



## Michael K. Rode

March 22, 1955 - January 19, 2026

Michael K. Rode, 70, of Mentor, passed away January 19, 2026, after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. He was born March 22, 1955, in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, to the late George and Patricia Rode.

Mike was raised in Wickliffe, Ohio, and he loved his community. Growing up, he enjoyed playing baseball and football, which led to a lifelong dedication to the Ohio State Buckeyes and the Cleveland Indians. He was a proud Wickliffe Blue Devil and played four years of high school football. After graduating in 1973, he went on to earn his Bachelor of Arts from Wittenberg University in 1977, followed by his Juris Doctor from Case Western Reserve University School of Law in 1980.

Mike began his career at Reminger as a law clerk and insurance adjuster before moving into a long-standing role at Management Recruiters International (MRI), where he served as Vice President and General Counsel. He returned to Reminger in 2012 and retired in 2023. In 2017, he was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award by MRINetwork. Throughout his career, he maintained many long-standing relationships with former colleagues.

Mike married the love of his life in 2010. The kindness, respect, and love they showed one another were beautiful to behold. Together, they opened their

home to family and friends and created memories that will be forever cherished by their loved ones.

Later in life, Mike's greatest joy was his grandchildren. He was a proud papa, constantly bragging about them, showing off photos, and supporting them at their many events.

Mike had a deep love for life, from the exciting to the mundane. He was always on the go, often driving his tiny car, which he was so proud of. He was an avid reader, a music and movie buff and enjoyed family vacations, especially trips to Lakeside, Marblehead and later to wine country in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. Although he went to the gym four to five days a week and walked religiously, he also loved his snacks. He always had a bowl of something to crunch on. Making new friends was easy for Mike. He was extremely charismatic and could strike up a conversation just about anywhere.

Mike will be lovingly remembered and deeply missed by his family, friends, and all whose lives he touched.

Survivors include his children, Paul (Jamie) Rode, Thomas (Jacqueline) Rode, Jill (Jesse) Nolan, Courtney (Matt) Morris, and Lindsey (Patrick) Plataz; siblings, Thomas (Julie) Rode and Susan (Anthony) Farina; and many grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

Preceding Michael in death are his wife, Lisa Rode (née Prizzi), and his sister, Carol Rode.

Family and friends will be received from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 7, 2026, at the Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home and Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor, Ohio 44060. A memorial service will begin at 5:00 p.m. at the funeral home.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the compassionate caregivers at The Preserve at Mentor Ridge and Hospice of the Western Reserve for their exceptional care, kindness, and support.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Ohio Parkinson Foundation Northeast Region, P.O. Box 31907, Independence, OH 44131, or on their website at [www.ohparkinson.com/donate/](http://www.ohparkinson.com/donate/).

Offer condolences at [www.brunners.com](http://www.brunners.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 7. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center  
8466 Mentor Avenue  
Mentor, OH 44060  
(440) 255-3401  
ajs@brunners.com  
<https://www.brunners.com/>

## Memorial Service

FEB 7. 5:00 PM (ET)

Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center  
8466 Mentor Avenue  
Mentor, OH 44060  
(440) 255-3401  
ajs@brunners.com  
<https://www.brunners.com/>

# Tribute Wall

TC

“ Tony Continenza purchased the *Fairest of All* for the family of Michael K. Rode.



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**Tony Continenza** - February 04 at 09:08 PM

PP

“ Positive Education Program planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael K. Rode.

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**Positive Education Program** - January 27 at 04:06 PM

PP

“ Positive Education Program purchased the *Beautiful in Blue* for the family of Michael K. Rode.



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**Positive Education Program** - January 27 at 04:06 PM

JE

“ For 36 years we have used Mike's wisdom running our franchise and more importantly valued his friendship when we needed a calm and cool head! He was a one of a kind and will truly be missed! May he rest in peace with his beloved!! Jack and Lyn Edwards

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**Jack and Lyn Edwards** - January 27 at 10:50 AM

MS

“ Mike was a great friend and advisor. We spent many hours together at MRI meetings. His legal advise was always right on. Mike and I would always meet after hours and smoke a cigar. Our conversations were always enlightening for me. Mike was such an intelligent and down to earth man. I will miss him. RIP Mike.

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**Michael Shaffer** - January 26 at 08:13 PM

LE

“ Mike served as a great advisor for many years to me at MRI, where his wisdom and insight always found solutions to even the most challenging situations. I always enjoyed our conversations, which brought warmth and humor. My thoughts are with his family during this difficult time.

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**Lee** - January 26 at 10:41 AM

JF

“ Mike was always there for our office . He was a person who could be counted on . Every time . Jim Finocchiaro

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**Jim Finocchiaro** - January 26 at 10:34 AM

MF

“ MRINetwork Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael K. Rode.

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**MRINetwork Family** - January 26 at 10:29 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Michael K. Rode.*



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January 26 at 10:29 AM



“ *Mike provided trusted counsel with a calm and cadenced delivery and pleasant-ness that gave you a sense of comfort. He was extremely dedicated to what he did for his MRI Network family and was a pillar of strength for all of us. Peace to you Mike.*

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**Quentin Burchill** - January 26 at 10:28 AM



“ *My husband was diagnosed of Parkinsons disease 2 years ago, when he was 49. He had a stooped posture, tremors, right arm does not move and also a pulsating feeling in his body. He was placed on Senemet for 8 months and then Sifrol was introduced and replaced the Senemet, during this time span he was also diagnosed with dementia. He started having hallucinations, lost touch with reality. Suspecting it was the medication I took him off the Siferol (with the doctor's knowledge) and started him on PD-5 natural herbal formula we ordered from AKNNI HERBAL CENTRE, his symptoms totally declined over a 3 weeks use of the AKANNI HERBAL Parkinson's disease natural herbal formula. He is now almost 51 and doing very well, the disease is totally reversed! (Visit w w w.aknniherbscentre .com)*

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**Susan Baker** - January 26 at 10:20 AM

CA

“ Working with Mike during my many years as an MRI franchisee was always a pleasant experience. Mike was always positive and provided sage advice and timely follow up.  
If Angels need a legal expert they have one now. Sincere Condolences to Mike’s family. Craig Alexander, Boise, ID.

Craig Alexander - January 25 at 06:00 PM

LH

“ Thank you Mike for making our homeroom fun and a great way to start the day. You and Tony were a hoot and now you can entertain up in heaven. Good night sweet prince. You will be missed. Lee

Lee Herman - January 25 at 08:27 AM



“ So many great memories over 60+ years from Wickliffe Midget Football through High School and beyond, especially the last 25 years for sure. Sadly, COVID and Parkinson's curtailed our get togethers, our imbibing and good times since 2020, but I've got memories and photo's of many of those good times. I'll miss ya buddy and I will see you again, just hope it's not in the too near future.



Don Coburn - January 22 at 03:34 PM