COPY:

*Mike, there truly are many many words that I can say for my friend Michael Higgins. For he has touched my life 35 years ago, as well as, touching lives as many others. He always brought a smile and sincere friendship.*

*When my Mother passed, it was mike who offered to service at her funeral mass. How thoughtful. Thank you Mike.*

*And thank you Mike, Master Sergeant, for serving over three decades.*

*It was Mike who kept all those lake county sheriffs in line. Thank you Mike.*

*It's a Bitter Sweet time. Happy to have spent time with you and to see these earthly times end.*

*I will miss you my friend.*

*Robert R. Van Slyke March 31st, 2026*

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**Robert Van Slyke** - March 31 at 04:58 PM

RS

“ Mike, there truly are many many words that I can say for my friend Michael Higgins. For he has touched my life 35 years ago, as well as, touching lives as many others. He always brought a smile and sincere friendship.

When my mother passed, it was mike who offered to service at her funeral mass. How thoughtful. Thank you mike.

And thank you mike, Master Sergeant, for serving over three decades.

It was mike who kept all those lake county sheriffs in line. thank you mike.

It's a bittersweet time. Happy to have spent time with you and to see these earthly times end.

I will miss you my friend.

Robert R. Van Slyke March 31st, 2026

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**Robert Van Slyke** - March 31 at 04:42 PM

JC

“ Mikee, you were always there for me in my career and for my family when I was injured on the department. I will miss the jokes and stories you always had. Keep God laughing. I will miss you!!

Jeff Cicillian

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**Jeff Cicillian** - March 29 at 05:29 PM

NM

“ My first memories of Mike go back to kindergarten in 1949-50 at Wirt with Mrs. Wiltrout. At recess, he would chase us girls around trying to kiss us!! The next year he started at St. Mary's school along with several other classmates. As time went on, we would run into each other and laugh about his recess shenanigans! What a fine man he became! I never realized all his accomplishments over his life until I returned to the area in 2020. So glad to have touched lives again and enjoying his son Terry's talents and remembrances.  
Life well led, Mike Higgins!

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**Nora Thompson Myres** - March 29 at 12:39 PM

CF

“ The Higgins and Clifford's moved to Gary very early to help build the steel mill. My parents and Mike's lived two block from each other, and as kids grew up together. We even became shirt tail cousins when two of our respective Uncles married twins. Remember all the stories from the Cliffords about Mama Higgins, and Aunt Mabel Higgins who ended up driving us because she had a car. My Father Ed Fleming became a member of the family, which enabled him and Mike's dad spending time together, much to the chagrin of their respective wives. We'd take rides on Hayden's boat and had. To rely on Mike (early teens) to having to dock the boat in the Ditch due to fear Hayden would try to do it. Mike went off to Seminary voluntarily and I also went to a seminary, though involuntarily. The Higgins/Clifford Irish humor was a part of our lives, with Mike's brother Tom, being the most noted because of his being radio personality, but Mike was a close second. It seems both families spent most of their time laughing.  
Mike was a big influence on me. I will miss him, but with a smile always remember him.

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**Cliff Fleming** - March 29 at 12:36 PM

MT

“ To a life well lived my friend. The stories and memories are far too many to choose one or two in order to acknowledge a trusted friendship of 67 years. Our journey began in Miller when we and other friends would use your boat, troll all the beaches from Marquette Park to Wells Street to Dunes State Park in the 1960s. The memories and your successes only multiplied as we grew older. Your contributions to public service in law enforcement and 30 plus years of military service were dynamic and well respected by friends and coworkers. Most recently we were golf partners, golf trips, dining together with families, and you introducing us to your very talented son and musician Terry. Thank you for all the things we shared and did together.  
"May the Irish hills caress you. May her lakes and rivers bless you. May the luck of the Irish enfold you. May the blessings of Saint Patrick behold you." Rest in Peace my friend. We will meet again on the other side.

*Mike and Nancy Taylor*

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**Michael Taylor** - March 29 at 11:19 AM

GT

*Mike Higgins was one of the kindest and caring souls one could ever meet.  
His sense of humor was unique and always on display.  
His respect and love for others was always front and center for the many decades of our friendship.  
Rest in peace my dear friend.*

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**George Tsoutsouris** - March 29 at 12:11 PM

TH

“ Uncle Michael, We had so many good times and happy memories, it's hard to pick just one. We will miss you and are happy you are at Peace!!

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**Tim & Cathy Higgins** - March 11 at 02:26 PM

LC

“ Our deepest sympathy to Marie and the family. We always enjoyed his Irish sense of humor, his smile and laughter. Our friend will be missed. Please know that we are keeping you in our thoughts and prayers.

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**Linda Marie Craven** - March 09 at 02:07 PM

VS

“ You will be MISSED by all, always had a Joke to tell to make everyone's day, R.I.P.

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**Vikki R Stolarz** - March 09 at 10:32 AM

EF

“ There wasn't a better Santa Claus to have had than our one and only, Mr. Higgins. To have a neighbor whom you could trust, count on in your time of need, and always make you laugh with his quick wit was truly a blessing.  
Sending our Sincerest Condolences to the Higgins Family.



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**Edwards Family** - March 08 at 01:15 PM

DS

“ My daughters' first Santa Claus 50 years ago. RIP my friend. We had so many great memories together.  
Dan Swift

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**Dam Swift** - March 07 at 01:50 PM

AC

“ A great man, very close friend and colleague, who will be missed by all those who were fortunate enough to have known him.

*Andy Callas (ret)  
East Chicago Police*

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**Andy Callas** - March 06 at 07:54 AM

AB

“ Uncle Michael, thanks for always bringing a joke and a smile to my face! Your witty joking self is something I'll never forget! Growing up, we would go out to eat for breakfast on Sundays as a family with you and Marie: those are times I'll never forget. May you rest in peace now, love you always!☐



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**Amber Bridegroom** - March 05 at 08:04 PM

JH

*I am so very sorry to hear of Mike's passing. So very many years of knowing him was such a joy. Condolences to the Family and may he rest in peace.*

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**JoAnn Horton** - April 12 at 02:59 AM